

ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION
OF
LAND SOUTH OF MYTTON OAK
ROAD, SHREWSBURY,
SHROPSHIRE



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Archaeological evaluation of land south of Mytton Oak Road, Shrewsbury, Shropshire

Author Tom Rogers

With contributions by Dennis Williams

Summary

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken of land off Mytton Oak Road, Shrewsbury, Shropshire (NGR 346540, 312030). It was undertaken on behalf of CgMs Consulting for their client, who intends residential development of the Site, for which a planning application is in preparation.

The Site as a whole comprises ten arable and pasture fields on the western edge of Shrewsbury between Mytton Oak Road to the north and Hanwood Road to the south. The evaluation was undertaken in two fields to the south-east of the Site, which lie to the west of Crowmeole Lane. The land is generally flat except to the south-east where it slopes sharply to a small watercourse. The Site lies on mudstone, sandstone and conglomerate of the Salop Formation, overlain by Devensian Till deposits.

Prior to the evaluation a heritage assessment of the Site was undertaken. This recognised the potential for the survival of archaeological deposits recognised through cropmarks on aerial photographs of the south eastern portion of the Site. The cropmarks, described on the Shropshire Historic Environment Record as representing 'a complex grouping of two linear east-west features and a number of sub-rectangular enclosures to the north, with additional, less well-defined features in the interior of the enclosures' were also mapped in a subsequent geophysical survey which also identified further features of potential archaeological origin.

Six trenches between 20m and 60m in length were opened in two fields in the south eastern part of the Site. The trenches were located in order to assess the veracity of specific cropmarks and geophysical anomalies. Archaeological features were recorded in all of the trenches cutting the natural substrate.

In the eastern field on the edge of the plateau and on the south eastern slope, a series of ditches were identified, most of which closely matched the mapped locations of geophysical anomalies. These varied in size from 0.7m to over 4m in width. To the south and west a small linear feature was revealed in each of two trenches excavated on the line of the possible trackway. To the south-east, fragments of slag, the by-product of smelting, were recovered from a small circular ditch as well as fragments of fired clay. No closely datable material, however, was retrieved from the evaluation. In other places identified geophysical anomalies were recognised as changes in the natural geology.

The evaluation demonstrated that the majority of the features recognised through cropmarks and as geophysical anomalies survive as cut features, although the lack of cultural material did not allow them to be accurately dated. The lack of cultural material may suggest that the sampled features lie some distance from the focus of settlement but it is equally recognised that there is an established paucity of ceramic material on Roman sites in the area.

Report

1 Background

1.1 Reasons for the project

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken of land off Mytton Oak Road, Shrewsbury, Shropshire (NGR 346540, 312030). It was undertaken on behalf of CgMs Consulting for their client, who intends residential development of the Site, for which a planning application is in preparation.

A Heritage Assessment of the Site (CgMs 2010, revised 2013) has been carried out which highlighted the potential for the survival of archaeological features in the south eastern part of the Site identified through cropmarks on an aerial photograph (HER 00007). The Heritage Assessment stated that the proposed development has the potential to affect these archaeological features and recommended that these should be further assessed by geophysical survey and trial trenching. A subsequent geophysical survey (Stratascan 2013) identified the cropmark features as positive anomalies as well as other anomalies of potential archaeological origin. This evaluation has been designed to assess the identified potential assets.

The project conforms to a project proposal which includes a detailed specification (WA 2013). The project also conforms to the *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IfA 2009).

2 Aims

The aims of this evaluation are:

- to describe and assess the significance of the heritage asset with archaeological interest;
- to establish the nature, importance and extent of the archaeological site;
- to assess the impact of the application on the archaeological site.

3 Methods

3.1 Personnel

The project was undertaken by Andy Walsh (BSc, MSc, AlfA) who joined Worcestershire Archaeology in 2013 and has been practicing archaeology since 2004 and Tom Rogers (BA MSc). The report was edited by Tom Vaughan (BA MA AlfA) and the project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Tom Rogers. Illustrations were prepared by Laura Templeton (MIfA) and Dennis Williams (BSc MA PhD CPhys, MInstP) contributed the finds report.

3.2 Documentary research

The Heritage Assessment of the Site (CgMs 2010, revised 2013) and Geophysical Survey of the Site (Stratascan 2013) were consulted prior to fieldwork.

3.3 Fieldwork strategy

A detailed specification has been prepared by Worcestershire Archaeology (WA 2012a).

Fieldwork was undertaken between 1 and 5 July 2013.

Six trenches, amounting to 368m² in area, were excavated. The locations of the trenches are indicated in Figure 2. The trenches were located in order to test the veracity of cropmarks recognised in an aerial photograph and anomalies recognised from the geophysical survey (Fig 2). Trenches 1 and 2 were positioned to cross two linear geophysical anomalies thought to represent a track or driveway (anomaly 1). Trench 2 additionally crossed two negative anomalies (10) which were interpreted as former bank or earthwork features. Trench 3 was placed to cross a series of discrete positive anomalies (3) indicative of small former cut features such as in-filled pits (4) extending northwards from anomaly (1). Trench 4 was placed to cross a series of anomalies (4) described as being indicative of former cut features probably related to the less well-defined crop

marks noted in the DBA. Trench 5 was placed to test the veracity of a series of anomalies following the strike of the slope generally from north-east to south-west and Trench 6 was located in order to test a positive anomaly which ran from north-east to south west in this location.

Deposits considered not to be significant were removed using a 180° wheeled excavator, employing a toothless bucket and under archaeological supervision. 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). On completion of excavation, trenches were reinstated by replacement of the excavated material using a 360° rubber tracked 5 tonne excavator.

3.4 Structural analysis

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

3.5 Artefact methodology, by Dennis Williams

3.5.1 Artefact recovery policy

The artefact recovery policy conformed to standard Service practice (WA 2012; appendix 2).

3.5.2 Method of analysis

All hand-retrieved finds were examined, identified and quantified.

3.5.3 Discard policy

The following categories/types of material will be discarded after a period of six months following the submission of this report, unless there is a specific request to retain them (and subject to the collection policy of the relevant depository):

- where unstratified ;
- post-medieval pottery, and;
- generally where material has been assessed as having no obvious grounds for retention.

3.6 Environmental archaeology methodology

3.6.1 Sampling policy

Sampling was undertaken according to standard Worcestershire Archaeology practice (2012). In the event no deposits were identified which were considered to be suitable for environmental analysis.

3.7 Statement of confidence in the methods and results

The methods adopted allow a high degree of confidence that the aims of the project have been achieved.

4 The application site

4.1 Topography, geology and archaeological context

The following is a summary of relevant information taken from the Heritage Assessment for the Site (CgMs 2013):-

The southern two thirds of the Site occupy a broad ridge of land at approximately 90m Above Ordnance Datum. Crowmeole Farm lies on this ridge at the eastern limit of the Site. This plateau falls steeply to the south-east of the Site to 80m AOD and a ditch which forms the Site boundary.

