Archaeological watching brief at Dymock Cricket Club, The Pound, Dymock Gloucestershire

Worcestershire Archaeology
Archive and Archaeology Service
The Hive, Sawmill Walk,
The Butts, Worcester
WR1 3PD

Status:	
Date:	15 July 2016
Author:	Graham Arnold – garnold@worcestershire.gov.uk
Contributors:	C Jane Evans, Elizabeth Pearson and Tom Vaughan
Illustrator:	Laura Templeton
Project reference:	P4722
Report reference:	2342
Oasis id	Fieldsec1-200226

Contents

Archaeological watching brief at Dymock Cricket Club, The Pound, Dymock, Gloucestershire

Graham Arnold

With contributions by C Jane Evans, Elizabeth Pearson and Tom Vaughan

Summary

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken at Dymock Cricket Club, The Pound, Dymock, Gloucestershire (NGR SO 70495 31116). It was commissioned by Chris Knock, Architectural and Planning Consultant, on behalf of Dymock Cricket Club. A new cricket pavilion was being constructed and this phase of work constituted the archaeological mitigation of the works.

One borehole and ten trenches were observed. The new building lay over the Roman road, the survival of which had been confirmed during the previous evaluation by Worcestershire Archaeology. The strip for the foundations was very shallow and did not expose significant deposits. Elsewhere the natural was revealed at a depth of 0.50-1.20m. The exception was the borehole, where the natural lay at 1.72m depth, and may indicate the presence of a deeply cut feature in this location.

Two pits were recorded, one on either side of the Roman road. That to the north contained evidence of in situ burning or heating, although it did not appear to be industrial in nature. These features and the associated soils contained a small quantity of animal bone, pottery and a copper pin. The animal bone is indicative of domestic activity. The pottery indicates activity primarily in the 1st to 2nd centuries, extending into the 3rd century. This is consistent with the evidence from other sites excavated around Dymock. The composition of the assemblage, although small, is however atypical of rural Roman assemblages generally. The presence of overfired sherds is indicative of local production, particularly in the 3rd century, which is later than that identified elsewhere in the vicinity.

Report

1 Background

1.1 Reasons for the project

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken at Dymock Cricket Club, The Pound, Dymock, Gloucestershire (NGR SO 70495 31116). It was commissioned by Chris Knock, Architectural and Planning Consultant, on behalf of Dymock Cricket Club. A new cricket pavilion was being constructed and this phase of work constituted the archaeological mitigation of the works, for which a planning application has been approved by Forest of Dean District Council (reference P1027/15/FUL) subject to archaeological conditions.

The proposed development site is considered to include heritage assets and potential heritage assets, the significance of which may be affected by the application (GSMR 9938).

The project conforms to the generic Gloucestershire County Council brief for watching brief (GCC 2013) and for which a project proposal (including detailed specification) was produced (WA 2015). The project also conforms to the *Standard and guidance: Archaeological watching brief* (CIfA 2014a).

The WA event reference for this project is P4722.

2 Aims

The aims of the watching brief were to observe and record archaeological deposits, and to determine their extent, state of preservation, date and type, as far as reasonably possible within the constraints of the Client's groundworks (geotechnical boreholes, initial soil strip, piling, ground beams and services).

3 Methods

3.1 Personnel

The fieldwork was led by Graham Arnold (BA, MSc), who joined Worcestershire Archaeology in 2009 and has been practicing archaeology since 2003, assisted by Richard Bradley (BA (hons.), and Andrew Walsh (BSc MSc FSA Scot AIfA). The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Tom Vaughan, (BA (hons.); MA; ACIfA). Illustrations were prepared by Laura Templeton (BA; PG Cert; MCIfA). Elizabeth Pearson (MSc; ACIfA) contributed the environmental report; Jane Evans (BA, MA, MCIfA) contributed the finds report.

3.2 Documentary research

The background to the site is presented within the report on the evaluation, undertaken by Worcestershire Archaeology (Walsh and Vaughan 2014).

3.3 List of sources consulted

Cartographic sources

- 1st edition Ordnance Survey, 1883-4, scale 1:2,500
- 1970 Ordnance Survey, scale 1:2,500

Documentary sources

Published and grey literature sources are listed in the bibliography.

3.4 Fieldwork strategy

A detailed specification has been prepared by Worcestershire Archaeology (WA 2015). Fieldwork was undertaken intermittently, between 4 November 2015 and 21 April 2016, following the progress of the construction team. The WA site reference number and site code is P4722.

