

Archaeological evaluation at Martley Road, Lower Broadheath, Worcestershire

Worcestershire Archaeology
for Orion Heritage Ltd

November 2022



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LAND OFF MARTLEY ROAD LOWER BROADHEATH WORCESTERSHIRE

Archaeological evaluation report



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SITE INFORMATION

Site name: Martley Road
Site code: -
Local planning authority: Malvern Hills District Council
Planning reference: 22/00590/OUT
Central NGR: SO 83131 56022
Commissioning client: Orion Heritage Ltd
Client project reference: PN3611
WA project number: P6378
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Archaeological evaluation on land off Martley Road, Lower Broadheath, Worcestershire.

By John Jackson

With contributions by Laura Griffin

Illustrations by Abbie Horton

Summary

During November 2022, Worcester Archaeology was commissioned by Orion Heritage Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land off Martley Road, Lower Broadheath, Worcestershire. The project resulted from an earlier phase of desk-based assessment and geophysical survey which was undertaken in support of a planning application for a proposed residential development at the c.1.5ha site.

The assessment and survey concluded that groundworks associated with the proposed development had the potential to impact on sub-surface heritage assets preserved within the site. A programme of targeted evaluation trenching was required to provide further baseline information.

The site was located c.1.9km north-west of Worcester city centre. It was bordered by Martley Road to the north and Laugherne Brook to the east. The archaeological evaluation comprised fourteen trenches excavated across 7no. paddocks. The trenches were positioned in order to target geophysical anomalies of possible archaeological origin and to test 'blank' areas of the site.

The archaeological evaluation confirmed the results of the geophysical survey, identifying multiple east to west aligned ridge and furrow cultivation terraces, some visible as slight earthworks, within Trenches 3, 4 and 7. While no dating evidence was recovered from the furrows, the narrow spacing between the crown and trough was indicative of a probable post-medieval date.

Trenches 9 and 10 contained two parallel ditches, [904/907] and [1005/1007], which correlated with anomalies identified by geophysical survey. The south-eastern ditch [904/1005] contained a fragment of abraded 2nd Century Roman pottery and may demarcate the location of a heavily truncated Roman field boundary ditch. Trenches within the eastern part of the site contained deposits of alluvium and colluvium.

Additional geophysical anomalies, previously interpreted as forming a potential pit alignment, were revealed as areas of early 20th century waste disposal; with patches of burnt material visible in the topsoil.

In summary, the archaeological evaluation indicates that the extreme south-eastern portion of the site may have been associated with Roman activity, potentially related to pastoral farming, and the western portion of the site, was occupied by post-medieval ridge and furrow cultivation terraces which were orientated down-slope towards Laugherne Brook, presumably to assist with land drainage impeded by the clay-heavy soils.

Report

1 Introduction

1.1 Background to the project

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Worcestershire Archaeology (WA) in November 2022 on land off Martley Road, Lower Broadheath, Worcester (NGR SO 83131 56022). The evaluation comprised fourteen trenches, targeted across geophysical anomalies identified during a previous phase of works (SUMO, 2022), and was commissioned by Orion Heritage Ltd in support of a planning application (22/00590/OUT) for a proposed residential development at the site.

The previous phase of evaluation works, comprising assessment and survey, concluded that groundworks associated with the proposed development had the potential to impact archaeological features preserved on site. Accordingly, the archaeological advisor to the local planning authority requested a programme of targeted evaluation trenching in order to inform on the potential for archaeological mitigation in accordance with paragraph 194 of the National Planning Policy Framework (MHCLG 2021).

A Written Scheme of Investigation, outlining the scope of the archaeological evaluation works, was prepared by Worcestershire Archaeology (WA, 2022) and approved by Malvern Hills District Council prior to deployment of an archaeological field team to the site. The evaluation conformed to the industry guidelines and standards established by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists in *Standard and guidance: for archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014a).

1.2 Site location, topography and geology

The site is located c.1.5km to the north-west of Worcester city centre and encloses an area measuring approximately c.1.5ha. Present land-use comprises stabling with associated grazing paddocks. The site is bordered to the north by the B4204 and to the east by Laugherne Brook. The site slopes downhill towards Laugherne Brook and extends from a maximum height of 28m aOD in the west, before descending eastwards to a minimum height of 21m aOD.

The underlying geology comprises bedrock of Sidmouth Mudstone Formation formed between 250 and 228 million years ago during the Triassic period. The east of the site is overlain by superficial deposits of alluvium and to the west are superficial deposits of Holt Heath sand and gravel (BGS 2022).

2 Archaeological and historical background

2.1 Introduction

The below section outlines the key background information drawn from the archaeological desk-based assessment (DBA) produced by Orion Heritage Ltd (Ryan, 2022). For more detailed information of the below the reader is directed towards the DBA (Ryan, 2022).

2.2 Prehistoric/Iron Age

The western extent of the site has areas of palaeolithic potential based on the geology of the wider area (WSM56937 and WSM56936) with some sediments containing a series of lithologies (WSM68340). The site is also situated within an area that has previously produced unstratified and unlocated finds of Neolithic to Iron Age date (WSM42283) hinting at consistent exploitation of the area by prehistoric communities.

2.3 Roman

During the Roman period a significant settlement developed within the City of Worcester on the eastern bank of the River Severn (SAM WT343A-E), Settlement was also recorded at Roman camp (SAM WT242). There is no evidence to suggest contemporary occupation in the site. Evidence for this period is limited to a small quantity of abraded Roman pottery sherds (WSM29659, WSM31973) recovered from fieldwalking during the construction of the bypass to the south of the site and the recovery of fragments of abraded pottery from agricultural manuring at Temple Laugherne situated immediately west of the site (WSM77682).

2.4 Saxon/Early Medieval and Medieval

There is no Early Medieval documentary or archaeological evidence associated with the site. However, during the medieval period, reference to 13th century parish records indicate that the manor of Lower Broadheath was sold to the Knights Templar although the precise boundaries of the manor are unclear. Archaeological investigations at Temple Laugherne, 90m to the south-west of the site, identified a 12th to 14th century post built chapel, small settlement and associated medieval field systems (WSM78189).

There are HER records for Medieval fish weirs in Laugherne Brook to the northeast of the site (WCM99328) and the relict remnants of medieval ridge and furrow cultivation terraces are recorded on the land directly to the west of the site (WSM07893 and WSM15147).

2.5 Post Medieval to Modern

There are no records of post medieval to modern archaeology recorded within the site. However, there is evidence of a former corn mill (WCM98201) situated directly north of the site with and agricultural activity associated with farms and barns to the northwest (e.g. WSM51188 and WSM51189). Reference to the Ordnance Survey mapping suggests that the site served as agricultural land until the establishment of horse stabling and associated paddocks in the later 20th century.

Previous archaeological work on the site

A geophysical survey of the western portion of the site was undertaken by Sumo Ltd prior to the present phase of evaluation fieldwork (Sumo 2022). The survey recorded multiple anomalies within the boundary of the site including probable ridge and furrow cultivation terraces, a possible pit alignment and a pair of parallel north-east to south-west aligned ditches.

3 Project aims

- Determine the presence or absence of archaeological deposits beyond reasonable doubt;
- Identify their location, date and preservation;
- Assess their significance;
- Assess the likely impact of the proposed development (if detailed foundation and landscaping plans have been provided to WA).