A cropmark has been identified in the south-eastern most field of the Site, south of Crowmeole Farm (HER 00007). It is described as a complex grouping of two linear east to west features and a number of sub-rectangular enclosures to the north, with additional, less well-defined features in the interior of the enclosures. The interpretation is of a field system adjoining a trackway. The layout of this field system with four linear ditches radiating, at fairly regular intervals orientated north to south and north-east to south-west, from a double ditch linear which runs west to east and then turns to the south-east. The cropmarks are possibly of late prehistoric date, although the HER records that the cropmarks may also be Roman in origin.

No other prehistoric monuments or findspots are recorded on the Site or within the search area. It is therefore noted that part of the Site contains a possible focus of Iron Age activity, although the full extent and character of this Site remains to be established.

The HER holds three records for Roman evidence comprising a possible route of a Roman road (HER 08160), a findspot (HER 00069) and the cropmarks described above (HER 00007) within the search area. The route of the road is marked on the 1903 Ordnance Survey map crossing the search area from north to south-east, approximately 370m from the Site at its closest point.

4.2 Current land-use

At the time of evaluation the field to the west was under pasture and the field to the east under wheat.

5 Structural analysis

The trenches and features recorded are shown in Figs 3 to 8. The results of the structural analysis are presented in Appendix 1.

5.1.1 Phase 1: Natural deposits

Natural deposits (103, 203, 303, 403, 503, 603, 604 and 605) were variable across the Site but generally consisted of gravels and clays with patches of mid brown silty material and pink or orange sand with frequent rounded cobbles consistent with Devensian drift deposits. At the base of the slope to the south east of the eastern field a light grey brown clay with oxidised iron flecking was observed.

5.1.2 Phase 2: Undated deposits

Undated deposits were recorded in all trenches largely as ditches with a distinct concentration in Trenches 3, 4 and 5.

In Trench 1 to the west the natural substrate (103) was cut by a single ditch (104) which crossed the trench from east to west (Fig 3; Plates 1 and 2). This feature was 1.1m wide and a maximum depth of 0.2m with gently sloping sides leading to a shallow bowl shaped base. It was filled by 103, a light orange/brown silty clay. The ditch closely matches the location of the northern trackway linear anomaly. No indication of the southern ditch was detected.

A ditch (204) of similar size was recorded in the centre of the Trench 2 crossing from west-north-west to east-south-east (Fig 4; Plates 3 and 4). This was a bowl-shaped cut 0.74m wide and a maximum of 0.19m deep filled with (205) a light brown silty clay. This feature corresponds directly with the southernmost of the track-way linear features but no sign of the northern ditch was recognised or other negative feature (10).

Four features were recorded within Trench 3 and sections were excavated across two (Fig 5; Plates 5-7). At the western end of the trench a linear feature (308) crossed the trench from north to south. This was a shallow bowl shaped cut (308), 1.7m wide and a maximum of 0.26m deep and

filled by (309) an orange brown sandy silt. This feature matched long, linear anomaly (3) which turns sharply to the west, south of the trench. East of the centre of the trench a larger linear feature (304) also crossed the trench from north to south. This was also bowl shaped, 2.2m wide and a maximum of 0.76m deep and with three fills (305, 306 and 307). This feature matches the location of anomaly (4).

East of this two further features were recorded also crossing the trench from north to south which were not sampled. These matched the plotted locations of the eastern and western geophysical anomalies (2).

Three features were recorded within Trench 4 (Fig 6; Plates 8 and 9). Linear feature (408) crossing the centre of the trench from approximately north-north-west to south-south-east was 0.84m wide and V shaped and 0.48m deep, filled by (409) a slightly orange, mid brown sandy silt with frequent pebbles and occasional rooting. Slightly to the north, a pit or possible ditch terminus (406) projected 1.2m from the western edge of the trench. This was filled by (407), a dark orangey-brown sandy silt with frequent pebbles. Towards the northern end of the trench, a ditch (404) 0.95m wide and bowl shaped in section with a maximum depth of 0.26m, crossed the trench from west-north-west to east-south-east. This was filled by (405) a dark orangey-brown sandy silt.

Three features were identified in Trench 5, of which two were sampled (Fig 7; Plate 10). To the north-west, ditch (504) crossed approximately north to south. This ditch was V shaped, 1.65m wide and 0.7m deep. It was filled by (505) a firm light orange brown silty clay with frequent sub angular and rounded pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks. Another linear feature approximately 2.5m wide (509) crossed the centre of the trench from north-south and was not excavated. To the south-east ditch 506 was 4.1m wide and 1m deep crossing the trench from north-east to south-west. Two fills were identified. The primary fill (507) was a light brownish orange silty clay with rare rounded cobbles. A fragment of bone and an iron object were recovered from this context. The upper fill (510) was a compact dark grey brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks.

A single pit (606) was recorded towards the southern end of Trench 6 cutting natural deposit (603; Fig 8). This was roughly circular with a diameter of 0.4m and a maximum depth of 0.18m with a bowl-shaped profile. It was filled by 605, a moderately compact mid brown to grey silty clay with frequent lumps of charcoal, fired clay and large lumps of smelting slag.

5.2 Artefact analysis, by Dennis Williams

The artefactual assemblage came from two stratified contexts and was a very small one, as shown in Table 1. It was not possible to determine *terminus post quem* date ranges for any of the finds.

period	material class	material subtype	object specific type	count	weight (g)
undated	bone	animal bone	-	3	14
undated	ceramic	fired clay	-	1	18
undated	metal	iron	-	1	24
undated	slag	-	smelting slag	6	438
totals:				10	494

Table 1: Quantification of the assemblage

The only notable finds were pieces of slag from iron smelting, recovered from fill (607) of pit (606). This slag, which contained traces of charcoal, had a high density, typical of that from an inefficient bloomery smelting process, in which a substantial amount of iron is retained in the slag waste. This

slag could be from either the Roman or medieval periods, but there were no diagnostic finds (eg pottery) in the assemblage, which could confirm the date range for the context. A single fragment of fired clay was also recovered from fill (607). This find was partly vitrified, suggesting it had been exposed to a high temperature, as might be expected in a smelting furnace. Pieces of bone were recovered from context (507), the primary fill of ditch (506), but were small, fragmentary and abraded. A single piece of corroded iron (possibly a nail) was also found in this context.

6 Synthesis

The evaluation has demonstrated the presence of a series of ditches which either match exactly or closely match the mapped locations of anomalies detected in a geophysical survey of the Site, some of which were also detected as cropmarks on an aerial photograph. The ditches contained relatively sterile fills, with some charcoal present but no closely datable artefacts were recovered from any of the sampled features. One iron object was retrieved from the upper fill of ditch (506) and some smelting slag was retrieved from small pit (606) in the south eastern corner of the Site which implies that Roman or medieval iron processing may have taken place in the area, or, at least, could not be ruled out.

