

**COPCUT LANE  
DROITWICH  
WORCESTERSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

*For*

**CgMs CONSULTING**

*on behalf of*

**WILLIAM DAVIS LTD**


CA PROJECT: 3171  
CA REPORT: 10121

JULY 2010

COPCUT LANE,  
DROITWICH,  
WORCESTERSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

CA PROJECT: 3171  
CA REPORT: 10121

prepared by	Chiz Harward, Senior Project Officer
date	2 August 2010
checked by	Cliff Bateman, Project Manager
date	5 August 2010
approved by	Simon Cox, Head of Fieldwork
signed	
date	9 August 2010
issue	01

*This report is confidential to the client. Cotswold Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability to any third party to whom this report, or any part of it, is made known. Any such party relies upon this report entirely at their own risk. No part of this report may be reproduced by any means without permission.*

## CONTENTS

SUMMARY .....	2
1. INTRODUCTION .....	3
2. RESULTS (FIGS 2–7).....	6
3. DISCUSSION.....	12
4. CA PROJECT TEAM .....	14
5. REFERENCES .....	14
APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS .....	16
APPENDIX B: THE FINDS .....	21
APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM.....	22

## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

- Fig. 1 Site location plan (1:25,000)
- Fig. 2 Trench location plan (1:2000)
- Fig. 3 Area A, showing archaeological features (1:500)
- Fig. 4 Area B, showing archaeological features (1:500)
- Fig. 5 Trenches 9, 13, 17–19: sections (1:20)
- Fig. 6 Photograph: North-east facing section of Saxon ditch 1708, Trench 17 (scale 1m)
- Fig. 7 Photograph: North facing section of Roman ditch 1903, Trench 19 (scale 0.4m)

## SUMMARY

<b>Project Name:</b>	Copcut Lane
<b>Location:</b>	Droitwich, Worcestershire
<b>NGR:</b>	SO 8850 6160
<b>Type:</b>	Evaluation
<b>Date:</b>	12-21 July 2010
<b>Location of Archive:</b>	To be deposited with Worcestershire County Museum
<b>Site Code:</b>	CLD10

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in July 2010 at Copcut Lane, Droitwich, Worcestershire. Twenty three trenches and two test pits were excavated in four areas (A–D).

The evaluation has identified a number of archaeological features within the proposed development area. The majority of these features were concentrated within Areas A and B with some survival of truncated ridge and furrow within Area C.

Limited evidence for prehistoric activity was recovered in the form of Early–Middle Bronze Age pottery from the ploughsoil in Area A, and a small pit containing probable prehistoric pottery in Area B.

Two ditches dating to the Roman period were excavated within Area B and may form part of a field system.

A further ditch in Area B contained early–mid Saxon pottery.

Evidence for medieval activity was limited to truncated ridge and furrow in Area C. Post-medieval ceramic building material was recovered from a ditch in Area C that is probably shown on the 19th century enclosure map.

Undated ditches and pits were excavated across Areas A and B with a clear concentration of features within Area B.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In July 2010 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for CgMs Consulting, on behalf of William Davis Ltd, at Copcut Lane, Droitwich, Worcestershire (centred on NGR: SO 8850 6160; Fig. 1). The evaluation was undertaken to accompany a planning application for outline consent to develop the site for predominantly residential usage, with school facilities, local centre, employment areas, and areas of public open space.
- 1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a brief for archaeological evaluation (WCC 2010) prepared by Mike Glyde, Planning Advisory Section, Historic Environment and Archaeology Service (WHEAS), the archaeological advisors to the planning authority and with a subsequent detailed Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CgMs (2010a) that was approved by Mike Glyde. The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (2008), the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991) and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (EH 2006). It was monitored by Mike Glyde and Paul Gajos (WHEAS and CgMs respectively), including a site visit on 19th July.

### ***The site***

- 1.3 The site is situated to the southwest of Droitwich and covers an area of approximately 40 hectares. It is bounded on its western side by the Worcester to Droitwich railway line, to its north and east by allotments and the A38, and to the south by Copcut Lane (Fig. 2). The site lies at approximately 50m AOD sloping to c. 40m AOD to the west, with a steep slope down to the north at approximately 35m OD.
- 1.4 The application area is predominantly occupied by arable farmland with some areas of pasture and woodland to the east.
- 1.5 The majority of the site lies on soils identified by the Soil Survey of England and Wales (SSEW, 1983, Map 3) as belonging to the Wick 1 association of glaciofluvial or river terrace drift. The north-western portion of the site lies on soils of the

Whimple 3 association of drift over permo-triassic and carboniferous reddish mudstone.

### ***Archaeological background***

- 1.6 A desk based assessment of the site undertaken by CgMs describes the cultural heritage of the site and its environs fully (CgMs 2010b). A summary of that information is provided below.
- 1.7 The assessment records the finding of worked flints from within the proposed development site itself, although this is based on a personal comment by the farmer and the finds have not been verified (WSM17802, *ibid.*).
- 1.8 Approximately 200-300m to the south of the proposed development site there is cropmark evidence for a series of sub rectangular and sub circular enclosures (WSM06056) and a ring ditch (WSM29895). The date of these features has not been confirmed although they are believed to have been of prehistoric or Roman date. These features were destroyed by quarrying in the 1960s (*ibid.*).
- 1.9 Fragments of Roman tile and pottery have been recovered from within the proposed development site during fieldwalking in 1977 (WSM00502). It is possible that these finds relate to undated cropmark enclosures recorded from within the proposed development site (WSM07119) or to the series of enclosures immediately to the south, see Section 1.8 (*ibid.*).
- 1.10 The route of a Great Dyke marking the boundary of the parish of Martin Hussingtree is mentioned in a charter of 972, part of the route of which can be traced c.750m to the south of the proposed development site (WSM30999, *ibid.*).

### ***Archaeological objectives***

- 1.11 This phase of archaeological evaluation is, with the approval of WHEAS, limited to targeting fixed elements of the proposed scheme prior to outline consent being determined. The areas of evaluation trenching are also predominantly targeted on known or suspected areas of high archaeological potential as follows:

- Areas A and B –targeted on potential Romano-British settlement as identified from fragments of Roman tile and pottery recovered during fieldwalking in 1977 (WSM00502).
- Area C –targeted on undated cropmark enclosures which may relate to the Roman fieldwalking finds (WSM07119).
- Area D –targeted on the route of the proposed access road in an area of ridge and furrow identified from the aerial photography (WSM15918).

The remaining areas of the site will be subject to a separate phase of evaluation following granting of outline consent.

1.12 The objectives of the evaluation were as follows:

- To determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any archaeological remains within the development site
- To assess the artefactual and environmental potential of the archaeological deposits encountered
- To provide further information on the archaeological potential of the site to enable the archaeological implications of the proposed development to be assessed
- To assess the impact of previous land use on the site
- To inform formulation of a strategy to avoid or mitigate impacts of the proposed development on surviving archaeological remains
- To provide a site archive for deposition with an appropriate museum and to provide information for accession to the Worcestershire HER

This information will assist WHEAS in making an informed judgement on the significance of the archaeological resource, and the likely impact upon it of the proposed development.

### ***Methodology***

1.13 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of 24 trenches in the locations shown on the attached plan (Fig. 2). The trenches were laid out in four areas (A, B, C and D).

1.14 A number of the trenches were relocated from their agreed positions agreed due to the presence of overhead power cables and other constraints; this was done in

consultation with Paul Gajos and Mike Glyde: Trenches 1 and 2 were reduced in length due to nearby trees, Trenches 9 and 20 were shortened due to the presence of power lines, Trench 23 was relocated due to an adjacent power line. Trench 24 was sited within an area of woodland and adjacent to a power line which severely limited the area available for excavation. It was consequently excavated as two testpits, Trenches 24a and 24b.