The DBA indicated that there was potential for deposits of prehistoric and Roman date, along with archaeological evidence associated with medieval agriculture and domestic activity.

The evaluation only assessed heritage assets which were of archaeological interest. This project did not include consideration of listed buildings, conservation areas and historic hedgerows.

4 Project methodology

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared by Worcestershire Archaeology (WA 2022). Fieldwork was undertaken between the 14th and 18th November 2022.

Fourteen trenches, cumulatively measuring 666m² and representing a sample size of 4.4% coverage, were excavated across the 1.5ha site. The location of the trenches is indicated in Figure 2.

The trenches were laid out grid array and positioned to best sample the open paddock areas with trenches 7, 9 and 10 positioned to investigate anomalies identified by the geophysics survey.

The location of Trench 7 was amended in order to avoid a large bonfire pile and Trench 12 moved to the east to avoid blocking a paddock gateway. Trench 1 was not excavated due to the presence of a main sewer utility.

Trenches 4 and 6 were originally split over two paddocks, however, the boundary fence had been removed and these two trenches were combined and renamed as Trench 4.

Deposits considered not to be significant were removed under constant archaeological supervision using an 8 ton 360° tracked excavator, equipped with a toothless bucket. Subsequent excavation was undertaken by hand. Clean surfaces were inspected, and selected deposits were excavated to retrieve artefactual material and environmental samples, as well as to determine their nature.

Deposits were recorded according to standard Worcestershire Archaeology practice (WA 2012) and trench and feature locations were surveyed using a GNSS device with an accuracy limit set at <0.04m. On completion of excavation, trenches were reinstated by replacing the excavated material.

All fieldwork records were checked and cross-referenced. Analysis was undertaken through a combination of structural and artefactual evidence, allied to the information derived from other sources.

The project archive is currently held at the offices of Worcestershire Archaeology. Subject to the agreement of the landowner it is anticipated that the archive will be deposited at Worcestershire County Museum at Hartlebury Castle.

5 Archaeological results

5.1 Introduction

The features recorded in the trenches are shown in Figures 2 - 5 and Plates 1-7. Only trenches containing finds, features or deposits of archaeological significance are described below. The trench and context inventory is presented in Appendix 1.

5.2 Phasing descriptions

5.2.1 Natural deposits

The depth of the natural substrate was reached in all trenches; the appearance and form of the superficial drift geology varied across the site. Trenches 1 - 5, 7 and 8, situated at the top of the slope within the western half of the site, revealed evidence for a pinkish-brown sandy-clay which was identified at a depth of between 0.5m and 0.9m below present ground level. The remaining trenches, both on the slope and those trenches situated at the base of the slope, displayed an orangey-brown, sandy-clay substrate which was identified at a depth of between 0.68m and 1.46m below the current ground level.

5.2.2 Alluvium

Figure 5

Trenches 8, 9, 11, 14 and 15 contained an alluvial layer of green-grey silty clay which varied in depth from 0.08m to 0.38m and was presumably deposited during flood events from Laugherne Brook. No dating evidence was recovered from the alluvial deposits.

5.2.3 Colluvium

Plates 6 and 7. Figures 3 and 5

All of the trenches contained colluvium, aside from Trenches 1 - 4 which were situated on the elevated plateau at the western edge of the site. The colluvial layers comprised an orangey-brown, silty-clay which increased in depth from 0.18m, on slope, to a thickness of 0.89m at the base of the slope. The colluvial deposit was derived from successive phases erosion and hill wash extending from the lip of the western plateau, downslope towards Laugherne Brook. The colluvial layers produced a residual mix of highly abraded Roman pottery, medieval roof tile and late 19th-early 20th century detritus.

5.2.4 Phase 2: Prehistoric

A single, abraded prehistoric flint flake was recovered from ditch fill (1006) in Trench 10. This is potentially residual.

5.2.5 Phase 3: Roman

Plate 6. Figures 2 and 3

Heavily abraded Roman pottery was recovered from ditch deposit (906), colluvial deposit (1003) and modern waste dump (1009). The recovery of Roman pottery from these deposits, all of which are located towards the base of the slope, suggests that Roman activity was likely occurring both within vicinity of the site, or more likely, upon the break of slope and accompanying plateau to the west. It is worth noting, however, that the recovery of a Roman pottery fragment from ditch fill (906) could indicate that the southern-most ditch [904/1005] represents the heavily truncated, relict remnants of a Roman field boundary.

5.2.6 Phase 4: Medieval

The colluvium deposit observed within Trench 10, (1003) also contained a fragment of medieval roof tile which was dated from the 13th - 15th Century. When considering that medieval activity has been previously identified at Temple Laugherne, situated upslope and to the west of the site, the recovery of a fragment of medieval roof tile from colluvium (1003) further suggests that artefactual material associated with past phases of human activity is being washed downslope towards Laugherne Brook.

5.2.7 Phase 5: Post Medieval to Modern

Plate 6. Figures 3 – 5

Ridge and furrow cultivation terraces were visible both as faint earthworks and, following excavation, were also identifiable in the section edges of Trenches 3, 4, 5, 7 and 8. All of the furrows identified were orientated downslope on a broadly east to west alignment at a distance of between 5m - 6m from furrow to furrow. In all instances the furrows were cut through the subsoil. The recovery of a single fragment of post-medieval pottery, the narrow spacing between each furrow and their stratigraphic relationship with the subsoil suggests that the ridge and furrow cultivation terraces revealed were probably dated to the post-medieval period.

Ceramic land drains bisected every paddock on the site and were sealed by redeposited natural backfill deposits containing fragments of 19th and 20th century pottery. The land drains were almost certainly inserted during the 19th or early 20th century in order to assist with drainage to assist an agrarian farming regime. The south-east extent of Trenches 9 and 10 contained discrete patches of burnt material and lenses of modern waste (1009) overlaying the subsoil layer. The location of the discrete patches of burning in Trenches 9 and 10 broadly corresponded with the discrete anomalies identified during the geophysical survey phase of works and suggests that the features revealed during the survey were almost certainly the result of modern land clearance and waste disposal.

5.2.8 Undated

Plate 7. Figures 2 and 3

A SW-NE aligned ditch [907/1007] measuring 1.3m in width and 0.3m in depth was revealed at the northern extent of the Trenches 9 and 10. The ditch was excavated through subsoil layer (1002), contained a well-sorted, orangey brown silty clay but did not produce any dating evidence. Accordingly, although the ditch has been interpreted as undated its physical relationship with the subsoil layer and position within the stratigraphic matrix suggests that [907/1007] may represent the relict remnants of a former post-medieval field boundary.

6 Artefactual evidence

By Laura Griffin

6.1 Introduction

The artefact report conforms to standards and guidance issued by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014), as well as further guidance on pottery analysis, archive creation and museum deposition created by various pottery study groups (PCRG/SGRP/MPRG 2016), the Archaeological Archives Forum (AAF 2011), and the Society of Museum Archaeologists (SMA 1993).

6.2 Aims

This assessment/analysis aimed to identify, sort, spot date, and quantify all artefacts and describe the range of artefacts present. The information has been used to provide a preliminary assessment/analysis of the significance of the artefacts.