The interventions monitored included an initial borehole, one area of topsoil stripping (Trench 1) and nine deeper trenches and pits (Trenches 2-10). The groundworks amounted to just over 400m² in area. The location of the groundworks is indicated in Figures 2 and 3.

Piles were driven in for the foundation raft for the new pavilion. These were not monitored, but their locations have been recorded for future reference(Fig 4).

The groundworkers were undertaken using a 360º tracked excavator, employing a toothless bucket and under archaeological supervision. Clean surfaces were inspected and selected deposits were excavated to retrieve artefactual material and environmental samples, as well as to determine their nature. Subsequent excavation was undertaken by hand. Deposits were recorded according to standard Worcestershire Archaeology practice (WA 2012). A metal detector was used to scan the spoil from the excavations and each stratigraphic spit excavated.

3.5 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.

3.6 Artefact methodology, by C Jane Evans

The finds work reported here conforms with the relevant sections *of Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA 2014b), with archive creation informed by *Archaeological archives: a guide to the best practice in the creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (AAF 2011), and museum deposition by *Selection, retention and dispersal of archaeological collections* (SMA 1993).

3.6.1 Recovery policy

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

3.6.2 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, where possible.

No finds were recovered from environmental samples.

The pottery was not recorded by fabric, but the presence of diagnostic fabrics was noted for dating purpose, with reference to the Gloucestershire fabric reference series where appropriate (Heighway 1983, Appendix B).

3.7 Environmental archaeology methodology, by Elizabeth Pearson

3.7.1 Sampling policy

Sampling was undertaken according to standard Worcestershire Archaeology practice (WA 2012). Samples were taken by the excavator from deposits considered to be of high potential for the recovery of environmental remains. A total of two samples (40 litres and 20 litres) were taken from the site from the following contexts (Table 4):

- Pit fills 207 and 213

3.7.2 Processing and analysis

The samples were processed by flotation using a Siraf tank. The flots were collected on a 300mm 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 hammerscale. 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 the *New Flora of the British Isles*, 3rd edition (Stace 2010).

Charcoal from both samples was examined under a low power MEIJI microscope to identify oak and non-oak fragments. Subsequently a small number of identifiable fragments were identified as follows. The cell structure was examined in three planes under a MEIJI dark illumination microscope and identifications were carried out using reference texts (Schweingruber 1978; Hather 2000) and reference slides housed at Worcestershire Archaeology.

Animal bone was quantified by fragment count and weight (g) for each context (Table 5).

3.7.3 Discard policy

Scanned residues will be discarded after a period of 6 months following submission of this report unless there is a specific request to retain them.

3.8 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, by Graham Arnold and Tom Vaughan

4.1 Topography, geology and archaeological context

The background to the site has been presented in the previous report on the site as follows and is summarised below:

> The site is located on a level playing field at approximately 36m AOD, although to the north the ground level drops away towards the River Leadon. To the east of the existing pavilion the field appears to have been raised to create a level area. The underlying geology of the site is mapped as Raglan Mudstone Formation and Bridgnorth Sandstone Formation overlaid by sand and gravels of the Staunton member (BGS 2016).
>
> The development site is located across the course of a Roman road which ran between Stretton Grandison and a possible crossing on the River Severn, located to the south of Tewkesbury. The road, which runs roughly east to west at this location, had been identified during a geophysical survey on land to the west of the cricket pitch, and to the east as a series of field boundaries. The Roman road from Gloucester is also believed to meet this road under the cricket pitch, and it is possible a settlement grew up around this junction. Extensive evidence for Roman settlement has been found elsewhere in Dymock (Walsh & Vaughan 2014, 4).

The evaluation established the presence of well-preserved Roman remains on the site. The features include the Roman road and roadside ditch on the anticipated alignment, as well as a number of pits, other features and deposits. A significant quantity of Roman pottery and two brooches were recovered. A small amount of slag and coal was also identified hinting at the presence of industrial activity in the area. An environmental sample yielded charred cereal crop waste, which may originate from a crop grown and processed locally. The small quantity of animal bone recovered was in a good state of preservation. This is indicative of rural occupation in the immediate vicinity.

4.2 Current land-use

The site is located in the north-eastern part of grass playing field, east of the existing pavilion and south of a set of cricket practise nets. The works were located on the eastern side of the cricket pitch. In the north-east extent of the site the area had been used for fires.