- 1.15 All trenches were excavated by mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket. All machine excavation was undertaken under constant archaeological supervision to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the natural substrate, whichever was encountered first. Where archaeological deposits were encountered they were excavated by hand in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (2007).
- 1.16 Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential in accordance with CA Technical Manual 2: *The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites* (2003). No deposits were identified that required sampling. All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 3: *Treatment of Finds Immediately After Excavation* (1995).
- 1.17 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 Worcestershire County Museum, along with the site archive. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix C, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

## **2. RESULTS (FIGS 2–7)**

- 2.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts and the finds are to be found in Appendices A and B. The OASIS report is contained in Appendix C. For the purpose of clarity and for ease of reference, the results are presented grouped within their respective areas (Areas A–D; Fig. 2) with trenches presented in numerical order within each Area.



- 2.2 No features or deposits of archaeological significance were identified within 13 of the trenches (4–7, 12, 14, 16, 20–23, 24a and 24b). Truncated furrows from medieval ridge and furrow were observed in Trenches 1–3 and 20.

### ***Area A (Figs 2–3)***

- 2.3 Area A was located on a north-facing slope, dropping from approximately 42m AOD at its northern extent to a flat area adjacent to a small stream at approximately 33m AOD. During the evaluation the area was covered by an arable crop of maize.
- 2.4 The natural geological substrate predominantly comprised red brown silty clays with occasional lenses of sands. It was overlain by a subsoil, 0.1–0.2m, in depth which was sealed by ploughsoil typically. 0.3–0.5m in thickness. All identified archaeological features cut the natural substrate.
- 2.5 No archaeological features were located in Trenches 5, 6, 7 and 14. A natural palaeochannel was recorded in Trench 12.

### ***Trench 8 (Figs 2–3)***

- 2.6 Shallow ditch 804 was revealed on a north-east–southwest alignment. It measured 0.9m in width and 0.36m in depth and had a single fill, 805.

### ***Trench 9 (Figs 2–3, 5)***

- 2.7 Shallow undated ditch 903 was exposed across the trench on a north–south alignment (Fig. 5). It measured 1.55m in width and 0.38m in depth. A possible stakehole was observed at the base of the ditch. The stakehole and the ditch were filled by a single fill, 904 from which four sherds of ceramic building material (CBM), probably dating to the post-medieval period, were recovered.

### ***Trench 10 (Figs 2–3)***

- 2.8 Shallow ditch 1002 was revealed orientated across the trench on a northwest–southeast. It measured 0.60m in width and 0.10m in depth and contained a single fill, 1003, from which no finds were recovered.

- 2.9 Fifteen sherds of coarse grog-tempered ware and a single sherd of Malvern rock-tempered ware of Bronze Age date were recovered from the ploughsoil 1000 and may indicate the presence of nearby prehistoric features.

*Trench 11 (Figs 2–3)*

- 2.10 Shallow ditch 1103 was revealed close to the western limit of the trench on a northeast–southwest alignment. It measured 0.50m in width and 0.10m in depth and contained a single fill, 1104, from which no finds were retrieved.

*Trench 13 (Figs 2–3, 5)*

- 2.11 Shallow ditch 1302 ran on a northeast–southwest alignment (Fig. 5) and measured 0.75m in width and 0.26m in depth. The ditch was filled by a single fill, 1303, from which no finds were recovered.

- 2.12 A sherd of post-medieval glazed earthenware was recovered from 1300 ploughsoil.

**Area B (Figs 2 & 4)**

- 2.13 Area B was located on level ground at approximately 53m AOD. The natural geological substrate predominantly comprised clays and sands, with occasional gravel bars. It was overlain by subsoil, ranging from c. 0.1m to c. 0.4m in thickness comprising a plough and iron panned layer, which was in turn overlain by a ploughsoil c. 0.2m in thickness. All identified archaeological features cut the natural substrate.

- 2.14 No archaeological features were located in Trench 16.

*Trench 15 (Figs 2 & 4)*

- 2.15 Small pit or ditch 1504 was located centrally within the trench. It measured 0.6m wide and 0.4m deep and contained a single fill, 1503, from which post-medieval pottery and CBM were recovered.

*Trench 17 (Figs 2, 4 & 6, 5)*

- 2.16 Feature 1713 was an irregular ovoid cut 1.60m by 1.10m and 0.58m deep. It was filled by 1714, a soft-friable light grey clay sand and is interpreted as a natural periglacial feature. Small feature 1710 was a similar small anomaly (not shown on Fig.4). Feature 1703 is a 0.54m diameter, 0.12m deep shallow cut, it is probably a natural tree bowl.
- 2.17 Ditch 1708 was aligned northeast–southwest (Fig. 5), and measured 2m in width and 0.5m deep. It contained a single fill, 1707, from which 13 sherds of Saxon pottery, and two sherds of residual Roman pottery were recovered.
- 2.18 Ditch 1708 was cut by east–west orientated ditch 1705 (Fig. 5). No finds were recovered from the single fill 1706.
- 2.19 A ceramic field drain 1711 aligned east–west cut through the western end of the trench.

*Trench 18 (Figs 2 & 4–5)*

- 2.20 Feature 1803 was 0.75m in diameter, and 0.65m deep and contained a series of sterile silt and sand fills. The feature is interpreted as a natural periglacial feature.
- 2.21 Undated ditch 1822 measured 0.24m wide and was 0.25m deep. It was filled by 1823, a sterile mid reddish brown silty sand. It had been heavily truncated by ditch 1811.
- 2.22 Ditch 1811 measured 0.9m wide and 0.25m deep and was aligned northeast–southwest. It contained two fills 1812, and 1813, from which no finds were recovered.
- 2.23 Sub-circular pit 1817 measured 0.95m diameter and 0.14m in depth. It was filled by 1818, a mid reddish brown silty sand from which no finds were recovered.
- 2.24 Shallow ditch 1819 was aligned northeast–southwest. It was 0.71m wide and 0.14m deep. It contained two fills 1820 and 1821 from which no finds were recovered.

- 2.25 Sub-circular pit 1808 measured 0.75m diameter and was 0.44m deep. It was filled by primary silty sand fill 1809 which was 0.19m thick, and a secondary silty sand fill, 1810, which contained degraded pottery dating from the late prehistoric to Roman periods.
- 2.26 East–west aligned ditch 1814 measured 1.5m wide and 0.28m deep (Fig. 5). It was filled by primary fill 1815, a mid grey brown silty sand, and 1816 a mid reddish brown silty sand. The latter fill contained 47 sherds of 2nd century Roman pottery and a fragment of Droitwich briquetage.

*Trench 19 (Figs 2, 4 & 7)*

- 2.27 A small pit or ditch terminus, 1908, was excavated. It was 0.48m wide and 0.12m deep and extended on a north–south alignment for 0.77m. It was filled by 1907, no finds were recovered from the fill.
- 2.28 Ditch 1903 was excavated at the east end of the trench (Fig. 5 & 7). It was 1.20m wide and 0.65m deep. The primary fill 1904 was a mid-brown silty sand that had gradually accumulated as the ditch stabilised. Fills 1905 and 1906 represent further silting and infilling or possibly recutting. Three sherds of Roman pottery were recovered from fill 1906.