6.3 Methodology

6.3.1 Recovery policy

Artefacts were recovered according to standard Worcestershire Archaeology practice (WA 2012). All artefacts collected in the field were recovered by hand.

6.3.2 Method of analysis

All hand-retrieved finds were examined. They were identified, quantified and dated to period. A *terminus post quem* date was produced for each stratified context. This date was used for determining the broad date of phases defined for the site. All information was recorded on a Microsoft Access 2007 database, with tables generated using Microsoft Excel.

The pottery was examined under x20 magnification and referenced as appropriate by fabric type and form according to the fabric reference series maintained by Worcestershire Archaeology (Hurst and Rees 1992; WAAS 2017).

6.3.3 Discard policy

Artefacts from topsoil and subsoil and unstratified contexts will normally be noted but not retained, unless they are of intrinsic interest (e.g. worked flint or flint debitage, featured pottery sherds, and other potential 'registered artefacts'). Large assemblages of post-medieval or modern material, unless there is some special reason to retain (such as local production), may be noted and not retained, or, if appropriate, a representative sample will be retained. Discard of finds from post-medieval and earlier deposits will only be instituted with reference to museum collection policy and/or with agreement of the local museum.

6.4 Results

The results are summarised in Tables 1 and 3.

The assemblage totalled 21 finds weighing 389g (see Table 1). Finds came from seven stratified contexts and could be dated from the prehistoric period onwards. Preservation was variable with some finds showing high levels of surface abrasion, whilst others appeared far less affected.

period	material class	object specific type	count	weight (g)
prehistoric	flint	flake	1	3
Roman	ceramic	pot	2	29
Roman	ceramic	pot	2	18
post-medieval	ceramic	pot	1	16
post-medieval	ceramic	roof tile	1	83
modern	ceramic	pot	10	152
modern	ceramic	pot	2	9
modern	ceramic	pot	1	59
modern	ebonite	bottle top	1	20

Table 1: Quantification of the artefactual assemblage

6.4.1 Prehistoric

A single flint flake was retrieved from context (1006).

6.4.2 Roman

Four sherds of Roman pottery were recovered, all highly abraded. Three were of locally produced Severn Valley ware (fabric 12; contexts 1003 and 1009). All were undiagnostic and could only be dated to the general period. The remaining sherd was identified as being of Central Gaulish samian (fabric 43.2; context 906) and from the base of a bowl or dish form. The main exporting period for this ware type to Britain was AD100-200.

6.4.3 Medieval

The only material of medieval date was a small fragment of sandy flat roof tile (context 1003).

6.4.4 Post-medieval

Post-medieval material consisted of three fragments of clay pipe stem, one with a pointed spur (context 900), a fragment of flat roof tile (context 1009), a fragment of brick (context 1009) and a sherd of red sandy ware with a greenish brown internal glaze (fabric 78; context 900). All were likely of 18th century date.

6.4.5 Modern

Modern material consisted of 13 sherds of pottery (contexts 406, 900 and 1001) and an ebonite screw-in bottle top (context 1009).

The pottery was all of domestic fabric and form types commonly identified in modern assemblages (see Table 2). The group included tablewares, as well as more utilitarian forms such as stoneware jars. The most notable sherd was a piece of pearlware, likely from a tea bowl or cup, with painted

decoration imitating that seen on Chinese porcelain (fabric 85.11; context 1001). This could be dated late 18th-early 19th century.

Ebonite screw-in bottle tops were used from the early 1870s through to the 1970s.

period	fabric code	fabric common name	count	weight (g)
Roman	12	Severn Valley ware	3	35
Roman	43.2	Central Gaulish samian ware	1	12
post-medieval	78	Post-medieval red ware	1	16
post-medieval	83	Porcelain	2	5
post-medieval	84	Creamware	1	4
modern	78	Late red ware	1	5
modern	81.4	Miscellaneous late stoneware	1	59
modern	85	Modern china	7	142
modern	85.11	Pearlware	1	5

Table 2: Quantification of the pottery by fabric type

context	material class	object specific type	count	weight (g)	start date	end date	finds tpq
406	ceramic	pot	1	5	18C	19C	19-20C
406	ceramic	pot	2	5	L18C	20C	
406	ceramic	pot	1	6	19C	20C	
900	ceramic	pot	3	5	19C	20C	19-20C
900	ceramic	pot	1	16		18C	
900	ceramic	pot	1	4	M18C	L18C	
906	ceramic	pot	1	12	AD100	AD200	2C
1001	ceramic	pot	1	5	19C	20C	L19-20C
1001	ceramic	pot	2	126	19C	E20C	
1001	ceramic	pot	1	5	L18C	E19C	
1001	ceramic	pot	1	59	L19C	20C	
1003	ceramic	pot	1	17	M1C	4C	medieval
1003	ceramic	roof tile	1	19	13C	15C	

1006	flint	flake	1	3			prehistoric
1009	ceramic	brick	1	151			L19-20C
1009	ceramic	pot	2	18	M1C	4C	
1009	ceramic	roof tile	1	83			
1009	ebonite	bottle top	1	20	L19C	20C	

Table 3: Summary of context dating based on artefacts

6.5 Discussion

Although small, the assemblage was varied and of a wide timespan. The presence of Roman pottery in stratified contexts, although highly abraded, would indicate activity of this period on the site or in the near vicinity.

6.6 Recommendations

6.6.1 Further analysis

No further work required.

6.6.2 Discard/retention

None of the material collected from site warrants retention.

7 Environmental evidence

By Elizabeth Pearson

7.1 Introduction

The environmental project conforms to guidance by ClfA (2014) on archaeological evaluation, further guidance by English Heritage (2011) and the Association for Environmental Archaeology (1995).

The site is located on freely draining slightly acid loamy soils of low fertility (Cranfield and Agrifood Institute 2022). The underlying geology comprises bedrock of Sidmouth Mudstone Formation (BGS 2022).

7.2 Methodology

7.2.1 Sampling policy

Samples were taken according to standard Worcestershire Archaeology practice (2012). A single sample (of 20 litres) were taken from the site (Table 3).

7.2.2 Processing and analysis

The samples were processed by flotation using a Siraf tank. The flots were collected on a 300µm sieve and the residue retained on a 1mm mesh. This allows for the recovery of items such as small animal bones, molluscs and seeds.

The residues were scanned by eye and the abundance of each category of environmental remains estimated. A magnet was also used to test for the presence of hammscale. The flots were scanned using a low power MEIJI stereo light microscope and plant remains identified using modern reference collections maintained by Worcestershire Archaeology, and a seed identification manual (Cappers *et al* 2012). Nomenclature for the plant remains follows Stace (2010).

Context	Sample	Feature type	Fill of	Period	Sample volume (L)	Volume processed (L)	Residue assessed	Flot assessed
905	1	Fill of ditch	904	Roman	20	20	Yes	Yes

Env Table 3: List of bulk samples

7.2.3 Discard and retention policy

Remaining residue and flot (post scanning) will be discarded after a period of three months following submission of this report unless there is a specific request to retain them.

Retention of the following material is recommended:

- Sorted remains from scanned residues

7.3 Results

7.3.1 Plant macrofossils

The results are summarised in Tables 4 and 5.

The only environmental remains recorded were a small quantity of unidentifiable charcoal remains. Uncharred remains, consisting of mainly root fragments are assumed to be modern and intrusive as they are unlikely to have survived in the soils on site for long without charring or waterlogging.