The evaluation has demonstrated that the cluster of positive linear anomalies mapped in the centre of the eastern field (Fig 2) on the geophysical survey (4) represent actual features forming a series of sub rectangular enclosures. Furthermore the two parallel ditches running from east to west to the south of the enclosures (4) interpreted as a trackway (1) also survive below ground, (although in each of the two trenches which crossed it, only one ditch was observed) and one northward extension (2) was also detected as cut features. However further down the slope to the south-east similar anomalies (also 2, crossing Trench 2) were interpreted as variations in the natural substrate (603, 604 and 605).

The lack of cultural material within the trenches may imply that the activity here was entirely agricultural and sufficient distance from associated settlement to be isolated from activities requiring pottery and other objects. However the presence of a series of discrete features close to the northern edge of the field and south of the enclosures (3) appear to represent pits, which might imply more intensive occupation. Furthermore a lack of ceramic material from Roman sites generally in the area is recognised. The Wroxeter Hinterland Project which focused on settlement patterns in the vicinity of the Roman town of Wroxeter states that '... the majority of excavated or surveyed sites of all types are characterised by impoverished ceramic assemblages' (Gaffney, White and Goodchild 2007, 240). Furthermore it goes on to note that the extensive fieldwalking yielded only small amounts of pottery and that of this nearly half came from within 1km of the town and hardly any from areas more than 5km away. Evans in the same volume notes that '...pottery use should be seen as the exception rather than the norm in Cornovian territory.' (Ibid 168).

Therefore it is possible that the features recognised in the evaluation represent the remains of settlement which follows the local pattern for pottery density and dispersal. The smelting slag and fired clay recovered might indicate closer proximity to settlement than a series of undated linears would otherwise suggest.

6.1 Research frameworks

The lack of dating evidence from this evaluation means that it is difficult to relate the findings to a specific framework. On a broad scale it has been recognised that the investigation of cropmark sites is important to the understanding of lowland settlement sites.

If one assumes that this Site is Roman however, then the framework set out by White (2002) has identified research objectives regarding the extent of Romanisation in Shropshire, the economics of rural industry and the need to look beyond Wroxeter, into the hinterlands to establish a better understanding of settlement patterns.

7 Significance

7.1 Nature of the archaeological interest in the Site

The archaeological evaluation has revealed the survival of cut features which form the remains of a series of sub-rectangular enclosures previously recognised on an aerial photograph and in a geophysical survey of the Site. A lack of cultural material retrieved from the Site may imply that the it was unrelated to settlement but the presence of anomalies which appear to represent discrete features and the precedent for a paucity of ceramics associated with archaeological sites in this area may equally allow for the survival of settlement in this part of the Site.

7.2 Relative importance of the archaeological interest in the Site

The Site has the potential to add to the current state of knowledge of the nature and form of late prehistoric or Roman lowland settlement.

7.3 Physical extent of the archaeological interest in the Site

The results of the evaluation demonstrate that the cropmarks identified as part of the Cambridge University Cropmark Project and at least the majority of large geophysical anomalies represent archaeological features, largely ditches up to 1m in depth. The physical extent of the archaeological interest in the Site is therefore best demonstrated by the geophysical survey.

8 Publication summary

Worcestershire Archaeology has a professional obligation to publish the results of archaeological projects within a reasonable period of time. To this end, Worcestershire Archaeology intends to use this summary as the basis for publication through local or regional journals. The client is requested to consider the content of this section as being acceptable for such publication.

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Six trenches between 20m and 60m in length were opened in two fields in the south eastern part of the Site to the west of Crowmeole Lane. The trenches were located in order to assess the veracity of specific cropmarks and geophysical anomalies. Archaeological features were recorded in all of the trenches cutting the natural substrate.

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9 Acknowledgements

Worcestershire Archaeology would like to thank the following for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project, Cathy Patrick (CgMs Consulting Ltd) and Andy Wigley (Principal Archaeologist, Historic Environment Team, Shropshire County Council).