**Area C (Fig. 2)**

- 2.29 Area C was located on ground sloping gently from the south (39m AOD) to the north (37m AOD). The natural geological substrate predominantly comprised reddish clay with pockets of sands overlying bluish grey clay where exposed in sondages at a depth of 0.5m. It was overlain by subsoil, ranging from c. 0.13m to c. 0.50m in thickness, which was in turn overlain by a topsoil and turf, c. 0.08–0.25m in thickness. All identified archaeological features cut the natural substrate.
- 2.30 Truncated ridge and furrow was observed in Trenches 1–3 on a north–south alignment. No archaeological features were located in Trench 4.

### **Area D (Fig. 2)**

- 2.31 Area D was located on undulating ground at approximately 50m AOD. The natural geological substrate predominantly comprised yellow and orange clay sands. It was overlain by subsoil, c. 0.35m in thickness, which was in turn overlain by topsoil c. 0.25m in thickness.
- 2.32 Trenches 20–22 were located within an area of rough pasture, Trench 23 was relocated from an area of scrubland to an area of rough open ground, and Trenches 24a and 24b were located within an area of scrubland. An area of modern disturbance was recorded in Trench 23.
- 2.33 No archaeological features, excepting an area of modern intrusion within trench 23, were located in Area D.

### **The Finds Evidence**

- 2.34 Artefactual material comprising small quantities of pottery, ceramic building material and fired clay was recovered from eight deposits (Appendix B). Pottery of Anglo-Saxon date was identified from a single deposit (fill 1707 within ditch 1706) and a report on this material by Derek Hurst of WEAS is included. Pottery fabric type codes referred to in this report are those of the Worcester pottery type series (Bryant and Evans 2004).
- 2.35 Quantities of pottery in handmade, coarse grog-tempered and igneous/metamorphic (Malvernian) rock-tempered fabrics from topsoil deposit 1000 are the earliest dateable material identified. Early or Middle Bronze Age dating is suggested based on the coarse grogged fabric and sherd thickness. Handmade Malvernian fabrics are most typical of the Iron Age and early Roman periods, however earlier use has been recorded in recent years including Middle Bronze Age material from Tewkesbury (Timby 2004, 59-62).
- 2.36 Pottery of Roman date was identified from three deposits. The largest group from fill 1816 within ditch 1814 consisted of 47 sherds, mainly from a single greyware vessel. The form of this vessel, a high-shouldered, neck-less jar with bead-like rim and decoration as burnished lattice to the shoulder, suggests earlier Roman dating.

This deposit also contained single sherds of Severn valley ware (Worcestershire fabric 12) and handmade Malvernian rock-tempered ware (Worcestershire fabric 3), and a fragment of Droitwich briquetage which is probably residual. Pottery from fill 1906 within ditch 1903 consisted of bodysherds in Severn Valley ware (Worcestershire fabric 12) and Malverns rock-tempered type (Worcestershire fabric 3). Two residual sherds (Severn Valley ware) were present in Anglo-Saxon dated ditch 1706.

#### *Anglo-Saxon pottery (Derek Hurst)*

- 2.37 A total of 13 sherds of 'grass' tempered ware (Worcestershire fabric 50) weighing 80g and representing a single vessel were recovered from fill 1707 within ditch 1706.
- 2.38 The Copcut Lane 'grass' tempered ware was very similar in character to one of the four fabrics identified during excavations at Upwich in Droitwich (fabric 50; Lentowicz 1997, 75-78) – here stratigraphically it was evident that this fabric may have been the earliest of the early/mid Saxon pottery types at Upwich, apparently going out of use before the end of this period.
- 2.39 This is a rare early/mid Saxon find, as few sites in Worcestershire have produced material of this date. The only larger assemblage (>500 sherds) has come from the salt-making area at Upwich (now within modern Droitwich). Occasional rural finds have occurred such as at Kemerton (Evans 1990), Ripple (Blinkhorn 2008), and at Holt (L Griffin, pers comm), but only in small quantities.

### **3. DISCUSSION**

- 3.1 The evaluation has identified a number of archaeological features within the targeted areas of the proposed development area. The majority of these features were concentrated within Areas A and B with some evidence of truncated ridge and furrow within Area C.
- 3.2 All features within Areas A and B had been truncated by modern ploughing, and in Area B, situated on higher, sandier ground a plough or iron pan had built up further

affecting the survival of the features. The ridge and furrow within Area C may have truncated pre-existing features. Certainly no evidence of the undated cropmarks was identified. It is likely that this medieval ploughing also extended over Area D where it was recorded in aerial photographs (WSM15918).

### ***Prehistoric***

- 3.3 The evaluation has identified limited evidence of prehistoric activity within the site, with 16 sherds of pottery dating to the Early or Middle Bronze Age recovered from within the ploughsoil in Area A. Small fragments of probable late prehistoric pottery were also recovered from fill 1810 within pit 1808 in Area B.

### ***Roman***

- 3.4 Features dated to the Roman period were confined to the southwestern part of the site, within Area B. The dated features include an east–west aligned ditch, 1814, which contained 47 sherds of Roman pottery of probable 2nd century date, and a northeast–southwest aligned ditch 1903, the pottery from which can only be broadly dated to the Roman period. Residual Roman pottery was found in Saxon ditch 1708. The ditches may relate to a field system or be associated with other activity on the site.

### ***Saxon***

- 3.5 Pottery from fill 1707 within ditch 1708 dates to the early/mid Saxon period. Ditch 1708 is a substantial feature, over 2m wide and 0.35m deep despite truncation from ploughing and a plough/iron pan. The feature may relate to a field system or ditch associated with other activity with the possibility of a nearby settlement, however no further Saxon features or artefacts have been found in the immediate vicinity and the nearest known Saxon feature, the Great Dyke, is 750m to the south. The ditch was cut by undated gully 1705.

### ***Medieval***

- 3.7 Ploughed out remnants of ridge and furrow were identified within Area C where it was aligned north–south. The presence of the ridge and furrow indicates agricultural activity on the site, including the lower area of the site to the north.

### **Post-medieval**

- 3.8 Probable post-medieval CBM was recovered from ditch 904, which may be a continuation of ditch 804 in Trench 8 immediately to the north. This ditch may be related to medieval and post-medieval field boundaries, possibly that shown on the 1813 Salwarpe Inclosure Plan (CgMs 2010b, Figure 4). Post-medieval pottery was recovered from pit/terminus 1504 and from the ploughsoil within Trench 13.

### **Undated**

- 3.9 A number of features within Areas A and B remain undated: ditches 804, 1002, 1103, 1302, 1705 (which cuts Saxon ditch 1708), 1819, 1822 and 1811, and pits 1817 and 1908. No dating evidence was recovered from these features and it is not currently possible to attribute these to either the Roman, Saxon or later periods although the features in Trenches 18 and 19 are in close association to dated Roman features.

## **4. CA PROJECT TEAM**

Fieldwork was undertaken by Chiz Harward, assisted by Martin Harrington, Jon Boon, Fred Garret, Mark Middleton, Tom O'Mahoney. The report was written by Chiz Harward, The finds were assessed by Ed McSloy of Cotswold Archaeology, Derek Hurst of Worcestershire Historic Environment and Archaeology Service kindly commented on the Saxon pottery. The illustrations were prepared by Jon Bennett. The archive has been compiled by Chiz Harward, and prepared for deposition by James Johnson. The project was managed for CA by Cliff Bateman.