No interpretation could be made of these remains.

Context	Sample	Charcoal	Unch*
905	1	occ	mod

Table 4: Summary of environmental remains; occ = occasional, mod = moderate, abt = abundant, * = probably modern and intrusive

Context	Sample	Preservation type	Species detail	Category remains	Quantity/diversity
905	1	ch	unidentified wood fragments	misc	+/low
905	1	unch*	unidentified root fragments (herbaceous)	misc	++/low

Table 5: Plant remains from bulk samples

Key:

preservation	quantity
ch = charred	+ = 1 - 10
unch = uncharred	++ = 11- 50
	* = probably modern and intrusive

7.4 Significance

The environmental remains are of negligible significance, all being present in low levels, or products of modern/intrusive activity.

7.5 Recommendations

7.5.1 Further analysis

No further work is recommended on the sample assessed.

8 Discussion & Conclusion

The archaeological evaluation at Martley Road largely confirmed the results of the earlier phase of geophysical survey and identified a low density of archaeological features, principally centred on Trenches 9 and 10, at the south-eastern portion of the site. The earliest, securely dated archaeological evidence related to the identification of a NE-SW aligned field boundary ditch [904/1005] at the south-eastern extent of Trenches 9 and 10. The ditch corresponded with a linear anomaly on the geophysical survey, and contained a fragment of 2nd Century Roman pottery. Although definitive interpretation of the feature is precluded by the limited size of the area exposed it is reasonable to assume that ditch [904/1005] may have functioned as a relict Roman field boundary.

The elevated western portion of the site was bisected by a series of broadly east-west aligned ridge and furrow cultivation terraces which were identified during the geophysical survey and were visible as slight earthworks during the evaluation project. Traditionally, the width between medieval ridge and furrow (the distance between the centre point of two adjacent troughs) varies considerably, reaching up to 20m in distance. Post-medieval ridge and furrow rarely exceeds 5m in width from trough to trough which broadly corresponded with the furrow width displayed within the evaluation trenches at Martley Road (Historic England 2018). The width of the furrows coupled with the recovery of a fragment of post-medieval pottery from the furrow troughs in Trench 4 indicate that the western portion of the site was under agricultural cultivation during the post-medieval period. The downslope orientation of the furrows towards Laugherne Brook is a common feature of ridge and furrow cultivation and was intended to assist with land drainage over heavy soils. The NE-SW orientated ditch [907/1007], situated at the northern extent of Trenches 9 and 10 produced no dating evidence but was similarly interpreted to be a field boundary ditch of probable post-medieval date as the feature was excavated through the subsoil horizon and occupied a similar stratigraphic position to the ridge and furrow cultivation terraces in Trenches 3, 4 and 7.

Finally, the series of discrete geophysical anomalies bisecting the southern portion of Trenches 9 and 10 were characterised by patches of burning and lenses of 20th century detritus indicative of waste disposal potentially associated with periodic phases of modern dumping and burning events.

The methods adopted allow a high degree of confidence that the aims of the project have been achieved. Conditions were suitable in all the trenches to identify the presence or absence of archaeological features. It is considered that the nature, density and distribution of archaeological features provides an accurate characterisation of the site.

9 Project personnel

The fieldwork was led by Michael Nicholson, ACIfA, assisted by John Jackson, PCIfA.

The project was managed by Rupert Lotherington, MCIfA. The report was produced and collated by John Jackson. Specialist contributions and individual sections of the report are attributed to the relevant authors throughout the text.

10 Acknowledgements

Worcestershire Archaeology would like to thank the following for the successful conclusion of the project: Cathy Patrick, Technical Director at Orion Heritage Ltd for commissioning the Project., The project was monitored by Aidan Smyth (Archaeology and Planning Officer, Malvern Hills District Council).