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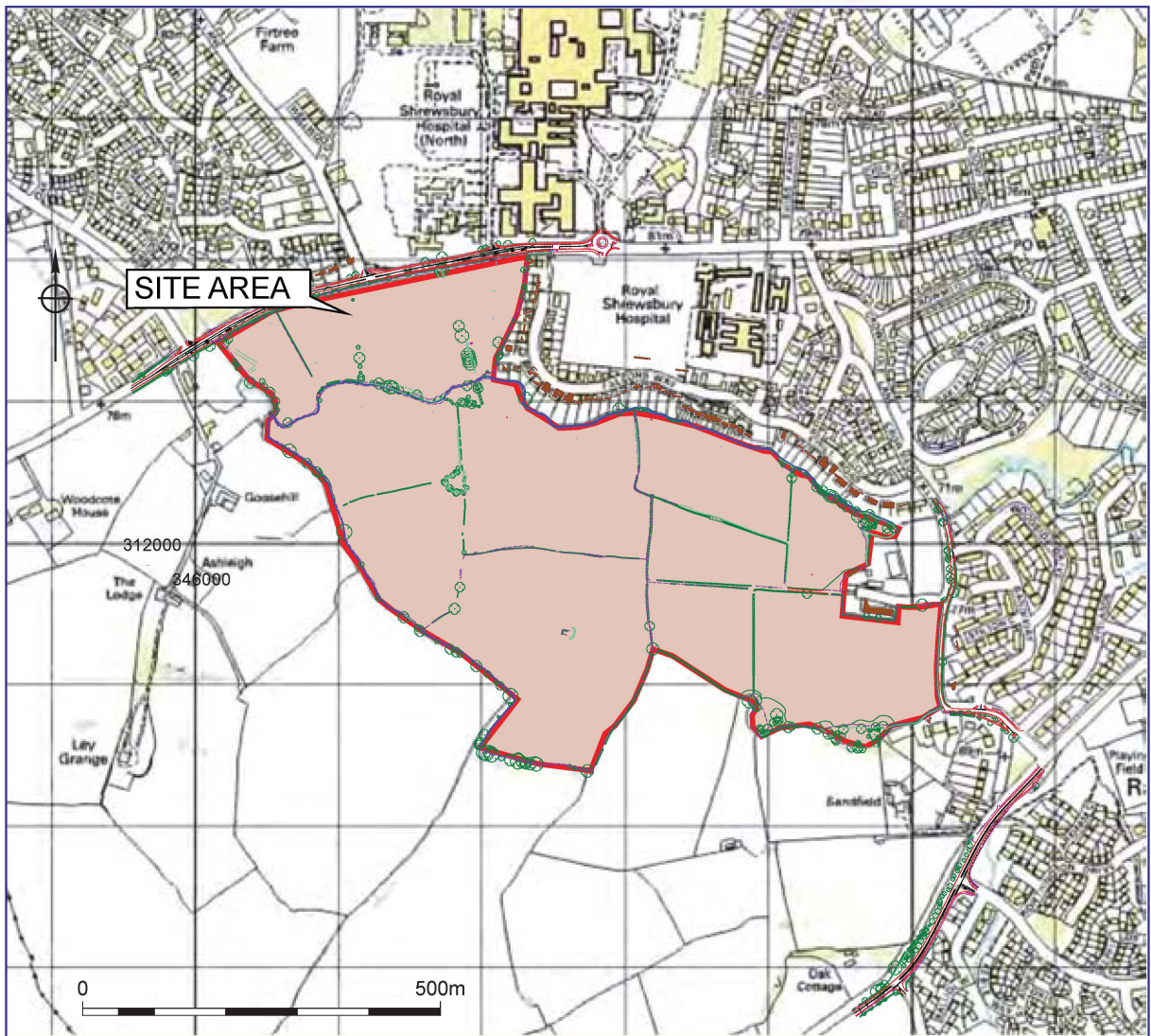
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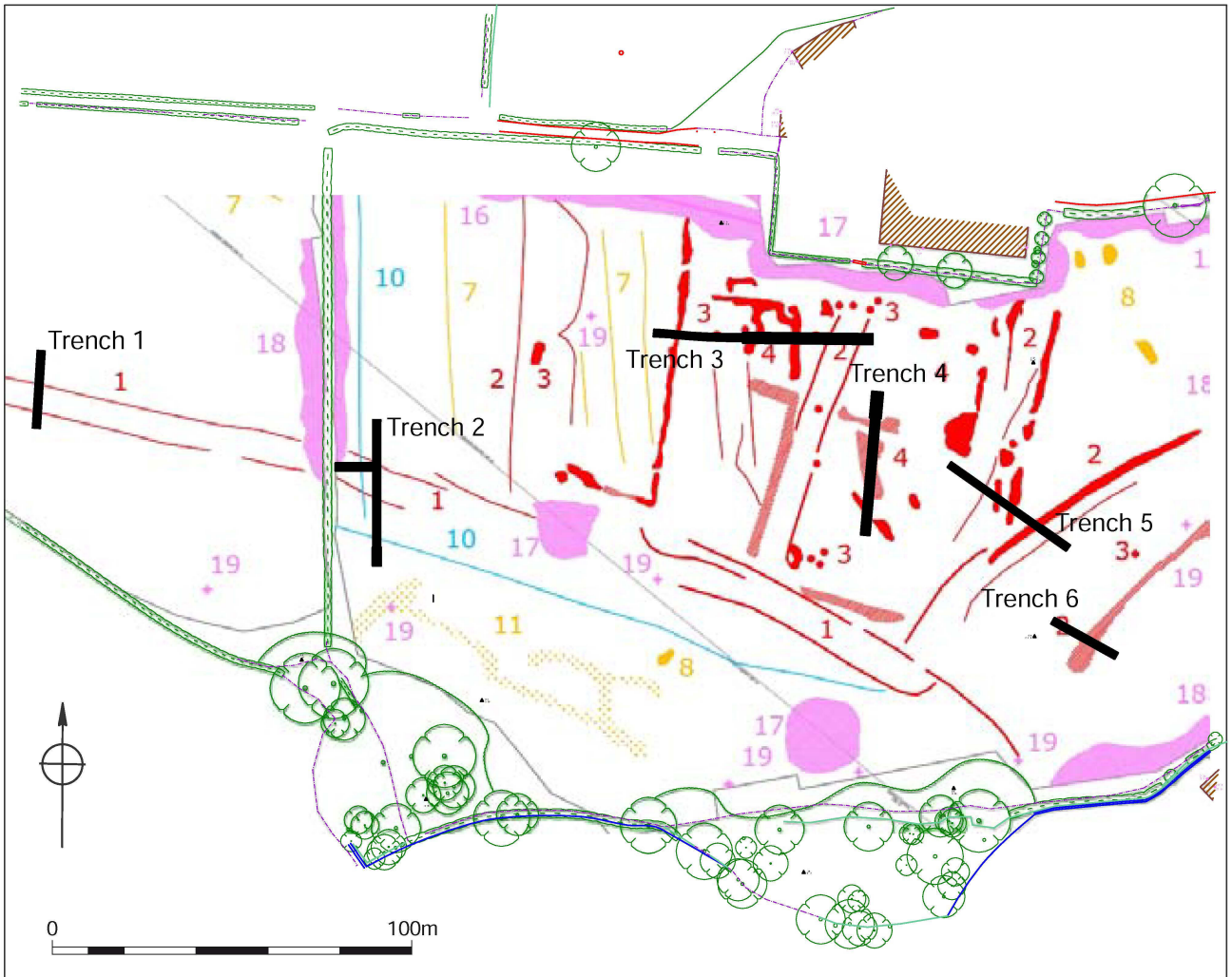
Figures



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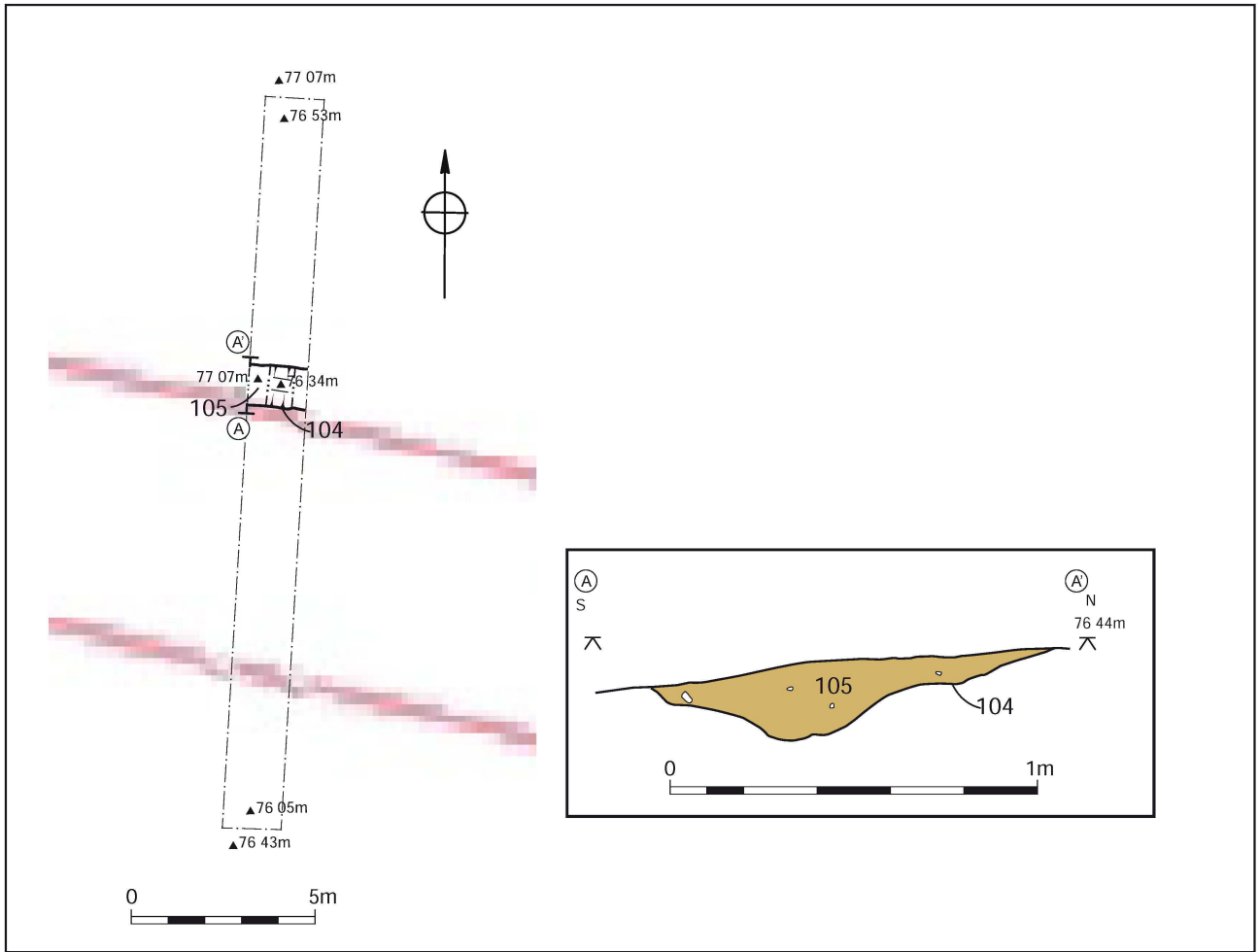
Location of the site