## **5. REFERENCES**

Barber, A. and Watts, M. 2008 'Excavation at Saxon's Lode Farm, Ripple: Iron Age, Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon rural settlement in the Severn Valley', *Worcestershire Archaeol Soc 3 ser 21*

Blinkhorn, P., 2008 'Anglo-Saxon pottery', in Barber and Watts 2008, 54-5



- Bryant, V. and Evans, J. 2004a 'Iron Age and Romano-British pottery', in H. Dalwood and R. Edwards 2004, 240-80
- CgMs 2010a *A specification for an archaeological evaluation, land at Copcut Lane, Droitwich, Worcestershire*
- CgMs 2010b *Archaeological desk-based assessment, land at Copcut Lane, Droitwich, Worcestershire*
- Dalwood, H. and Edwards, R. 2004 *Excavations at Deansway, Worcester 1988-89: Romano-British small town to medieval city* York, Council for British Archaeology
- Dinn, J. and Evans, J. 1990 'Aston Mill Farm, Kemerton: excavation of a ring ditch, Middle Iron Age enclosures, and a grubenhaus', *Worcestershire Archaeol Soc* 3 ser **12**
- Evans, J, 1990 'The pottery', in Dinn and Evans 1990, 26-39
- Hurst J.D. (ed), 1997 *A multi-period salt production site at Droitwich: excavations at Upwich*, CBA Res Rep, **107**
- Lentowicz, I. J., 1997 'Pottery', in Hurst (ed) 1997, 68-89
- Soil Survey of England and Wales (1983) *Soils of Midland and Western England, Sheet 3* Southampton Ordnance Survey
- Timby, J.R. 2004 'Prehistoric Pottery', in G. Walker *et al.* 2004, 59–62
- Walker, G., Thomas, A. and Bateman, C. 2004 'Bronze Age and Romano-British sites south-east of Tewkesbury: evaluations and excavations 1991-7', *Trans. Bristol Gloucestershire Archaeol. Soc.* **122**, 29–94
- WCC (Worcestershire County Council) 2010 *Requirements for an archaeological evaluation at Copcut Lane, Droitwich, Worcestershire*

## APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

### Trench 1

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
100	Layer	Turf and topsoil	40	1.8	0.25	
101	Layer	Subsoil	40	1.8	0.25	
102	Layer	Natural substrate: grey silty clay	40	1.8		

### Trench 2

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
200	Layer	Turf and topsoil	40	1.8	0.20	
201	Layer	Subsoil	40	1.8	0.25	
202	Layer	Natural substrate: red clay with sands	40	1.8		

### Trench 3

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
300	Layer	Turf and topsoil	50	1.8	0.07	
301	Layer	Subsoil	50	1.8	0.3	
302	Layer	Natural substrate: grey silty clay	50	1.8	0.23	
303	Layer	Natural substrate: brown clay	50	1.8m		

### Trench4

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
400	Layer	Turf and topsoil	50	1.8	0.08	
401	Layer	Subsoil	50	1.8	0.13	
402	Layer	Natural substrate: pinkish brown silty clay	50	1.8	0.25	
403	Layer	Natural substrate: light blue clay	50	1.8m		

### Trench 5

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
500	Layer	Ploughsoil	54	1.8	0.54	
501	Layer	Natural substrate: reddish brown silty clay	54	1.8		

### Trench6

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
600	Layer	Ploughsoil	25	1.8	0.40	
601	Layer	Subsoil	25	1.8	0.20	
602	Layer	Natural substrate: reddish brown silty clay	25	1.8		

### Trench 7

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
700	Layer	Ploughsoil	50	1.8	0.30	
701	Layer	Subsoil	50	1.8	0.25	
702	Layer	Natural substrate: reddish brown silty clay	50	1.8		

## Trench 8

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
801	Layer	Ploughsoil	54	1.8	0.30	
802	Layer	Subsoil	54	1.8	0.05	
803	Layer	Natural substrate: reddish brown gritty clay silt	54	1.8		
804	Cut	Ditch cut	10.0	0.90	0.36	
805	Fill	Ditch fill	10.0	0.90	0.36	

## Trench 9

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
900	Layer	Ploughsoil	50	1.8	0.25	
901	Layer	Subsoil	50	1.8	0.21	
902	Layer	White concreted sand below 901	50	1.80		
903	Cut	Cut of ditch	1.8	1.55m	0.38	
904	Fill	Fill of ditch 903	1.8	1.55m	0.38	Post-med
905	Cut	Cut of stakehole in base of ditch 903		0.19	0.13	
906	Layer	Natural sands	50	1.8m		

## Trench 10

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
1000	Layer	Ploughsoil	50	2.0	0.40	(Bronze Age)
1001	Layer	Natural sands	50	2.0		
1002	Cut	Cut of ditch	2.5	0.6	0.10	
1003	Fill	Fill of ditch 1002	2.5	0.6	0.10	

## Trench 11

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
1100	Layer	Ploughsoil	50	1.8	0.30	
1101	Layer	Subsoil	50	1.8	0.20	
1102	Layer	Natural substrate: reddish orange clay sand	50	1.8		
1103	Cut	Cut of ditch	2.5	0.5	0.10	
1104	Fill	Fill of ditch 1103	2.5	0.5	0.10	

## Trench 12

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
1200	Layer	Ploughsoil	50	2.0	0.30	
1201	Layer	Subsoil	50	2.0	0.10	
1202	Cut	Palaeochannel	2.0	4.10	0.42	
1203	Fill	Fill of Palaeochannel 1202	2.0	4.10	0.42	
1204	Layer	Natural substrate: reddish orange clay sand	50	2.0		

## Trench 13

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
1300	Layer	Ploughsoil	50	2.0	0.3	(post-med)
1301	Layer	Natural substrate: reddish orange clay sand	50	2.0		
1302	Fill	Fill of ditch 1303	16.30	0.75	0.26	
1303	Cut	Cut of ditch	16.30	0.75	0.26	

## Trench 14

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
1400	Layer	Ploughsoil	50	1.8	0.15	
1401	Layer	Subsoil	50	1.8	0.22	
1402	Layer	Natural substrate: banded grey-blue/pinkish red clay and sandy clay with gravel bars	50	1.8		

## Trench 15

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
1500	Layer	Ploughsoil	50	2.0	0.20	
1501	Layer	Subsoil with iron/plough pan	50	2.0	0.30	
1502	Layer	Natural substrate: banded grey-blue/pinkish red clay and sandy clay with gravel bars	50	2.0		
1503	Fill	Fill of pit 1504	0.65	0.60	0.40	Roman
1504	Cut	Pit cut	0.65	0.60	0.40	

## Trench 16

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
1600	Layer	Ploughsoil	50	1.8	0.40	
1601	Layer	Subsoil with iron/plough pan	50	1.8	0.40	
1602	Layer	Natural substrate red sandy clay with gravel bars	50	1.8		

## Trench 17

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
1700	Layer	Ploughsoil	50	1.8	0.30	
1701	Layer	Subsoil with iron/plough pan	50	1.8	0.10	
1702	Layer	Natural substrate: red brown clay silt	50	1.80		
1703	Cut	Cut of small pit or tree throw		0.54	0.12	
1704	Fill	Fill of 1703		0.54	0.12	
1705	Fill	Cut of ditch or gully	6.3	0.60	0.17	
1706	Fill	Fill of 1705	6.3	0.60	0.17	
1707	Fill	Fill of ditch 1708	2.0	2.20	0.35	Saxon
1708	Cut	Ditch cut	2.0	2.20	0.35	
1709	Fill	Variation in natural substrate				
1710	Cut	Variation in natural substrate				
1711	Cut	Cut of land drain	11.0	0.20	0.60	
1712	Fill	Fill of land-drain	11.0	0.20	0.60	
1713	Cut	Cut of natural feature	1.60	1.10	0.58	
1714	Fill	Compact banded clay sand fill of 1713	1.60	1.10	0.58	