5 Structural analysis, by Tom Vaughan and Graham Arnold

The trenches and features recorded are shown in Figures 2-3. The results of the structural analysis are presented in Appendix 1.

5.1.1 Phase 1: Natural deposits

The natural was not observed across the main area, Trench 1, as the topsoil strip here was only undertaken to a maximum depth of 0.20m. The natural geology was observed in the borehole and Trenches 2, 4-10. It consisted of soft mid orangey grey clay and mid orangey red sandy clay recorded as glacial drift, overlying a weathered Mercian Mudstone. It was generally observed at between 0.50-1.20m depth, although was much deeper in the borehole, at 1.72m depth.

5.1.2 Phase 2: Roman deposits

The aforementioned greater depth of the natural observed within the borehole indicates the presence of a deeply cut feature at this location. No finds were recovered from the deposits overlying the natural, so it is currently undated, although may be dated by association with the Roman road adjacent to be of similar Roman date.

Two pits of Roman date were identified. In Trench 2 to the north of the Roman road pit 208 contained two distinct fills of charcoal rich clayey silt, 207, over burnt sandstone, 213 (Fig 3; Plates 4-6). In Trench 9 to the south of the road part of a large pit, 904, was recorded which extended into the trench baulks on two sides. Although not fully excavated the fill 903 contained pot, slag, animal bone and a copper object (Fig 2; Plate 13).

In the general subsoil a number of Roman finds were also recovered, particularly in Trenches 2, 4 and 5 on the north side of the Roman road. An area of tree roots, 212, was noted in Trench 2 which contained Roman material and may relate to a disturbed feature or deposit of indeterminate function. The Roman road and roadside ditches found during the evaluation was not encountered or impacted during the works, apart from piling for the pavilion foundations (Fig 4).

5.1.3 Phase 3: modern deposits

The Roman deposits were overlain by modern topsoil throughout and overburden including levelling material to terrace the area to the east of the existing pavilion, evident in Trenches 1 - 5 and the creation of cricket nets which was evident in Trench 10. The area was also truncated by a series of modern services related to the existing pavilion and adjacent houses.

5.2 Artefactual analysis, by C Jane Evans

The artefactual assemblage recovered is summarised in Tables 1 and 2.

The assemblage, mainly pottery, dated to the Roman period (Table 1). It came from four contexts, associated with Trenches 2, 4, 5 and 9 (Table 2). The condition of the pottery varied. Most of the pottery was moderately abraded and fairly fragmentary, the latter reflected in low average sherd weights. Soil layer 202, however, produced a larger assemblage of pottery and a number of joining sherds, from a flagon and a jar, indicating the presence of some well-preserved deposits as well.

period	material subtype	object specific type	count	weight(g)
Roman	earthenware	pot	110	1314
Roman	copper alloy	pin	1	1
Roman?	iron slag	fragment	3	541
undated	animal bone	fragment	27	393

undated	fired clay	brick/tile	1	5
undated	fired clay	fragment	1	23

Table 1: Quantification of the assemblage by period

Roman finds

Pottery

Trench 2 produced a number of diagnostically 1st to 2nd century fabrics and forms. This included two sherds of South Gaulish samian (fabric TF8B; from SF1 and SF2), one a flange from a bowl, possibly a Curle 11 type dating to the late 1st century. Another typically early form was a flagon with a thickened, triangular rim made in a white-slipped fabric, which is possibly pre-Flavian ie mid-1st century. Other fabrics included Severn Valley ware, sandy oxidised ware, reduced sandy wares with rouletted and combed decoration, and white ware. The latest sherds were in Severn Valley ware, from a jar with a hooked rim, dating broadly to the 2nd to 3rd century, and another with a slight, pulley rim, dating broadly to the 3rd to 4th centuries, the latter from soil layer 202, SF5. Some of these sherds were overfired, hinting at local production.

The three sherds from Trench 4 were in a micaceous reduced ware with blackened surfaces, a fabric associated with 1st and perhaps early 2nd century assemblages. The three sherds from Trench 5 were more mixed; a sherd of Severn valley ware, a reduced sandy ware and a sherd of Black-burnished ware (fabric TF4). The latter provided a *tpq* of *c* AD 120, while the other two sherds could only be broadly dated to the Roman period.