Figure 1



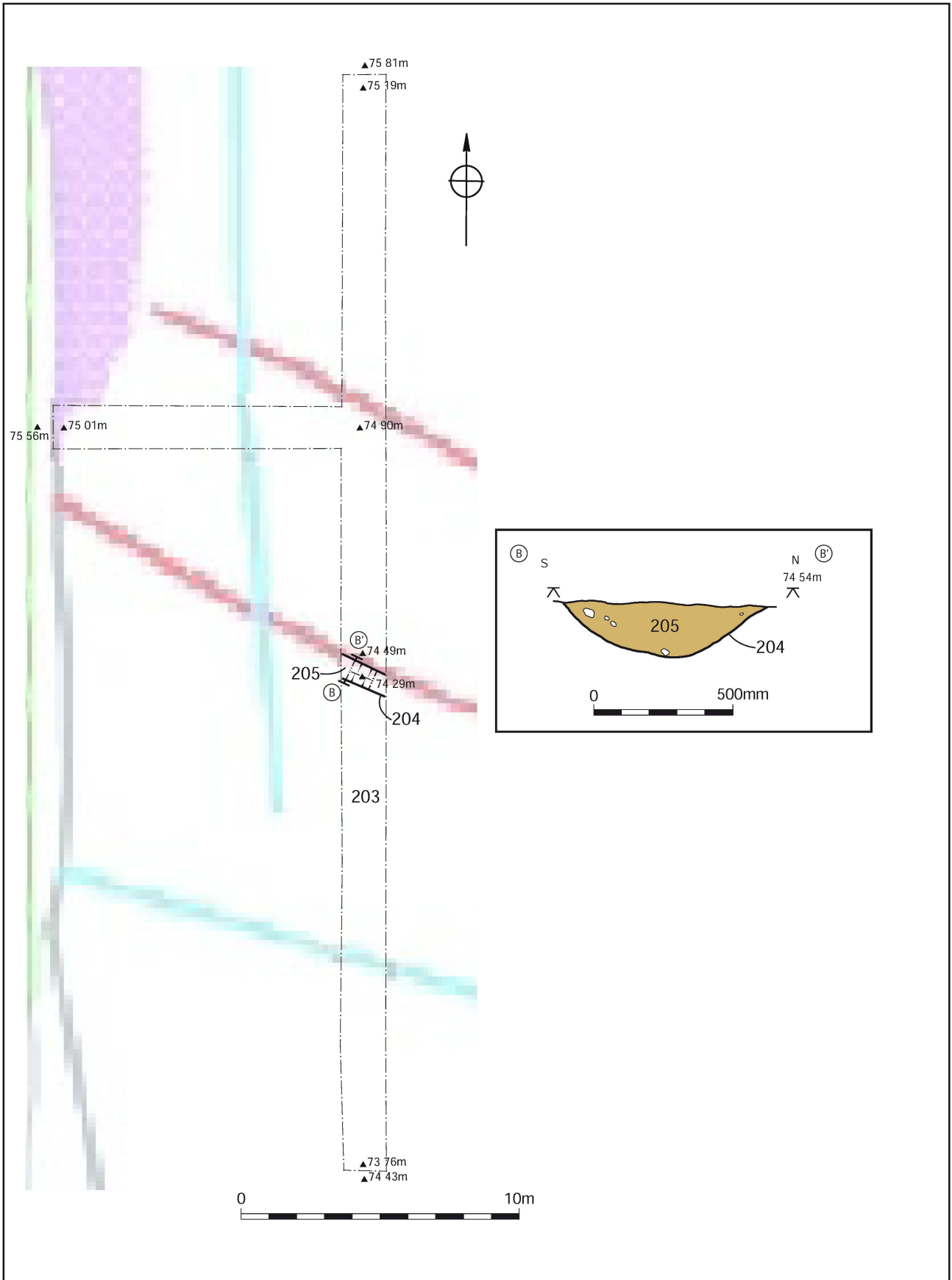
Trench locations overlaid on geophysical survey