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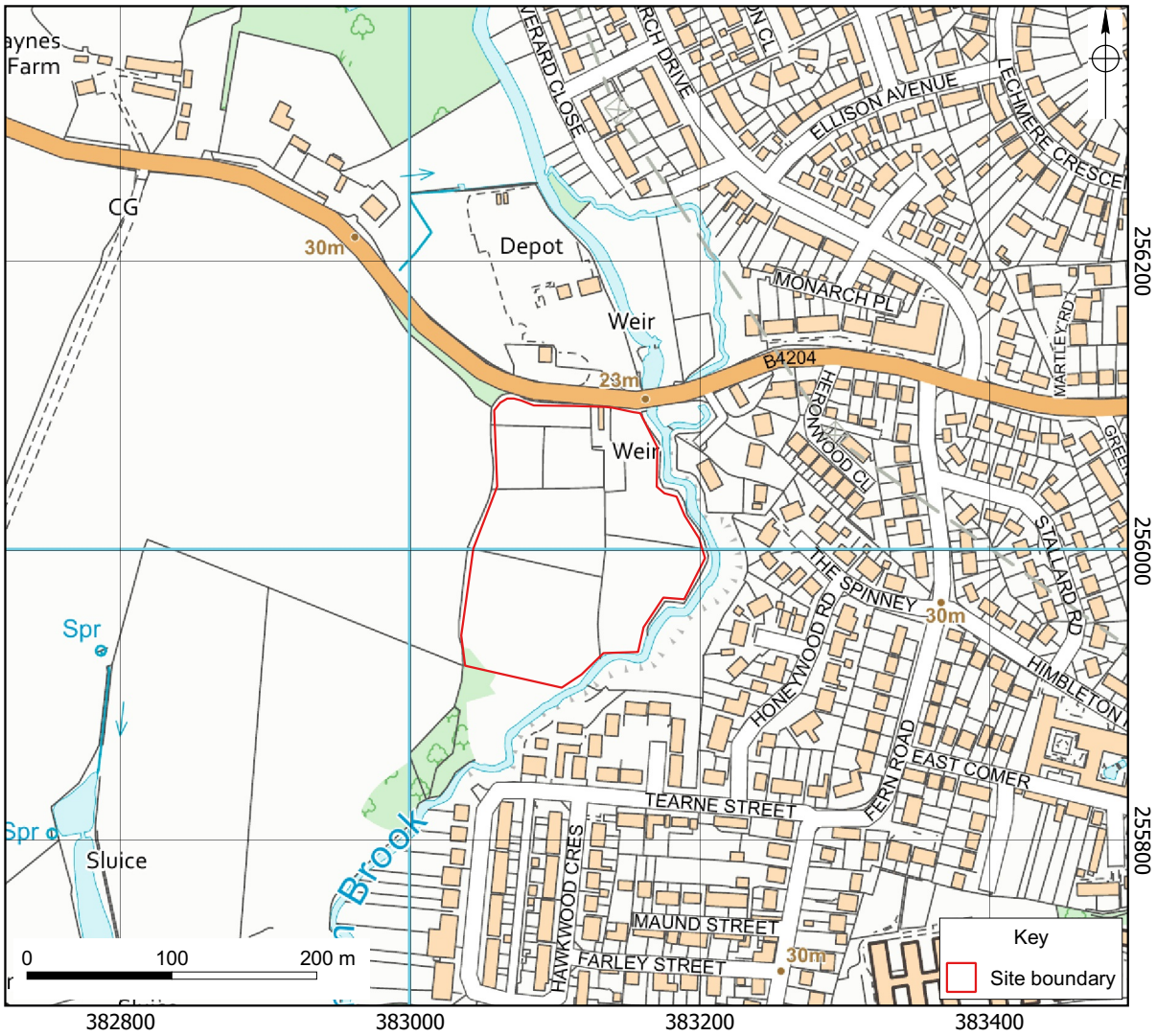
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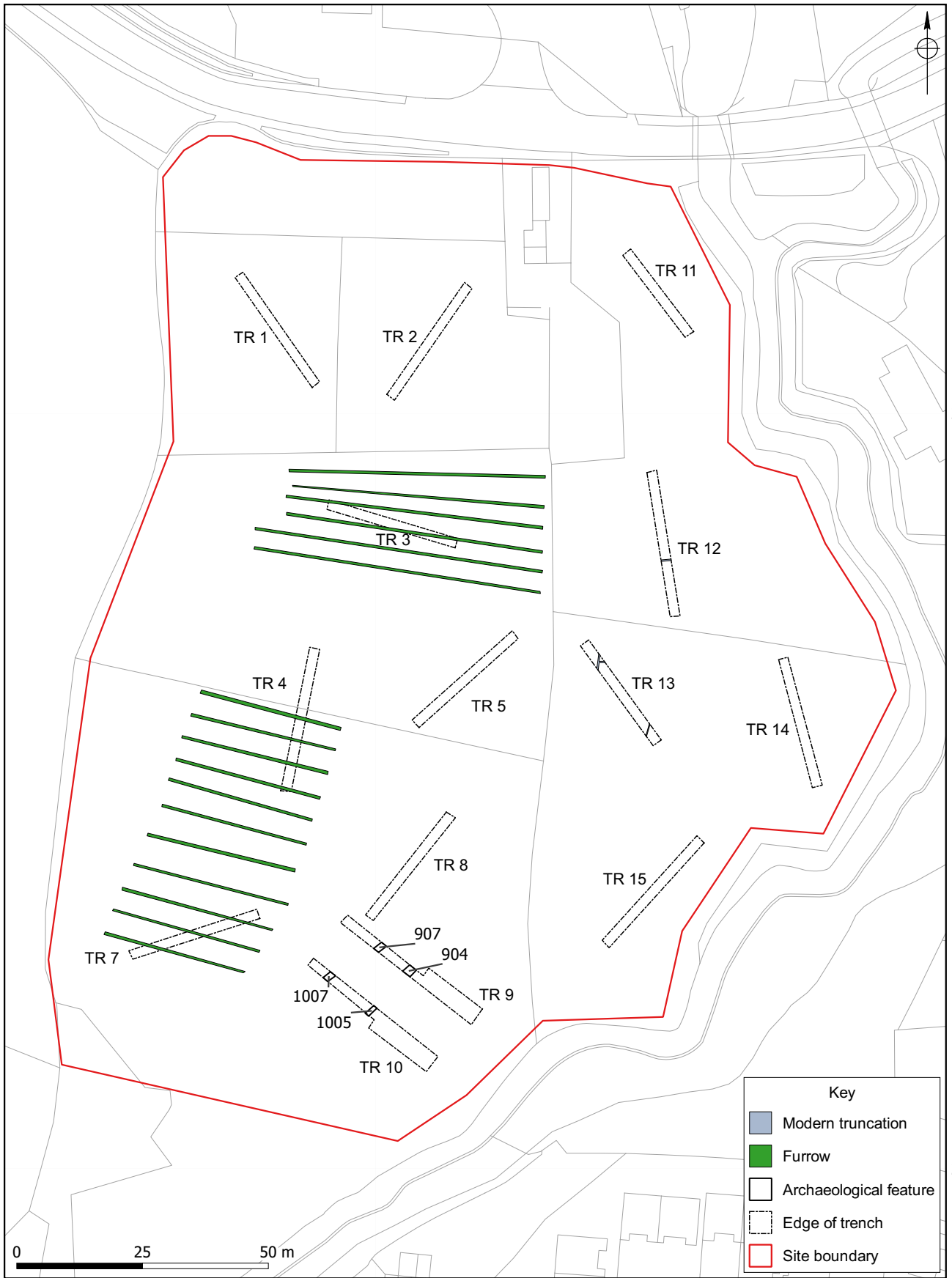
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Figures



Location of the site

Figure 1

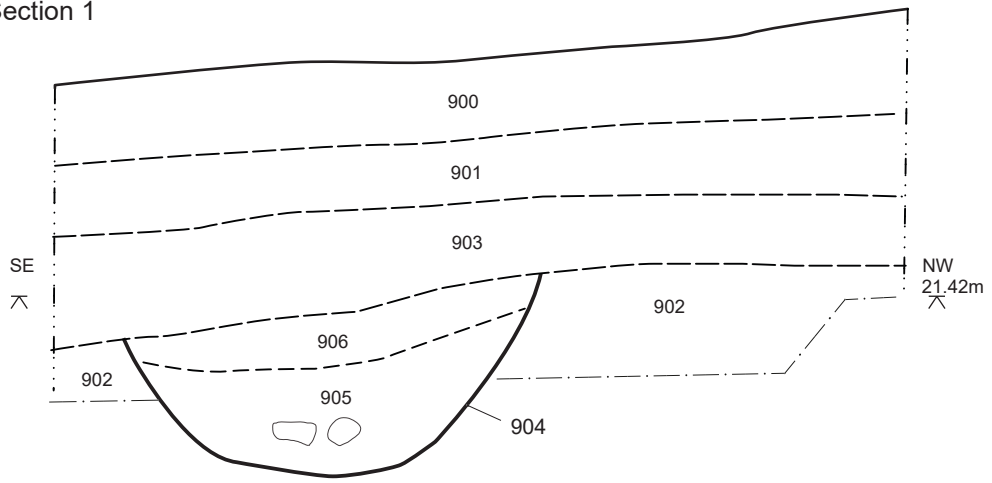


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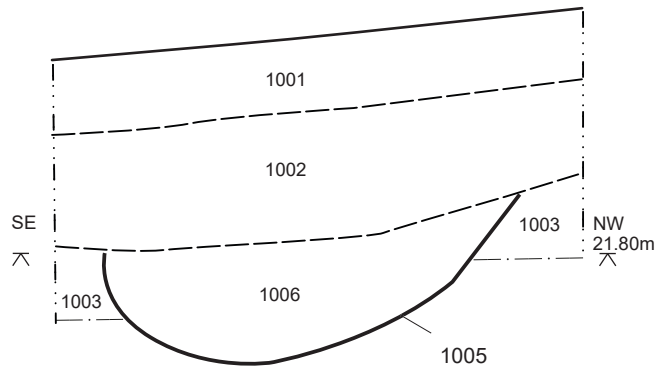
Trench and feature locations