The pottery from Trench 5 dated from the 1st to the 3rd centuries. Early fabrics included a wheelmade, grog-tempered ware, possibly Savernake ware (fabric TF6); the rim from a Malvernian tubby cooking pot, dating to the 1st or 2nd century (fabric TF18); sherd of organic tempered Severn Valley ware (fabric TF17). The latest sherds were from a Black-burnished ware jar, probably dating to the 3rd century (cf Gillam 1976, fig 1.7-8). The other sherds, in Severn Valley ware and sandy reduced ware, were less diagnostic.

trench	count	% count	Weight (g)	% weight	average weight
2	90	82%	1114	85%	12
4	3	3%	18	1%	6
5	3	3%	20	2%	7
9	14	13%	162	12%	12
total	110		1314		12

Table 2 Quantification of the Roman pottery by trench

Copper alloy

The only metal find was a copper alloy pin found in pit 904 in Trench 9 (903, SF9), broken into three pieces. This was not closely datable but is assumed to be Roman by association.

Slag

Trench 9 (903) also produced a small quantity of slag; two fragments of tap slag and one less diagnostic fragment. These are assumed to be Roman by association, and provide evidence of iron smelting somewhere in the vicinity.

Brick/tile and fired clay

The only other finds comprised a small fragment of brick or tile, and an undiagnostic fragment of fired clay, both from Trench 2 (SF3 and SF5 respectively). Neither was datable.

trench	context	sf no	Material/ object type	count	Weight (g)	period	start date	end date	tpq
2	202		pot	51	346	Roman	late 1st	2nd/3rd	2nd/3rd
2	202	SF1	pot	7	283	Roman	mid 1st	late 1st	Mid/late 1st
2	202	SF2	animal bone	1	8	undated			
2	202	SF2	pot	10	98	Roman	late 1st	2nd	late 1st/2nd
2	202	SF3	pot	3	46	Roman	late 1st	2nd	late 1st/2nd
2	202	SF3	brick/tile	1	5	undated			
2	202	SF4	pot	1	20	Roman	late 1st	4th	Roman
2	202	SF5	pot	18	321	Roman	late 1st/2nd	3rd/4th	3rd/4th
2	202	SF5	fragment	1	23	undated			
4	402		fragment	1	5	undated			
4	402		pot	3	18	Roman	1st	2nd	1st/2nd
5	502		pot	1	1	Roman	120	4th	120-4th
5	502	SF7	pot	1	14	Roman	late 1st	4th	Roman
5	502	SF8	pot	1	5	Roman	late 1st	4th	Roman
9	903		animal bone	25	380	undated			
9	903		pot	14	162	Roman	late 1st/early 2nd	3rd	3rd
9	903		fe slag	3	541	Roman?			
9	903	SF9	Cu pin	1	1	Roman	late 1st	4th	Roman

Table 3: Summary of context/SF dating based on artefacts

5.2.1 Significance

The dating of the pottery assemblage is consistent with the evidence from other sites excavated at Dymock (Timby 2007; Griffin 2014); there was an emphasis on 1st to 2nd century pottery, with one

possible pre-Flavian vessel, and a handful of vessels dating to the 3rd century. It is difficult to draw meaningful conclusions on the composition of such a small assemblage. However, in the analysis of the assemblage from the nearby Sewage Treatment Works excavations, Timby noted elements that were not typical of a rural assemblage (2007). The same is true of this small assemblage; the presence of the pre-Flavian flagon hints at more 'Romanised' early activity. The presence of a handful of overfired sherds, hints at local production. This is also consistent with Timby's identification of a local industry, although the sherds here are later suggesting that there may have been some local production into the 3rd century.

5.2.2 Further analysis and reporting

The assemblage will require detailed analysis should any further work be undertaken on the site.

5.3 Environmental analysis, by Elizabeth Pearson

The results are summarised in Tables 4 to 9.

context	material	count	weight(g)	feature type	period
202	animal bone	1	8	topsoil	Roman
402	animal bone	1	5	subsoil	Roman
903	animal bone	25	380	pit	Roman
Total		**27**	**393**		

Table 4: Hand-collected animal bone

Context	Sample	Feature type	Fill of	Position of fill	Period	Sample volume (L)	Volume processed (L)	Residue assessed	Flot assessed
207	1	pit	208	upper	?Roman	40	10	Yes	Yes
213	2	pit	208	basal	?Roman	20	10	Yes	Yes