Figure 2



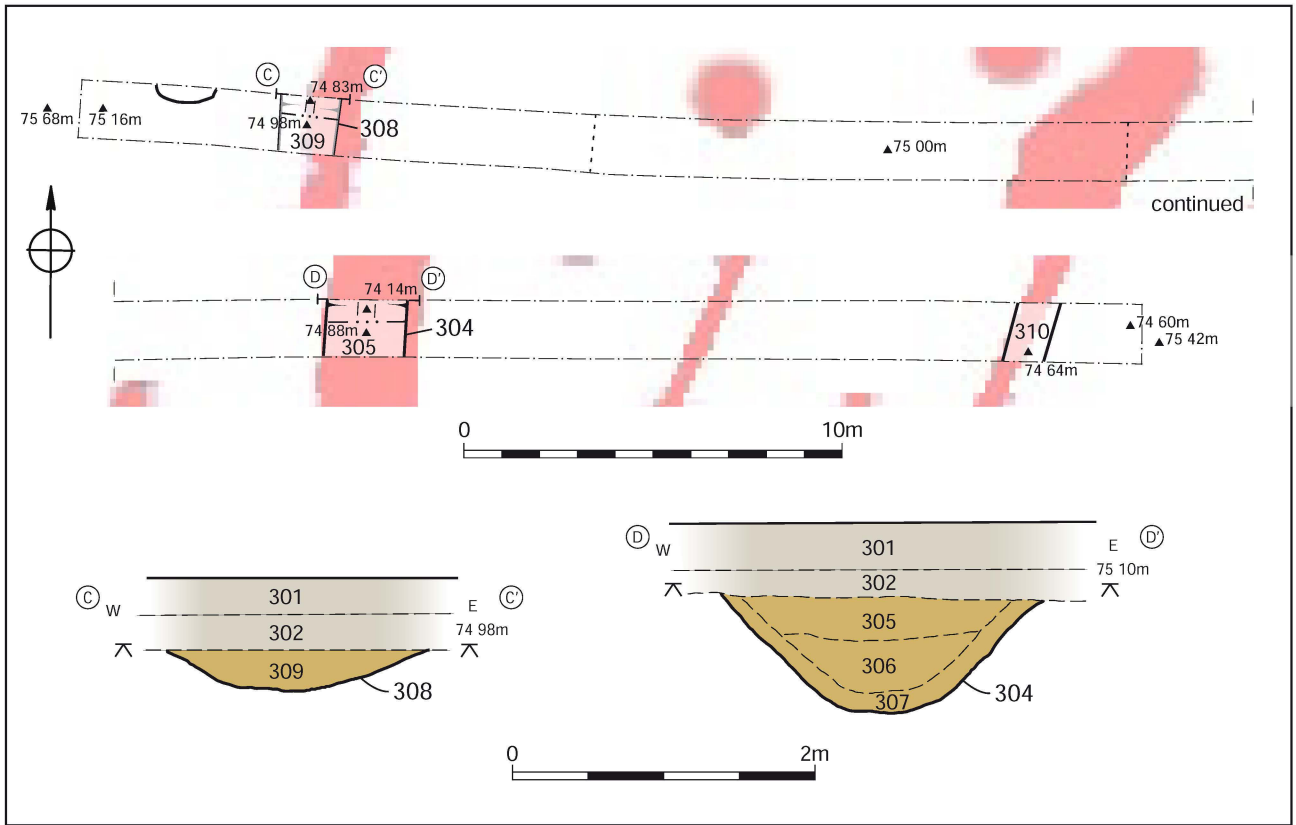
Trench 1 plan and section

Figure 3



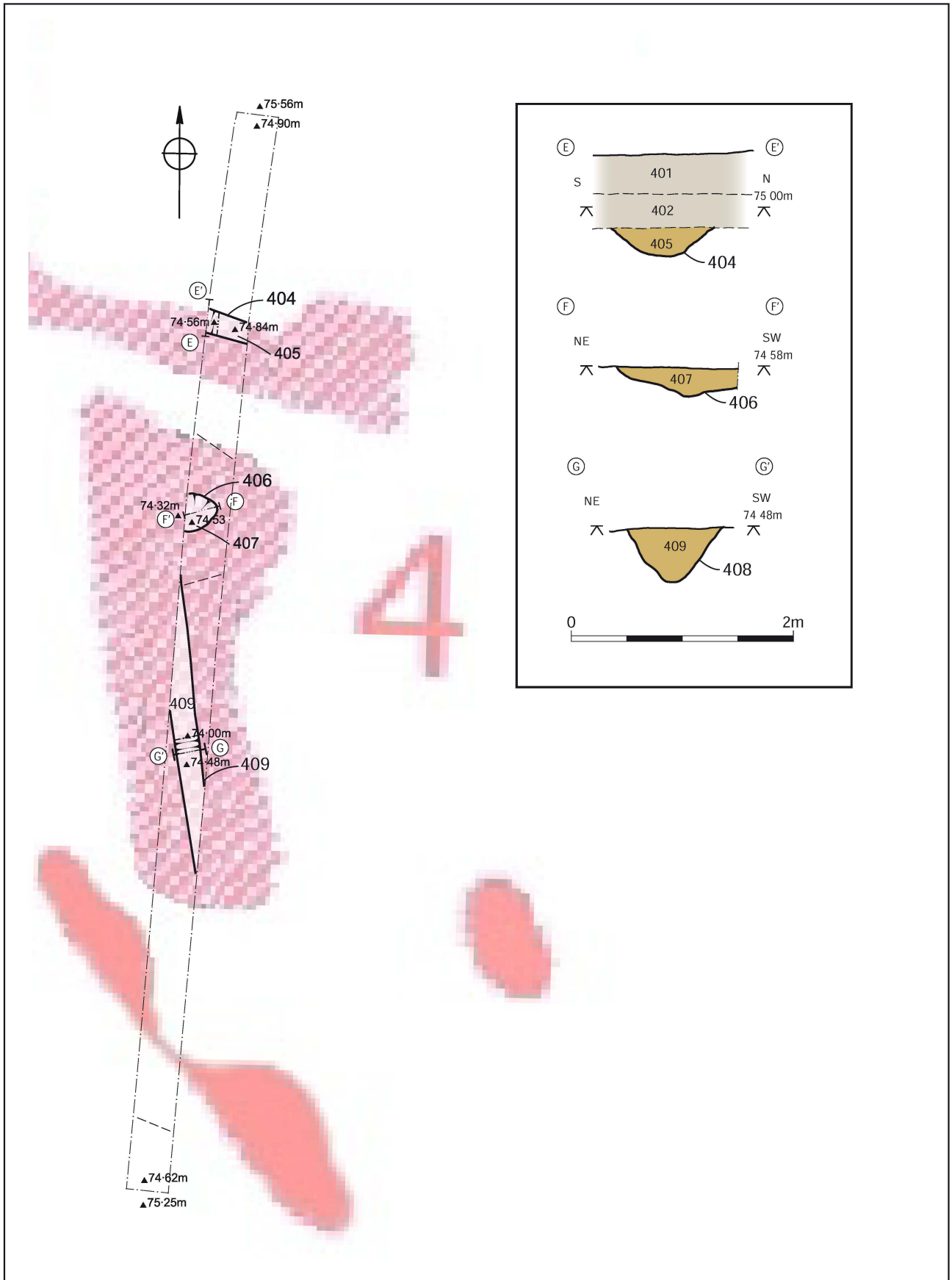
Trench 2 plan and section

Figure 4