Figure 2

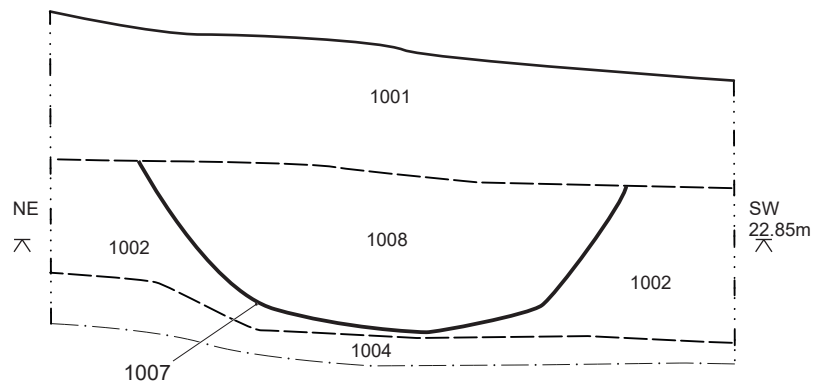
Section 1



Section 3



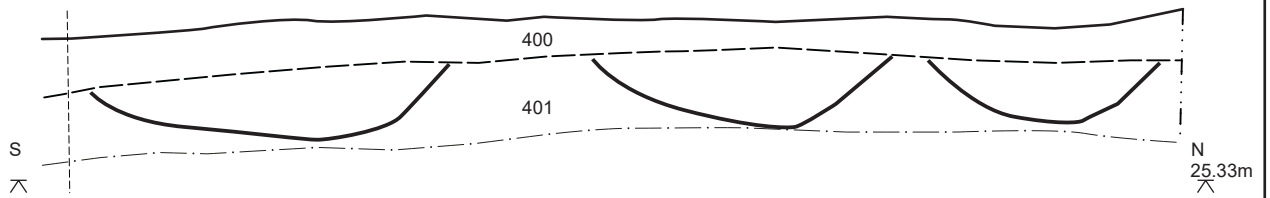
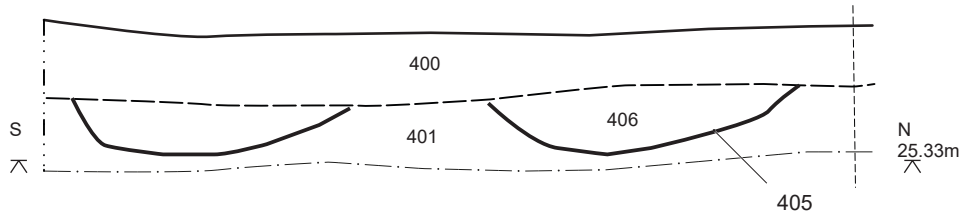
Section 5



Sections of ditches 904, 1005 and 1007

Figure 3

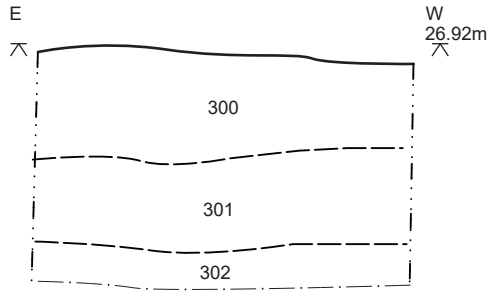
Section 6



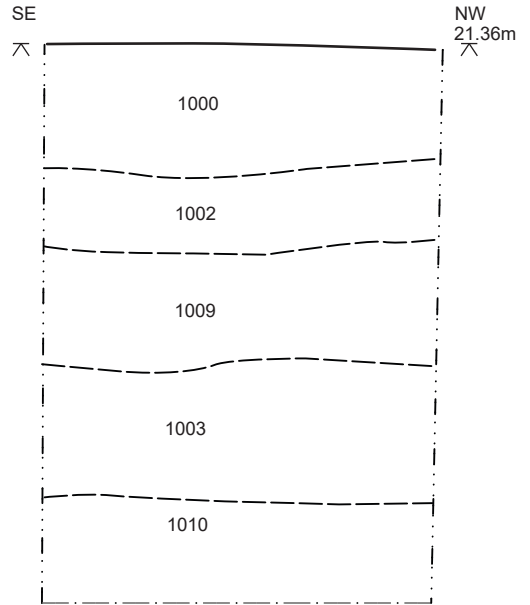
Sections of Furrows within Trench 4

Figure 4

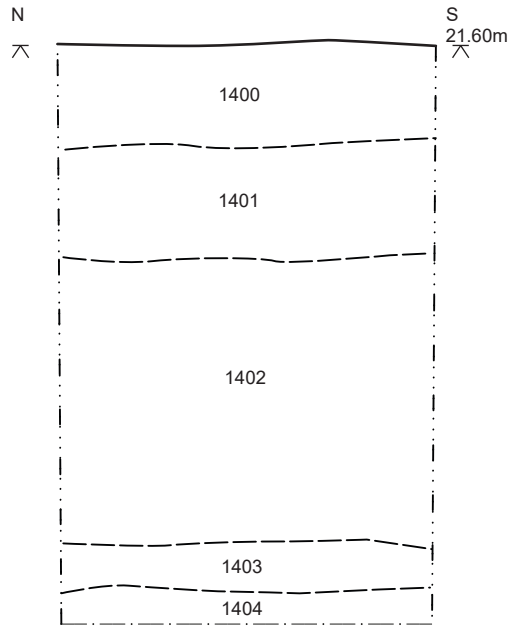
Trench 3



Trench 10



Trench 14



Representative trench sections

Figure 5

Plates



Plate 1: Tr 10, facing north-west, (2 x 1m scales)



Plate 2: Tr 9, facing north-west, (2 x 1m scales)



Plate 3: Tr 3, facing north-west, (2 x 1m scales)



Plate 4: Tr 15, facing south-west, (2 x 1m scales)



Plate 5: Tr 15, furrows 405, facing north (2m scale)



Plate 6: Ditch 1005 facing south-west (1m scale)



Plate 7: Ditch 1007 facing north-east (1m scale)

Appendix 1: Trench descriptions

Trench 1

Length:30 Width: 1.8 Orientation: NW-SE

Context summary:

Context	Feature type	Context type	Height/depth	Deposit description
100	Layer	Topsoil of trench 1	0.26 (avg.)	Compaction: moist, friable Colour: dark brown Composition: silty loam
101	Layer	Subsoil of trench 1	0.23 (avg.)	Compaction: moist, malleable Colour: mid pinkish brown Composition: silty clay
102	Layer	Natural in trench 1		Compaction: moist, malleable Colour: mid brownish pink Composition: clay

Trench 2

Length:30 Width: 1.8 Orientation: NE-SW

Context summary:

Context	Feature type	Context type	Height/depth	Deposit description
200	Layer	Topsoil of trench 2	0.25 (avg.)	Compaction: moist, friable Colour: dark brown Composition: silty loam
201	Layer	Subsoil of trench 2	0.25 (avg.)	Compaction: moist, malleable Colour: mid pinkish brown Composition: silty clay
202	Layer	Natural in trench 2		Compaction: moist, malleable Colour: mid brownish pink Composition: clay

Trench 3

Length:30 Width: 1.8 Orientation: E-W

Context summary:

Context	Feature type	Context type	Height/depth	Deposit description
300	Layer	Topsoil of trench 3	0.30 (avg.)	Compaction: moist, friable Colour: dark brown Composition: silty loam
301	Layer	Subsoil of trench 3	0.20 (avg.)	Compaction: moist, malleable Colour: mid pinkish brown Composition: silty clay
302	Layer	Natural in trench 3		Compaction: moist, malleable Colour: mid brownish pink Composition: clay