## Trench 18

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
1800	Layer	Ploughsoil	50	2.0	0.10	
1801	Layer	Subsoil with iron/plough pan	50	2.0	0.40	
1802	Layer	Natural substrate: orange brown sands and gravels	50	2.0		
1803	Cut	Cut of pit		0.75	0.65	
1804	Fill	Primary fill of natural feature 1803	0.68		0.40	
1805	Fill	Fill of 1803			0.35	
1806	Fill	Fill of 1803			0.14	
1807	Fill	Fill of 1803			0.18	
1808	Cut	Cut of pit	0.75m		0.44	
1809	Fill	Primary fill of 1808		0.75	0.19	
1810	Fill	Secondary fill of 1808		0.68	0.26	Late prehist-Roman
1811	Cut	Cut of gully or ditch	0.9		0.25	
1812	Fill	Primary fill of 1811	0.9		0.2	
1813	Fill	Secondary fill of 1811	0.79		0.13	
1814	Cut	Cut of ditch		1.5	0.28	
1815	Fill	Primary fill of 1814		1.09	0.16	
1816	Fill	Secondary fill of 1814		1.5	0.21	Roman
1817	Cut	Pit cut		0.95	0.14	
1818	Fill	Fill of pit 1817		0.95	0.14	
1819	Cut	Cut of ditch		0.71	0.14	
1820	Fill	Primary fill of ditch 1819		0.42	0.05	
1821	Fill	Secondary fill of ditch 1819		0.66	0.13	
1822	Cut	Cut of ditch		0.24	0.25	
1823	Fill	Fill of ditch 1822		0.24	0.25	

## Trench 19

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
1900	Layer	Ploughsoil	50	2.0	0.32	
1901	Layer	Subsoil with iron/plough pan	50	2.0	0.23	
1902	Layer	Natural	50	2.0		
1903	Cut	Ditch cut	2.2	1.2	0.65	
1904	Fill	Primary fill of ditch 1903	1.0	1.0	0.3	
1905	Fill	Fill of ditch 1903	1.0	1.0	0.6	
1906	Fill	Fill of ditch 1903	2.0	1.2	0.35	Roman
1907	Fill	Fill of 1908	0.77	0.48	0.12	
1908	Cut	Gully	0.77	0.48	0.12	

## Trench 20

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
2000	Layer	Turf and topsoil	20	1.6	0.25	
2001	Layer	Subsoil	20	1.6	0.35	
2002	Layer	Natural substrate: orange and yellow sand	20	1.6		

Trench 21

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
2100	Layer	Turf and topsoil	25	1.6	0.25	
2101	Layer	Subsoil	25	1.6	0.35	
2102	Layer	Natural substrate: orange and yellow clay sand	50	1.8		

Trench 22

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
2200	Layer	Turf and topsoil	50	1.6	0.30	
2201	Layer	Natural substrate: brownish red sandy clay	50	1.6		

Trench 23

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
2300	Layer	Turf and topsoil	23	1.6	0.35	
2301	Layer	Subsoil	23	1.6	0.35	
2302	Layer	Natural substrate: red sandy clay	23	1.6		
2303	Cut	Modern disturbance	2	1.6	0.6	
2304	Fill	Fill of 2303	2	1.6	0.6	Modern

Trench 24a

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
2400	Layer	Topsoil	2.5	1.6	0.20	
2401	Layer	Subsoil	2.5	1.6	0.30	
2402	Layer	Natural substrate: orange brown sandy clay	2.5	1.6		

Trench 24b

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
2403	Layer	Topsoil	1.6	1.6	0.20	
2404	Layer	Subsoil	1.6	1.6	0.55	
2405	Layer	Natural substrate: orange brown sandy clay	1.6	1.6		

**APPENDIX B: THE FINDS**

<b>Context</b>	<b>Description*</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Weight (g)</b>	<b>Spot-date</b>
904	Ceramic building material: tile, misc	4	216	Post-med?
1000	Prehistoric pottery: coarse grog-tempered; Malvernian rock-tempered	16	70	-
1300	Post-medieval pottery: glazed earthenware (abr.)	1	14	Post-med?
1503	Ceramic building material: brick/tile fragments Fired clay: misc Post-med pottery: glazed earthenware (v. abr.)	2 1	8 20	-
1707	Anglo-Saxon pottery: quartz/organic-tempered Roman pottery: Severn Valley ware (fabric 12)	13 2	50 28	Early/mid Sa xo n
1810	Later prehistoric pottery: crumbs, quartz-tempered	3	<1	Lpre?
1816	Roman pottery: sandy reduced ware (neck-less jar with bead rim; lattice-decorated) (fabric 14) ; Severn Valley ware (fabric 12); Malvernian rock-tempered (fabric3) Droitwich briquetage: organic inclusions	47 1	244 10	RB; C2?
1906	Roman pottery: Severn Valley ware (fabric 12); Malvernian rock-tempered (fabric3)	3	88	RB

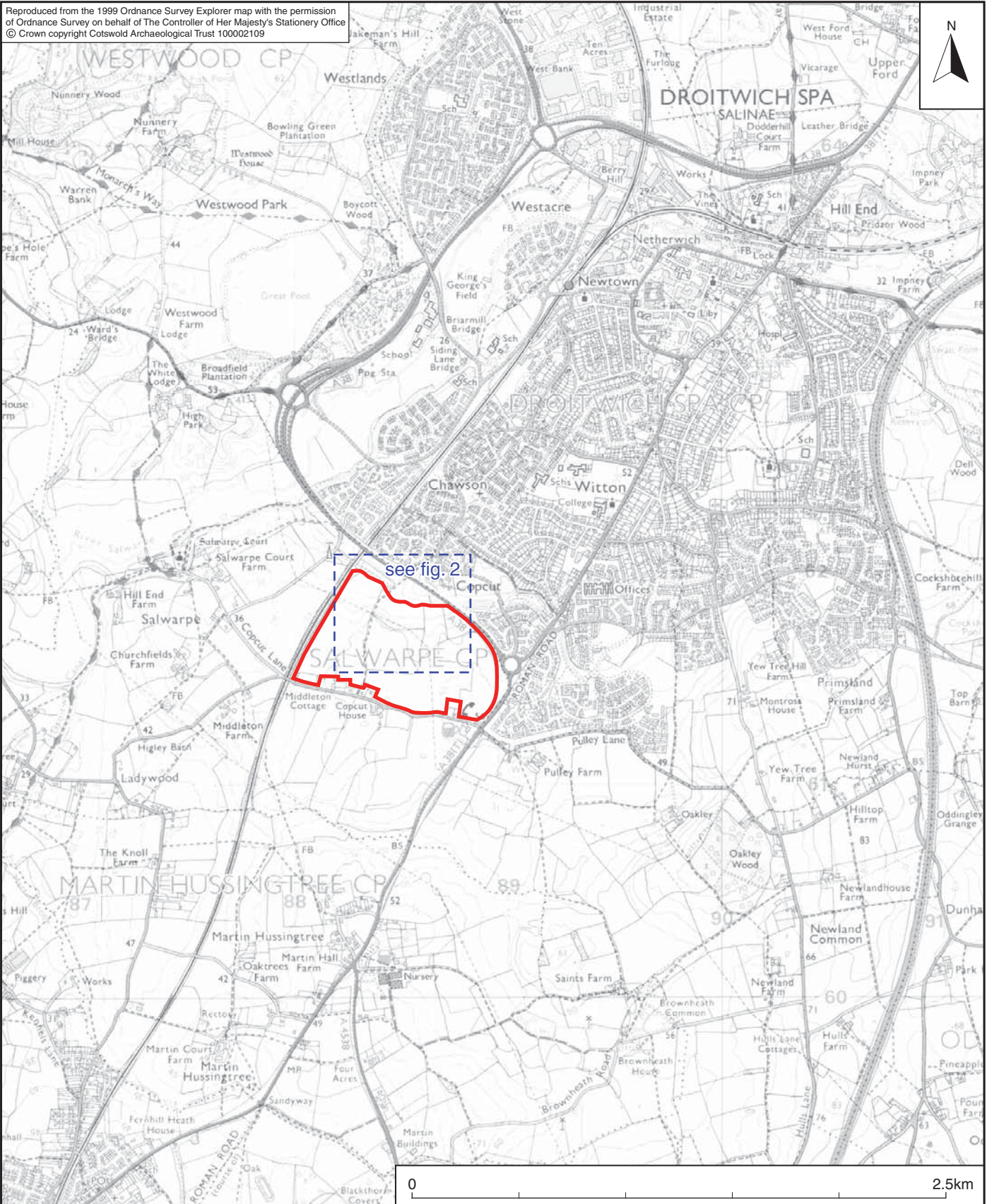
\* Roman pottery type fabrics from Worcestershire Pottery type series (Bryant and Evans 2004))


**APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM**

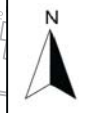
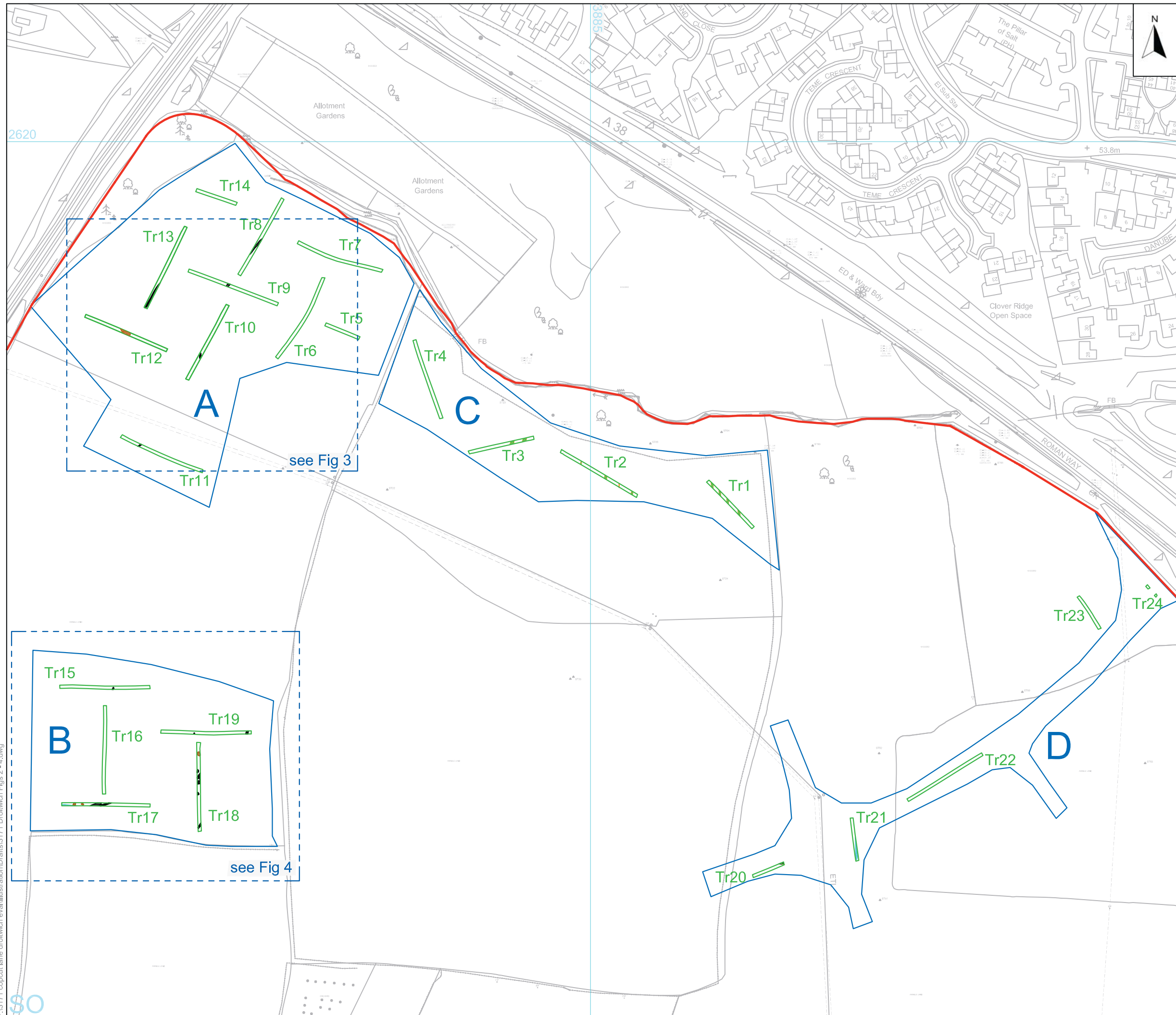
<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>		
Project Name	Copcut Lane, Droitwich, Worcestershire	
Short description (250 words maximum)	<p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in July 2010 at Copcut Lane, Droitwich, Worcestershire. Twenty three trenches and two test pits were excavated in four areas (A–D).</p> <p>The evaluation has identified a number of archaeological features within the proposed development area. The majority of these features were concentrated within Areas A and B with some survival of truncated ridge and furrow within Area C.</p> <p>Limited evidence for prehistoric activity was recovered in the form of Early–Middle Bronze Age pottery from the ploughsoil in Area A, and a small pit containing probable prehistoric pottery in Area B.</p> <p>Two ditches dating to the Roman period were excavated within Area B and may form part of a field system.</p> <p>A further ditch in Area B contained early–mid Saxon pottery.</p> <p>Evidence for medieval activity was limited to truncated ridge and furrow in Area C. Post-medieval ceramic building material was recovered from a ditch in Area C that is probably shown on the 19th century enclosure map.</p> <p>Undated ditches and pits were excavated across Areas A and B with a clear concentration of features within Area B.</p>	
Project dates	12th–21st July 2010	
Project type	Field evaluation	
Previous work	Desk-based assessment: CgMs 2010 Archaeological desk-based assessment, land at Copcut Lane, Droitwich, Worcestershire	
Future work	Unknown	
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>		
Site Location	Copcut Lane, Droitwich	
Study area (M <sup>2</sup> /ha)	417600 m <sup>2</sup>	
Site co-ordinates	SO 8850 6160	
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	CgMs Consulting	
Project Design (WSI) originator	CgMs Consulting	
Project Manager	Cliff Bateman	
Project Supervisor	Chiz Harward	
<b>PROJECT ARCHIVES</b>		
	Intended final location of archive	Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc)
Physical	Worcestershire County Museum	Pottery, CBM
Paper	Worcestershire County Museum	Pro forma registers, recording forms and photographs
Digital	Worcestershire County Museum	Digital photos
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2010 <i>Copcut Lane, Droitwich, Worcestershire: Archaeological Evaluation</i> . CA typescript report <b>10121</b>		
<i>CgMs 2010 Archaeological desk-based assessment, land at Copcut Lane, Droitwich, Worcestershire</i>		



Reproduced from the 1999 Ordnance Survey Explorer map with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright Cotswold Archaeological Trust 100002109



 <b>COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY</b>			
<b>PROJECT TITLE</b> Copcut Lane, Droitwich Worcestershire			
<b>FIGURE TITLE</b> <b>Site location plan</b>			
<b>DRAWN BY</b>	<b>SCALE</b>	<b>PROJECT NO.</b>	<b>FIGURE NO.</b>
JB	1:25,000@A4	3171	<b>1</b>