Table 5: List of bulk samples

Context	*sample*	*mollusc*	*charcoal*	*uncharred plant*	*artefacts*
207	*1*	*occ*	*mod*	*abt**	*occ glass, wood (root material). mod burnt/heat cracked stones*
213	*2*	*occ*	*mod*	*abt**	*occ coal, wood (root material). abt burnt / heat cracked stones*

*Table 6: Summary of remains from bulk samples; occ = occasional, mod = moderate, abt = abundant, * = possibly intrusive*

context	sample	preservation type	species detail	category remains	quantity/ diversity	comment
207	1	?wa	unidentified herbaceous root fragments, unidentified wood fragments	misc	+++/low	
207	1	?wa	*Sambucus nigra*	seed	+/low	possibly modern and intrusive
207	1	Ch	*Alnus/Carpinus/Corylus* sp wood, unidentified herbaceous root fragments, non-oak wood	misc	++/low	small fragments but well preserved
213	2	Ch	unidentified wood fragments,	misc	++/low	small unidentifiable

			Tilia sp wood, Corylus avellana, cf Corylus avellana, Alnus/Carpinus/Corylus sp			fragments
213	2	?wa	unidentified wood fragments	misc	+++/low	possibly intrusive
213	2	?wa	*Sambucus nigra*	seed	+/low	possibly intrusive
213	2	?wa	unidentified herbaceous root fragments	misc	+++/low	possibly intrusive

Table 7: Plant remains from bulk samples

Key:

Preservation	*quantity*
ch = charred	*+ = 1 - 10*
min = mineralised	*++ = 11- 50*
wa = waterlogged	*+++ = 51 - 100*
?wa = waterlogged or uncharred	*++++ = 101+*
	** = fragments*

Latin name	Family	Common name	Habitat	213
Tilia sp wood	Tiliaceae	lime	C	4
Corylus avellana wood	Betulaceae	hazelnut	C	3
cf *Corylus avellana* wood	Betulaceae	hazelnut	C	1
Alnus/Carpinus/Corylus sp wood	Betulaceae	alder/hornbeam/hazel	C	2

Table 8: Charcoal from base of pit 208

A small assemblage of animal bone (27 fragments, 393g) was hand-collected from Roman topsoil, subsoil and a pit during the investigations (Table 4). The bone was moderately well preserved and is dominated by cattle-sized fragments. Some evidence of juvenile bones was noted.

Fills 207 and 213 from pit 208 contained moderate quantities of charcoal. Fragments were small but well preserved, amongst which *Betulaceae* (*Alnus/Carpinus/Corylus sp*) and non-oak was noted. Charcoal from the basal fill of pit 208 consisted of lime (*Tilia sp*), hazel (*Corylus avellana*) and *Betulaceae*.

Occasional mollusc remains were noted but as this was a small assemblage, no further work was carried out on this material. Uncharred material (roots, wood fragments and elderberry seeds) is likely to be intrusive as this is unlikely to have survived for long unless waterlogged.

6 Synthesis, by Tom Vaughan and Graham Arnold

6.1 Roman

The watching brief of the groundworks revealed further evidence of Roman roadside activity in the form of two pits, one of which appears to have used for burning or heating, although did not have a defined structure or lining that might indicate a specific industrial activity. They both lay within the deeper service trenches and soakaways. The shallow foundation design of the new pavilion itself mitigated against disturbance of the Roman road surface or any associated activity in across the building footprint, as had been identified in the 2014 evaluation.

The small quantity of animal bone is indicative of domestic activity. The pottery recovered from the site, both in situ within the two pits, and residual within the associated soils, indicates activity primarily in the 1st to 2nd centuries, extending into the 3rd century. This is consistent with the evidence from other sites excavated around Dymock (Timby 2007; Griffin 2014). The composition of the assemblage, although small, is however atypical of rural Roman assemblages generally, which was also noted of the material recovered from the nearby Sewage Treatment Works excavations (Timby 2007). The presence of overfired sherds is indicative of local production, as also suggested by Timby, although these sherds are of 3rd century date, which is later than those recovered elsewhere in the vicinity.

6.2 Modern

The area to the east of the existing pavilion had been terraced using modern materials, whilst to the north-east the area had been landscaped to create cricket nets.

6.3 Research frameworks

The results of the work, although limited, add to the existing knowledge of the Roman settlement of Dymock, highlighted in Walsh and Vaughan (2014) including:

- Documenting the extents of Roman Dymock
- Understanding industry and land-use patterns in Roman Dymock
- Understanding the date and construction of the Roman road network in the area

These have been highlighted as important in both the Resource Agenda and Research Agenda (Webster 2008) and the Research Strategy 2012-2017 (Grove and Croft 2012) set out for the South West England Archaeology Research Framework. The environmental evidence also adds to the existing information (Straker *et al* 2008, 150).