Trench 4

Length:30 Width: 1.8 Orientation: N-S

Context summary:

Context	Feature type	Context type	Height/depth	Deposit description
400	Layer	Topsoil of trench 4	0.33 (avg.)	Compaction: moist, friable Colour: dark brown Composition: silty loam
401	Layer	Subsoil of trench 4	0.20 (avg.)	Compaction: moist, malleable Colour: mid pinkish brown Composition: silty clay
402	Layer	Colluvium in trench 4	0.37 (avg.)	Compaction: moist, friable Colour: mid pinkish brown Composition: silty clay
403	Layer	Natural in trench 4		Compaction: moist, malleable Colour: mid brownish pink Composition: clay
404	Deposit	Fill of furrows		Compaction: moist, friable Colour: light orangey brown Composition: clayey silt
405	Cut		0.35 (exc.)	Cut of NWSE furrows Shape in plan: regular Break at top: gradual Sides: concave Break at base: imperceptible Base: rounded

Trench 5

Length:30 Width: 1.8 Orientation: NE-SW

Context summary:

Context	Feature type	Context type	Height/depth	Deposit description
500	Layer	Topsoil of trench 5	0.30 (avg.)	Compaction: moist, friable Colour: dark brown Composition: silty loam
501	Layer	Subsoil of trench 5	0.35 (avg.)	Compaction: moist, malleable Colour: mid pinkish brown Composition: silty clay
502	Layer	Colluvium in trench 5	0.20 (avg.)	Compaction: moist, friable Colour: mid pinkish brown Composition: silty clay
503	Layer	Natural in trench 5		Compaction: moist, malleable Colour: mid brownish pink Composition: clay

Trench 7

Length:30 Width: 1.8 Orientation: NE-SW

Context summary:

Context	Feature type	Context type	Height/depth	Deposit description
700	Layer	Topsoil of trench 7	0.32 (avg.)	Compaction: moist, friable Colour: dark brown Composition: silty loam
701	Layer	Subsoil of trench 7	0.20 (avg.)	Compaction: moist, malleable Colour: mid pinkish brown Composition: silty clay
702	Layer	Colluvium in trench 7	0.18 (avg.)	Compaction: moist, friable Colour: mid pinkish brown Composition: silty clay
703	Layer	Natural in trench 7		Compaction: moist, malleable Colour: mid brownish pink Composition: clay

Trench 8

Length:30 Width: 1.8 Orientation: NE-SW

Context summary:

Context	Feature type	Context type	Height/depth	Deposit description
800	Layer	Topsoil of trench 8	0.28 (avg.)	Compaction: moist, friable Colour: dark brown Composition: silty loam
801	Layer	Subsoil of trench 8	0.33 (avg.)	Compaction: moist, malleable Colour: mid pinkish brown Composition: silty clay
802	Layer	Natural in trench 8		Compaction: moist, malleable Colour: mid brownish pink Composition: clay
803	Layer	Colluvium in trench 8	0.08	Compaction: moist, friable Colour: mid pinkish brown Composition: silty clay
804	Layer	Alluvium in Trench 8	0.07	Compaction: moist, malleable Colour: Light blue green: Composition:

Trench 9

Length:34

Width: 4

Orientation: NE-SW

Context summary:

Context	Feature type	Context type	Height/depth	Deposit description
900	Layer	Topsoil of trench 9	0.24 (avg.)	Compaction: moist, friable Colour: dark greyish brown Composition: clayey silt
901	Layer	Subsoil of trench 9	0.24 to 0.40	Compaction: moist, firm Colour: mid yellowish brown Composition: sandy clay
902	Layer	Natural in trench 9		Compaction: wet, firm Colour: mid orangey brown Composition: fine clayey sand
903	Layer	Colluvium in trench 9	0.26 to 0.40	Compaction: wet, firm Colour: mid orangey brown Composition: sandy clay
904	Cut		0.5	Cut of NESW ditch Shape in plan: linear Break at top: sharp Sides: moderate, straight Break at base: gradual Base: rounded
905	Fill	Fill of ditch	0.3	Compaction: wet, malleable Colour: mid orangey brown Composition: fine clayey sand
906	Fill	Fill of ditch	0.18	Compaction: wet, malleable Colour: mid orangey brown Composition: sandy clay
907	Cut		0.36	Cut of EW ditch Shape in plan: linear Break at top: sharp Sides: moderate, concave Break at base: gradual Base: rounded
908	Fill	Fill of ditch	0.36	Compaction: moist, firm Colour: mid orangey brown Composition: silty clay
909	Layer	Alluvium in trench 9	0.23	Compaction: moist, malleable Colour: Light blue green: Composition:

Trench 10

Length:34

Width: 4

Orientation: NW-SE

Context summary:

Context	Feature type	Context type	Height/depth	Deposit description
1001	Layer	Topsoil of trench 10	0.30 (avg.)	Compaction: moist, friable Colour: dark greyish brown Composition: clayey silt
1002	Layer	Subsoil of trench 10	0.12 (avg.)	Compaction: moist, firm Colour: mid yellowish brown Composition: sandy clay
1003	Layer	Colluvium in trench 10	0.75 (avg.)	Compaction: wet, firm Colour: mid orangey brown Composition: sandy clay
1004	Layer	Natural in trench 10		Compaction: wet, firm Colour: mid orangey brown Composition: fine clayey sand
1005	Cut		0.3	Cut of NESW ditch Shape in plan: linear Break at top: sharp Sides: moderate, concave Break at base: gradual Base: rounded
1006	Fill	Fill of ditch	0.3	Compaction: wet, malleable Colour: mid orangey brown Composition: fine clayey sand
1007	Cut		0.42	Cut of EW ditch
1008	Fill	Fill of ditch	0.42	Compaction: moist, firm Colour: mid orangey brown Composition: silty clay
1009	Layer	Modern layer	0.23	Compaction: friable Colour: black charcoal
1010	Layer	Alluvium in trench 10	0.38	Compaction: moist, malleable Colour: Light blue green: Composition:

Trench 11

Length:25

Width: 1.8

Orientation: NW-SE

Context summary:

Context	Feature type	Context type	Height/depth	Deposit description
1100	Layer	Topsoil of trench 11	0.30 (avg.)	Compaction: wet Colour: dark brownish black Composition: silty loam
1101	Layer	Subsoil of trench 11	0.21 (avg.)	Compaction: moist, friable Colour: mid brown Composition: silty clay
1102	Layer	Colluvium in trench 11	0.50 (avg.)	Compaction: wet Colour: mid brownish pink Composition: silty clay
1103	Layer	Natural in trench 11		Compaction: wet Colour: mid brownish pink Composition: silty clay
1104	Layer	Alluvium in trench 11	0.18	Compaction: moist, malleable Colour: Light blue green: Composition:

Trench 12

Length:30 Width: 1.8 Orientation: N-S

Context summary:

Context	Feature type	Context type	Height/depth	Deposit description
1200	Layer	Topsoil of trench 12	0.20 (avg.)	Compaction: wet Colour: dark brownish black Composition: silty loam
1201	Layer	Subsoil of trench 12	0.23 (avg.)	Compaction: moist, friable Colour: mid brown Composition: silty clay
1202	Layer	Colluvium in trench 12	0.40 (avg.)	Compaction: wet Colour: mid brownish pink Composition: silty clay
1203	Layer	Natural in trench 12		Compaction: wet Colour: mid brownish pink Composition: silty clay