- site
- areas of evaluation trenching
- evaluation trench showing archaeological feature
- furrow
- modern
- geology



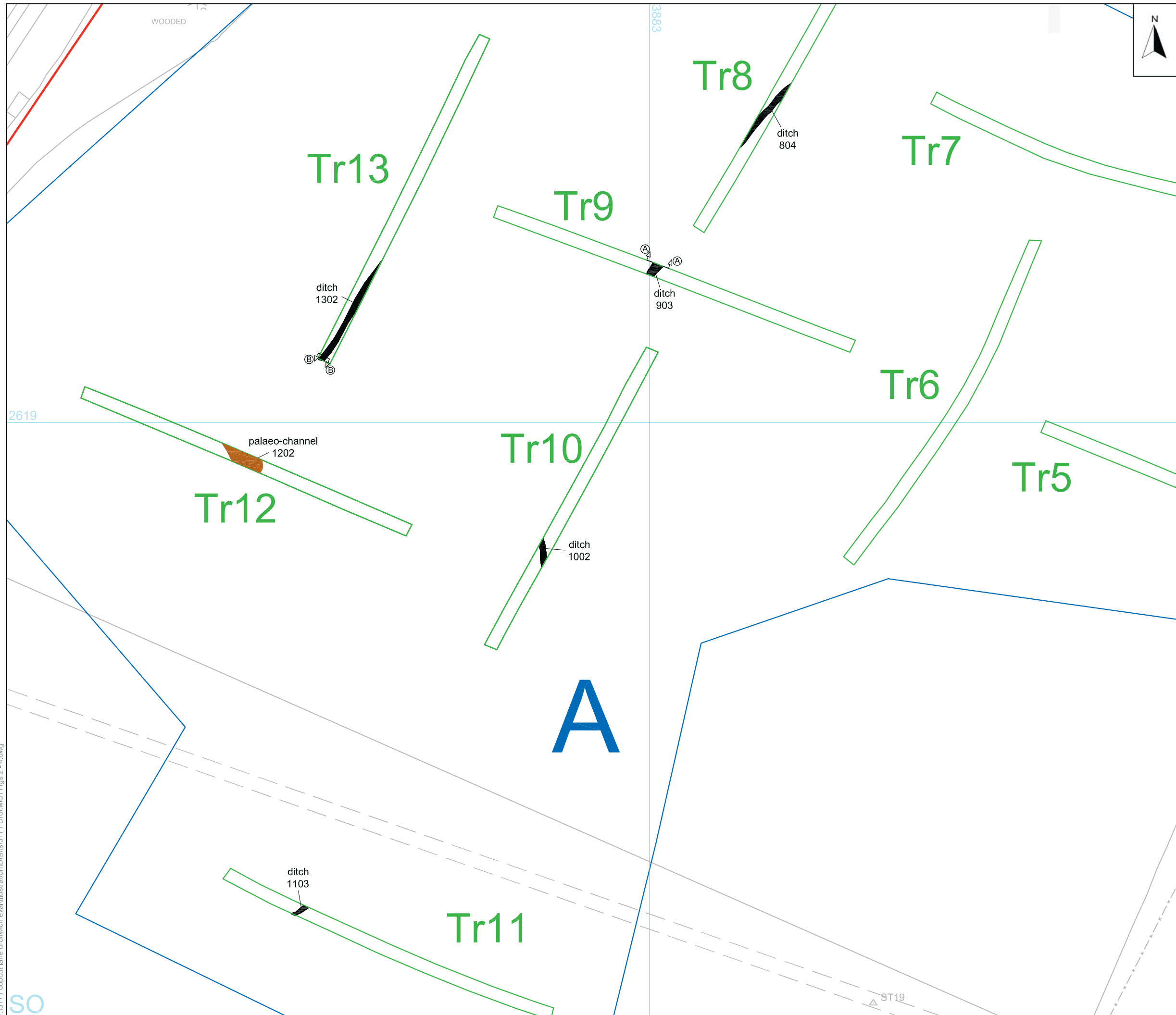
PROJECT TITLE  
 Copcut Lane, Droitwich  
 Worcestershire





FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench location plan, showing archaeological features**

DRAWN BY	SCALE	PROJECT NO.	FIGURE NO.
JB	1:2000@A3	3171	<b>2</b>

P:\3171 copcut.lane droitwich eval\Illustration\Drafts\3171 Droitwich Figs 2 - 4.dwg





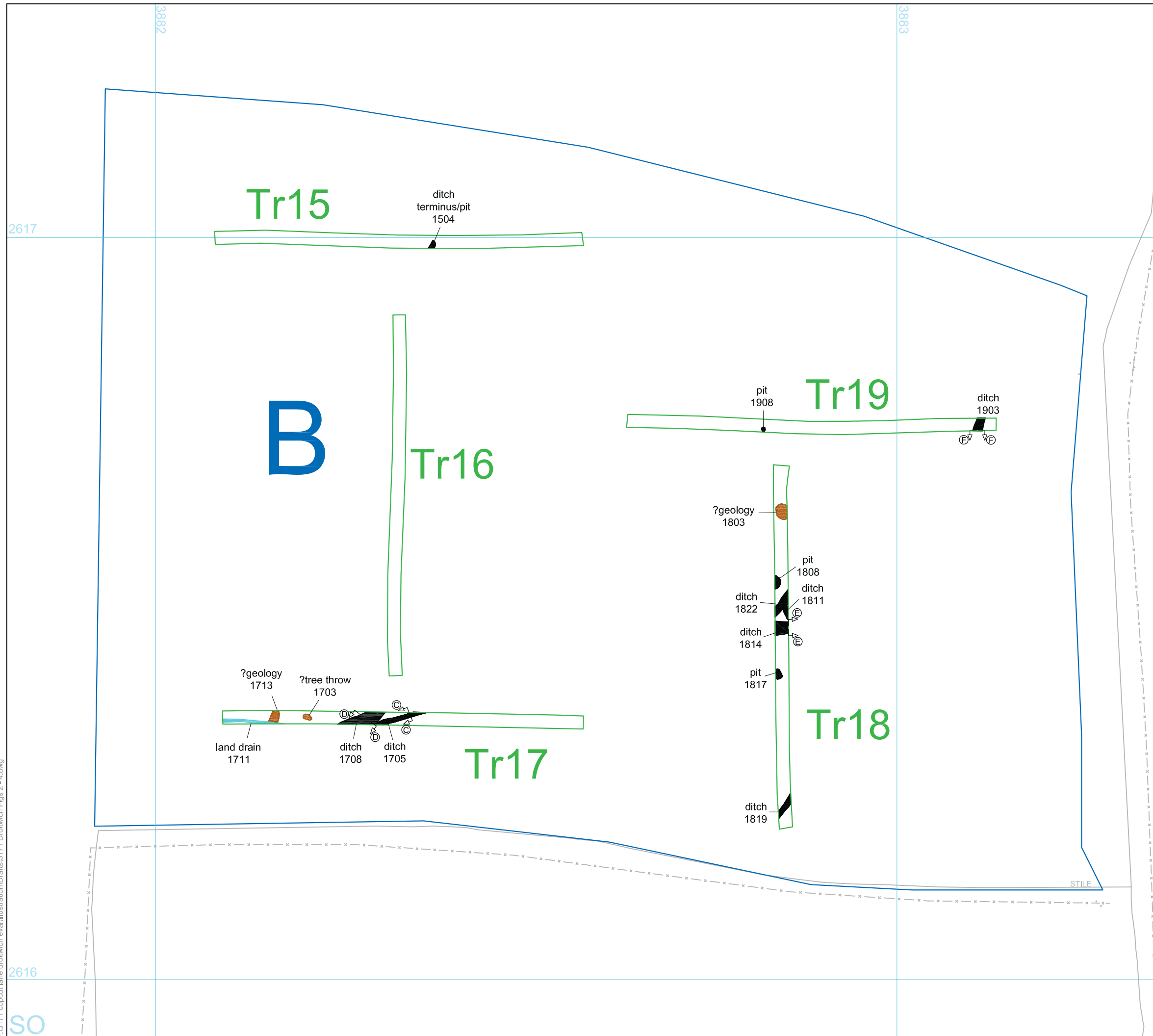
-  site
-  areas of evaluation trenching
-  evaluation trench showing archaeological feature
-  geology