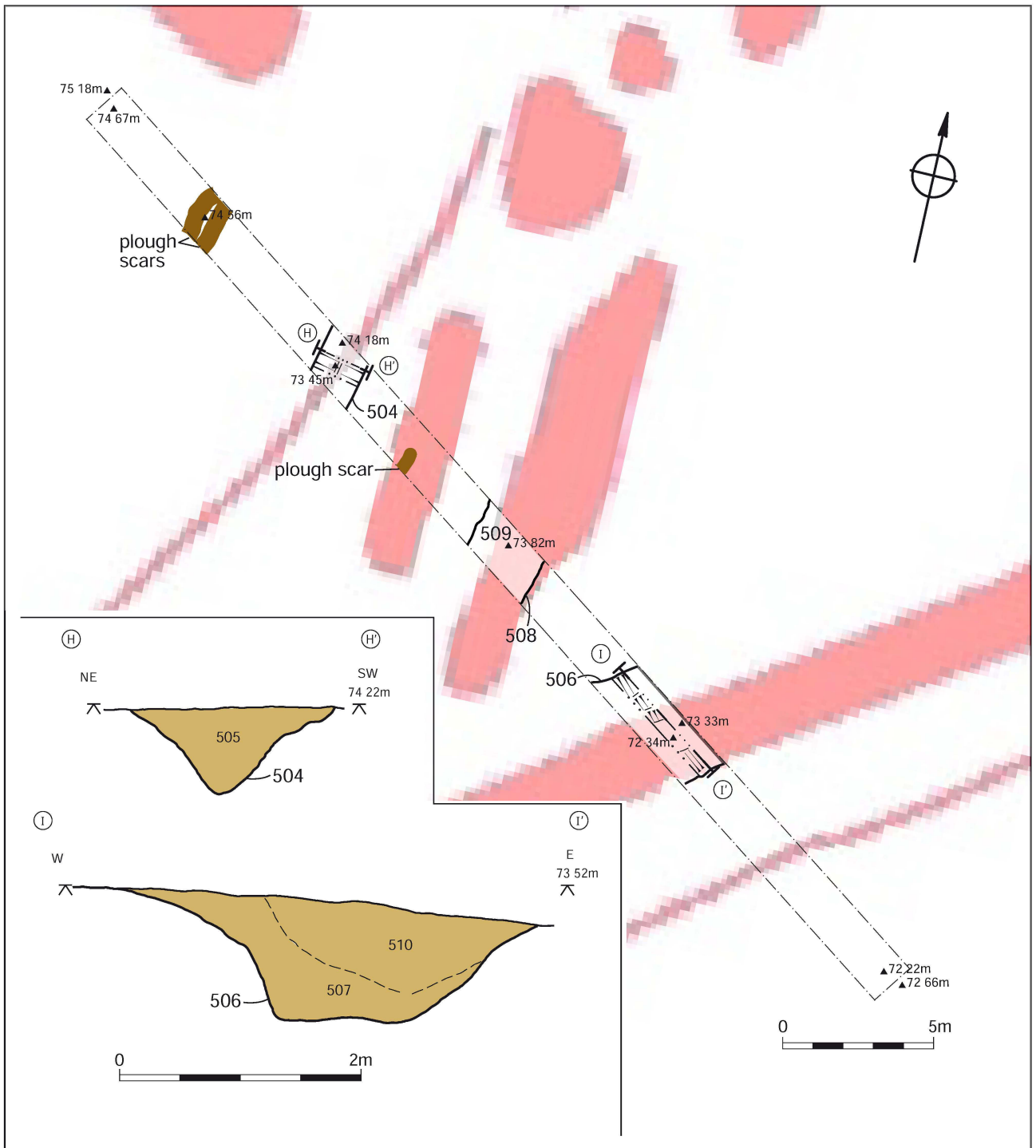
Trench 3 plan and sections of 304 and 308

Figure 5



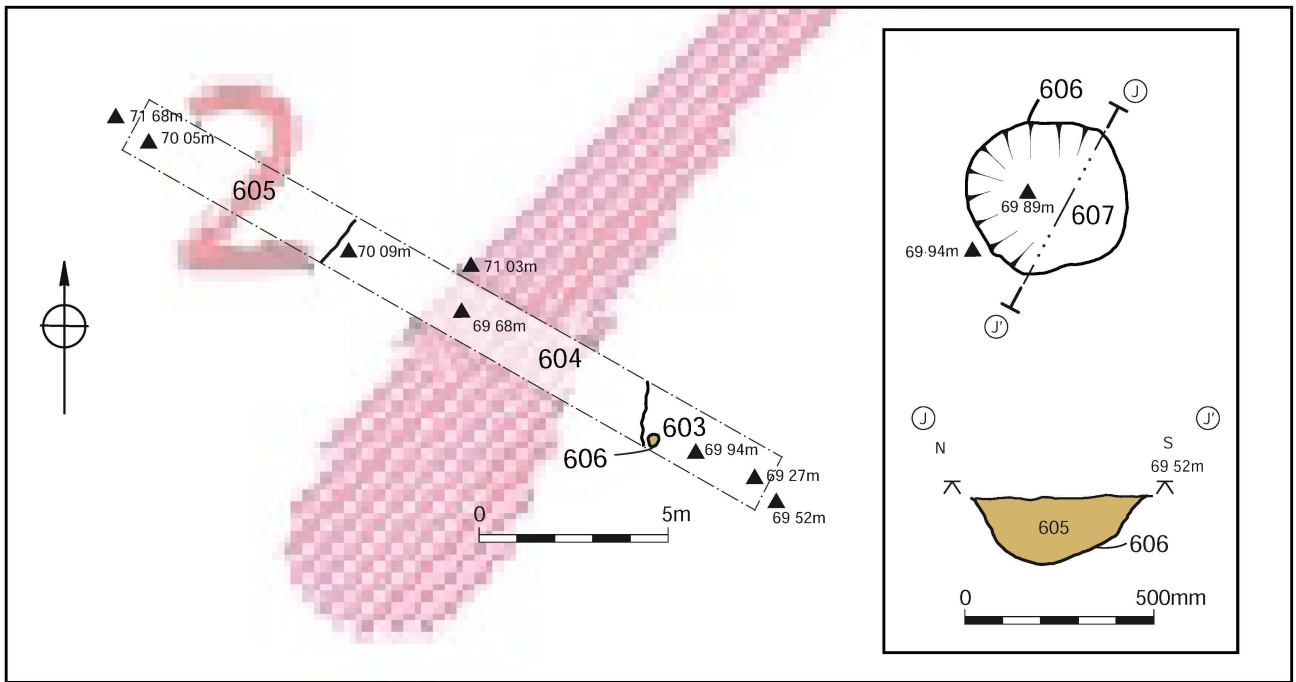
Trench 4 Plan and sections of 404, 406 and 408