Trench 13

Length:30 Width: 1.8 Orientation: NW-SE

Context summary:

Context	Feature type	Context type	Height/depth	Deposit description
1300	Layer	Topsoil of trench 13	0.23 (avg.)	Compaction: moist, friable Colour: dark brownish black Composition: silty loam
1301	Layer	Subsoil of trench 13	0.22 (avg.)	Compaction: moist, friable Colour: mid pinkish brown Composition: silty clay
1302	Layer	Colluvium in trench 13	0.23 to 0.53	Compaction: moist, friable Colour: mid pinkish brown Composition: silty clay
1303	Layer	Natural in trench 13		Compaction: dry, firm Colour: mid brownish pink Composition: sandy clay

Trench 14

Length:30 Width: 1.8 Orientation: NE-SW

Context summary:

Context	Feature type	Context type	Height/depth	Deposit description
1400	Layer	Topsoil of trench 14	0.28 (avg.)	Compaction: moist, friable Colour: dark brownish black Composition: silty loam
1401	Layer	Subsoil of trench 14	0.29 (avg.)	Compaction: moist, friable Colour: mid pinkish brown Composition: silty clay
1402	Layer	Colluvium in trench 14	0.89 (avg.)	Compaction: moist, friable Colour: mid pinkish brown Composition: silty clay
1403	Layer	Natural in trench 14		Compaction: dry, firm Colour: mid brownish pink Composition: sandy clay
1404	Layer	Alluvium in trench 14	0.30	Compaction: moist, malleable Colour: Light blue green: Composition:

Trench 15

Length:30

Width: 1.8

Orientation: NE-SW

Context summary:

Context	Feature type	Context type	Height/depth	Deposit description
1500	Layer	Topsoil of trench 15	0.25 (avg.)	Compaction: moist, friable Colour: dark brownish black Composition: silty loam
1501	Layer	Subsoil of trench 15	0.26 (avg.)	Compaction: moist, friable Colour: mid pinkish brown Composition: silty clay
1502	Layer	Colluvium in trench 15	0.79 (avg.)	Compaction: moist, friable Colour: mid pinkish brown Composition: silty clay
1503	Layer	Natural in trench 15		Compaction: dry, firm Colour: mid brownish pink Composition: sandy clay
1504	Layer	Alluvium in trench 15	0.34	Compaction: moist, malleable Colour: Light blue green: Composition:

Appendix 2: Summary of project archive (WSM 78433)

TYPE	DETAILS*
Artefacts and Environmental	Animal bones, Ceramics, Environmental, Glass, Human bones, Industrial, Leather, Metal, Textiles, Wood, Worked bone, Worked stone/lithics, other
Paper	Context sheet, Correspondence, Diary (Field progress form), Drawing, Matrices, Photograph, Plan, Report, Section, Survey
Digital	Database, GIS, Geophysics, Images raster/digital photography, Spreadsheets, Survey, Text

*OASIS terminology

The project archive is currently held at the offices of Worcestershire Archaeology. Subject to the agreement of the landowner it is anticipated that it will be deposited at Worcestershire County Museum at Hartlebury Castle Museum.

The above terms are from the OASIS Project Archives page (see below) and should be deleted as appropriate. This Appendix should be filled out in conjunction with the OASIS page.

Project Archives

Please enter the details of your project archives below. Mandatory fields are marked with a *. Please use the 'other' field to enter new archive locations which will be added to the drop down list for subsequent form entries, this list is unique to your username.

To check museum collecting areas for England see [Society of Museum Archaeologists Map](#)

Physical	Digital	Paper
<input type="checkbox"/> Archive Exists? <input type="checkbox"/> No physical archive	<input type="checkbox"/> Archive Exists? <input type="checkbox"/> No digital archive	<input type="checkbox"/> Archive Exists? <input type="checkbox"/> No paper archive
<input type="checkbox"/> Archive recipient * Select archive recipient Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Archive recipient * Select archive recipient Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Archive recipient * Select archive recipient Other:
<input type="checkbox"/> Archive ID	<input type="checkbox"/> Archive ID	<input type="checkbox"/> Archive ID
<input type="checkbox"/> Contents * <input type="checkbox"/> Animal Bones <input type="checkbox"/> Ceramics <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental <input type="checkbox"/> Glass <input type="checkbox"/> Human Bones <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Leather <input type="checkbox"/> Metal <input type="checkbox"/> Textiles <input type="checkbox"/> Wood <input type="checkbox"/> Worked bone <input type="checkbox"/> Worked stone/lithics <input type="checkbox"/> other	<input type="checkbox"/> Contents * <input type="checkbox"/> Animal Bones <input type="checkbox"/> Ceramics <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental <input type="checkbox"/> Glass <input type="checkbox"/> Human Bones <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Leather <input type="checkbox"/> Metal <input type="checkbox"/> Stratigraphic <input type="checkbox"/> Survey <input type="checkbox"/> Textiles <input type="checkbox"/> Wood <input type="checkbox"/> Worked bone <input type="checkbox"/> Worked stone/lithics <input type="checkbox"/> none <input type="checkbox"/> other	<input type="checkbox"/> Contents * <input type="checkbox"/> Animal Bones <input type="checkbox"/> Ceramics <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental <input type="checkbox"/> Glass <input type="checkbox"/> Human Bones <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Leather <input type="checkbox"/> Metal <input type="checkbox"/> Stratigraphic <input type="checkbox"/> Survey <input type="checkbox"/> Textiles <input type="checkbox"/> Wood <input type="checkbox"/> Worked bone <input type="checkbox"/> Worked stone/lithics <input type="checkbox"/> none <input type="checkbox"/> other
<input type="checkbox"/> Media available	<input type="checkbox"/> Media available	<input type="checkbox"/> Media available

Appendix 3: Summary of data for HER

context	material class	object specific type	count	weight (g)	start date	end date	finds <i>tpq</i>
406	ceramic	pot	1	5	18C	19C	19-20C
406	ceramic	pot	2	5	L18C	20C	
406	ceramic	pot	1	6	19C	20C	
900	ceramic	pot	3	5	19C	20C	19-20C
900	ceramic	pot	1	16		18C	
900	ceramic	pot	1	4	M18C	L18C	
906	ceramic	pot	1	12	AD100	AD200	2C
1001	ceramic	pot	1	5	19C	20C	L19-20C
1001	ceramic	pot	2	126	19C	E20C	
1001	ceramic	pot	1	5	L18C	E19C	
1001	ceramic	pot	1	59	L19C	20C	
1003	ceramic	pot	1	17	M1C	4C	medieval
1003	ceramic	roof tile	1	19	13C	15C	
1006	flint	flake	1	3			prehistoric
1009	ceramic	brick	1	151			L19-20C
1009	ceramic	pot	2	18	M1C	4C	
1009	ceramic	roof tile	1	83			
1009	ebonite	bottle top	1	20	L19C	20C	

Context	Sample	Preservation type	Species detail	Category remains	Quantity/diversity
905	1	ch	unidentified wood fragments	misc	+ / low
905	1	unch*	unidentified root fragments (herbaceous)	misc	++ / low