PROJECT TITLE  
Copcut Lane, Droitwich  
Worcestershire

FIGURE TITLE  
**Area A, showing archaeological features**

DRAWN BY	SCALE	PROJECT NO.	FIGURE NO.
JB	1:500@A3	3171	<b>3</b>



- site
- areas of evaluation trenching
- evaluation trench showing archaeological feature
- modern
- geology



PROJECT TITLE  
 Copcut Lane, Droitwich  
 Worcestershire

FIGURE TITLE  
**Area B, showing archaeological features**

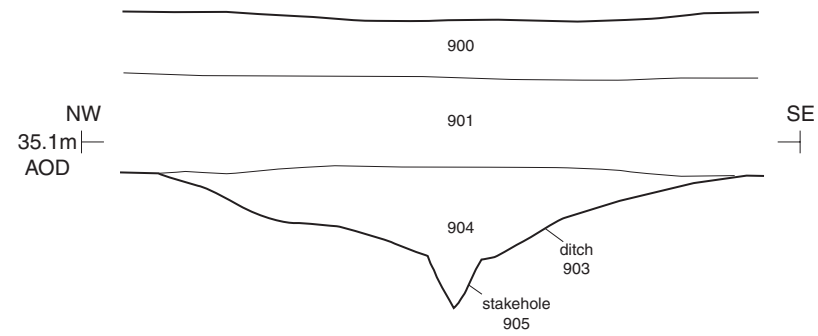
DRAWN BY	SCALE	PROJECT NO.	FIGURE NO.
JB	1:500@A3	3171	<b>4</b>

P:\3171\copcut.lane.droitwich.eval\Illustration\Drafts\3171 Droitwich Figs 2 - 4.dwg

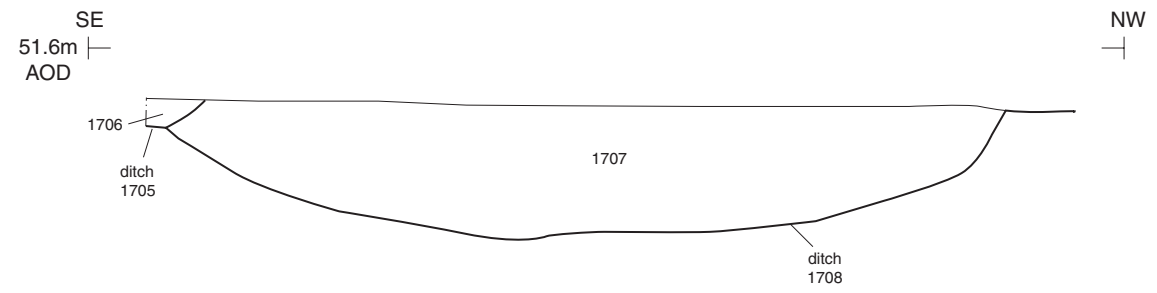
2616

SO

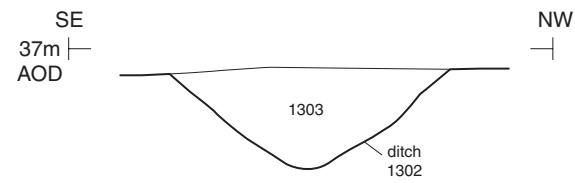
Section AA



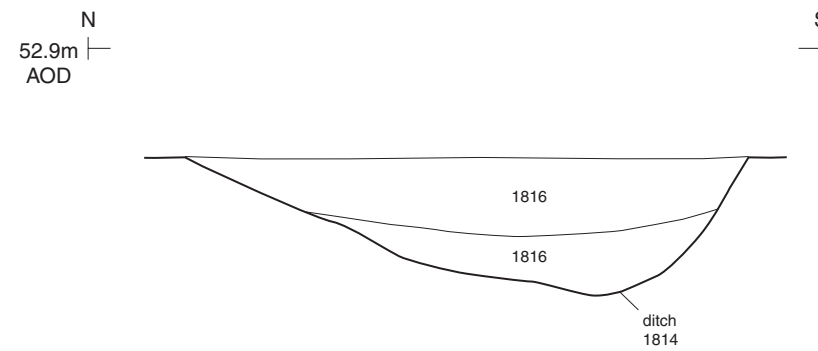
Section DD



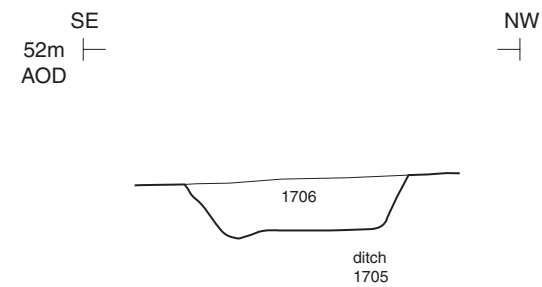
Section BB



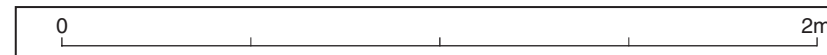
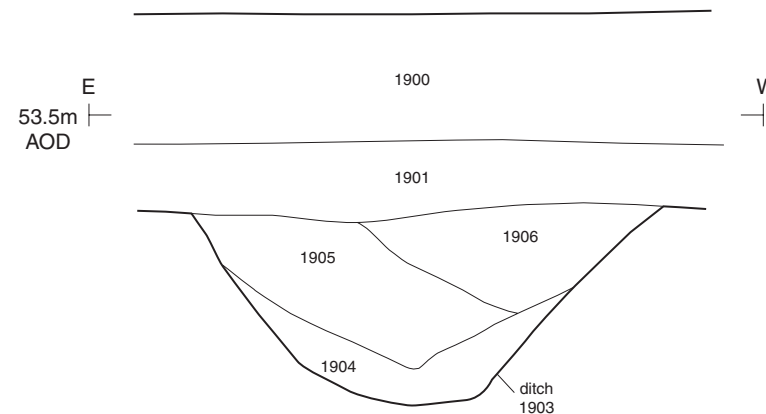
Section EE



Section CC



Section FF



PROJECT TITLE Copcut Lane, Droitwich Worcestershire			
FIGURE TITLE Sections			
DRAWN BY	SCALE	PROJECT NO.	FIGURE NO.
JB	1:20@A3	3171	5



6



7

**6 North-east facing section of Saxon ditch 1708  
Trench 17 (scale 1m)**

**7 North facing section of Roman ditch 1903, Trench 19  
(scale 0.4m)**



**COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY**

*PROJECT TITLE*

Copcut Lane, Droitwich  
Worcestershire

*FIGURE TITLE*

**Photographs**

*DRAWN BY*

JB

*SCALE*

n/a

*PROJECT NO.*

3171

*FIGURE NO.*

**6 & 7**