Figure 6



Trench 5 plan and sections through ditches

Figure 7



Trench 6 plan and section through 606

Figure 8

Plates



Plate 1. Trench 1 looking south



Plate 2. Ditch 104 from the south-west



Plate 3. Ditch 204 from the south-west



Plate 4. Trench 2 looking south



Plate 5. South facing section of ditch 304



Plate 6. Trench 3 looking east



Plate 7. South facing section of ditch 308



Plate 8. Trench 4 looking south



Plate 9. Feature 406 looking south-west



Plate 10. Section of ditch 504 looking south-east

Appendix 1 Trench descriptions

Trench 1

Site area: Western field

Maximum dimensions: Length: 19.94m Width: 1.6m Depth: 0.6m

Orientation: N-S

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
101	Topsoil	A clay gravel mix with patches of pink sand	0-0.3m
102	Subsoil	Slightly orange mid-brown sandy silt with frequent rooting and pebbles	0.3m-0.6m
103	Natural	Mid to light orangey brown sandy silt with occasional rooting and frequent pebbles.	0.6m+
104	Cut	Cut of ditch 1.1m wide and a maximum of 0.2m deep with gently sloping sides with a slight concave shelf to the south leading to a shallow bowl shaped base.	0.6m-0.8m
105	Fill	Fill of ditch 104. a light orange/brown silty clay with frequent sub-angular pebbles	0.6m-0.8m

Trench 2/2a

Site area: Eastern field

Maximum dimensions: Length: 40m +10m Width: 1.6m Depth: 600mm

Orientation: N-S (with E-W extension, 2a)

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
201	Topsoil	Slightly orange mid-brown sandy silt with frequent rooting and pebbles	0-0.28m
202	Subsoil	Mid to light orangey brown sandy silt with occasional rooting and frequent pebbles.	0.28m-0.6m
203	Natural	pale yellowish brown silty gravel	0.6m+
204	Cut	A bowl-shaped cut of small ditch 0.74m wide and a maximum of 0.19m deep	0.6m-0.79m
205	Fill	Fill of 204: light brown silty clay with frequent small rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks	0.6m-0.79m

Trench 3

Site area: Eastern field

Maximum dimensions: Length: 39.4m Width: 1.6mm Depth: 0.48mm

Orientation: E-W

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
301	Topsoil	Slightly orange mid-brown sandy silt with frequent rooting and pebbles	0-0.31m
302	Subsoil	Mid to light orangey brown sandy silt with occasional rooting and frequent pebbles.	0.31m-0.48m
303	Natural	Pale yellowish brown silty sandy gravel with occasional patches of pink clay. At the eastern end of the trench a patch of orange sand was also recorded.	0.48m+
304	Cut	Bowl shaped cut of ditch 2.2m wide and a maximum of 0.76m deep	0.48-1.24m
305	Fill	Upper fill of Cut 304. Mid orangey brown sandy silt with frequent charcoal flecks and occasional lumps of charcoal.	0.48-1.24m
306	Fill	Middle fill of Cut 304. Dark silty sandy gravel with frequent charcoal flecks and occasional rooting	0.48-1.24m
307	Fill	Lower fill of Cut 304. Mid orangey brown sandy silt.	0.48-1.24m
308	Cut	A shallow bowl shaped cut of ditch 1.7m wide and a maximum of 0.26m deep	0.48-0.74m
309	Fill	Fill or 308 Orange brown sandy silt with frequent pebbles and occasional rooting	0.48-0.74m

Trench 4

Site area: Eastern field

Maximum dimensions: Length: 40m Width: 1.6m Depth: 0-0.65m

Orientation: N-S

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
401	Topsoil	Grey brown sandy silt with frequent pebbles and rooting	0-0.39m
402	Subsoil	Slightly orangey mid brown sandy silt with frequent pebbles and rooting	0.39-0.65m
403	Natural	Pale orangey brown sandy gravel with occasional patches of yellowish brown sandy clay	0.65m+
404	Cut	Cut of ditch 0.95m wide and bowl shaped in section with a maximum depth of 0.26m	0.65-0.91m
405	Fill	Fill of 404 Dark orangey-brown sandy silt	0.65-0.91m
406	Cut	Cut of pit or ditch terminus – shallow sides to flattish irregular base.	0.65-.82m
407	Fill	Fill of 406 dark orangey-brown sandy silt with frequent pebbles	0.65-.82m
408	Cut	Cut of ditch 0.84m wide and 'v' shaped and 0.48m deep	.65-1.13m
409	Fill	Fill of 408 a slightly orange, mid brown sandy silt with frequent pebbles and occasional rooting	.65-1.13m

Trench 5

Site area: Eastern field

Maximum dimensions: Length: 39.4m Width: 1.6m Depth: 0-0.8mm

Orientation: NW-SE

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
501	Topsoil	Loose mid brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks. Frequent small rounded stones	0m-0.4m
502	Subsoil	Moderately compact mid brown-orange silty clay with frequent rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks	0.4m-0.8m
503	Natural	Gravel in a clay matrix with lenses of darker silt at the top (north western end) of the trench	0.8m+
504	Cut	V shaped ditch, 1.65m wide and 0.7m deep	0.8-1.5m
505	Fill	Fill of 504 - a firm light orange brown silty clay with frequent sub angular and rounded pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks.	0.8-1.5m
506	Cut	Irregular ditch with steep sides, a shelf to the west and a flat bottom, 4.1m wide and 1m deep crossing the trench from NE-SW	0.8-1.8m
507	Fill	Primary fill of 506: a light brownish orange silty clay with rare rounded cobbles. A fragment of bone and an iron object were recovered from this context	0.8-1.5m
508	Fill	Fill of 509- not excavated	
509	Cut	Linear feature crossing trench 5 from NE-SW not excavated.	
510	fill	Upper fill of 506: a compact dark grey brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks	0.8-1.8m

Trench 6

Site area: Eastern field

Maximum dimensions: Length: 19.3m Width: 1.6m Depth: 1.2m

Orientation: WNW-ESE

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
601	Topsoil	Loose light brown silty clay with moderate rounded stones, occasional charcoal flecks and fragments of cbm,	0-0.4m
602	Subsoil	Moderately compact mid brown to orange silty clay with frequent rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks	0.4-1.2m
603	Natural	Compact light grey-brown clay with iron flecking and frequent rounded cobbles. Visible in lower (south eastern) end of trench.	1.2m+
604	Natural	Compact mid orange brown clay with frequent rounded cobbles	1.2m+
605	Natural	Compact mid to dark brown clay with frequent rounded cobbles	1.2m+
606	Cut	Cut of small pit, circular with a diameter of 0.4m and a maximum depth of 0.18m with a bowl shaped profile	1.2-1.38m
607	Fill	Fill of pit 106, a moderately compact mid brown to grey silty clay with frequent lumps of charcoal, ceramic building material and large lumps of smelting slag	1.2-1.38m

Appendix 2 Technical information

The archive

The archive consists of:

- 27 Context records AS1
- 5 Field progress reports AS2
- 1 Photographic records AS3
- 72 Digital photographs
- 1 Drawing number catalogues AS4
- 17 Scale drawings
- 1 Levels records AS19
- 6 Trench record sheets AS41
- 1 Box of finds
- 1 CD-Rom/DVDs
- 1 Copy of this report (bound hard copy)

The project archive is intended to be placed at:

Shrewsbury Museum & Art Gallery,
Barker Street,
Shrewsbury,
Shropshire
SY1 1QH