7 Publication summary, by Tom Vaughan

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.

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken on behalf of Chris Knock (Architectural and Planning Consultant) acting for Dymock Cricket Club at Dymock Cricket Club, The Pound, Dymock, Gloucestershire (NGR SO 70495 31116), of the groundworks for the construction of a new pavilion.

One borehole and ten trenches were observed. The new building lay over the Roman road, the survival of which had been confirmed during the previous evaluation. The strip for the foundations was very shallow and did not expose significant deposits. Elsewhere the natural was revealed at a depth of 0.50-1.20m. The exception was the borehole, where the natural lay at 1.72m depth, and may indicate the presence of a deeply cut feature in this location.

Two pits were recorded, one on either side of the Roman road. That to the north contained evidence of in situ burning or heating, although it did not appear to be industrial in nature. These features and the associated soils contained a small quantity of animal bone, pottery and a copper pin. The animal bone is indicative of domestic activity. The pottery indicates activity primarily in the 1st to 2nd centuries, extending into the 3rd century. This is consistent with the evidence from other sites excavated around Dymock. The composition of the assemblage, although small, is however atypical of rural Roman assemblages generally. The presence of overfired sherds is indicative of local production, particularly in the 3rd century, which is later than that identified elsewhere in the vicinity.

8 Acknowledgements

Worcestershire Archaeology would like to thank the following for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project, Chris Knock (Architectural and Planning Consultant) and Charles Parry (Archaeologist, Gloucestershire County Council).

9 Bibliography

AAF 2011 *Archaeological archives: a guide to the best practice in the creation, compilation, transfer and curation,* Archaeological Archives Forum, http://www.archaeologyuk.org/archives/

BGS 2016 *Geology of Britain Viewer*, http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html, British Geological Survey, accessed 25 April 2016

Cappers, T R J, Bekker, R M, and Jans, J E A, 2012 *Digitale Zadenatlas van Nederland: Digital seed atlas of the Netherlands, Groningen Archaeological Studies*, **4**, Barkhuis Publishing and Groningen University Library: Groningen

Catchpole, T, 2007 Roman Dymock: Archaeological Investigations 1995-2002, *TBGAS* **125**, 131-245

CIfA 2014b *Standard and guidance: Archaeological watching brief,* Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, http://www.archaeologists.net/codes/ifa

CIfA 2014b *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials,* Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, http://www.archaeologists.net/codes/ifa

English Heritage 2011 *Environmental archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation*, Centre for Archaeology Guidelines

GCC 2013 *Brief for an archaeological watching brief*, Gloucestershire County Council, Archaeology Service

Gillam, J P, 1976 Coarse fumed ware in north Britain and beyond, *Glasgow Archaeol J*, **4**, 57-90

Griffin, L, 2014 *Artefact analysis*, in Walsh, A M and Vaughan, T M, 2014, 5-6

Grove, J and Croft, B (eds), 2012 *The Archaeology of Southwest England, South West Archaeological Framework, Research Strategy 2012-2017,* Somerset County Council *http://www1.somerset.gov.uk/archives/hes/swarf/publications.htm*

Hather, J G, 2000 *The identification of the northern European hardwoods: a guide for archaeologists and conservators*, Archetype Publications Ltd

Holbrook, N (ed) *et al*, 2008 *Chapter 8 Roman* in Webster (ed) 2008

Heighway, C, M, 1983 *The east and north gates of Gloucester,* Western Archaeological Trust monograph **4**, 96–124

Schweingruber, F H, 1978 *Microscopic wood anatomy: structural variability of stems and twigs in recent and subfossil woods from central Europe*, Swiss Federal Institute of Forestry Research

SMA 1993 *Selection, retention and dispersal of archaeological collections,* Society for Museum Archaeology, http://www.socmusarch.org.uk/publica.htm

Stace, C, 2010 *New flora of the British Isles*, Cambridge University Press, 3rd edition

Straker, V, Brown, A, Fyfe, R and Jones, J, 2008 *Chapter 7 Romano-British Environmental Background* in Webster (ed) 2008

Timby, J, 2007 *Pottery*, in Catchpole, T, 2007, 155–171

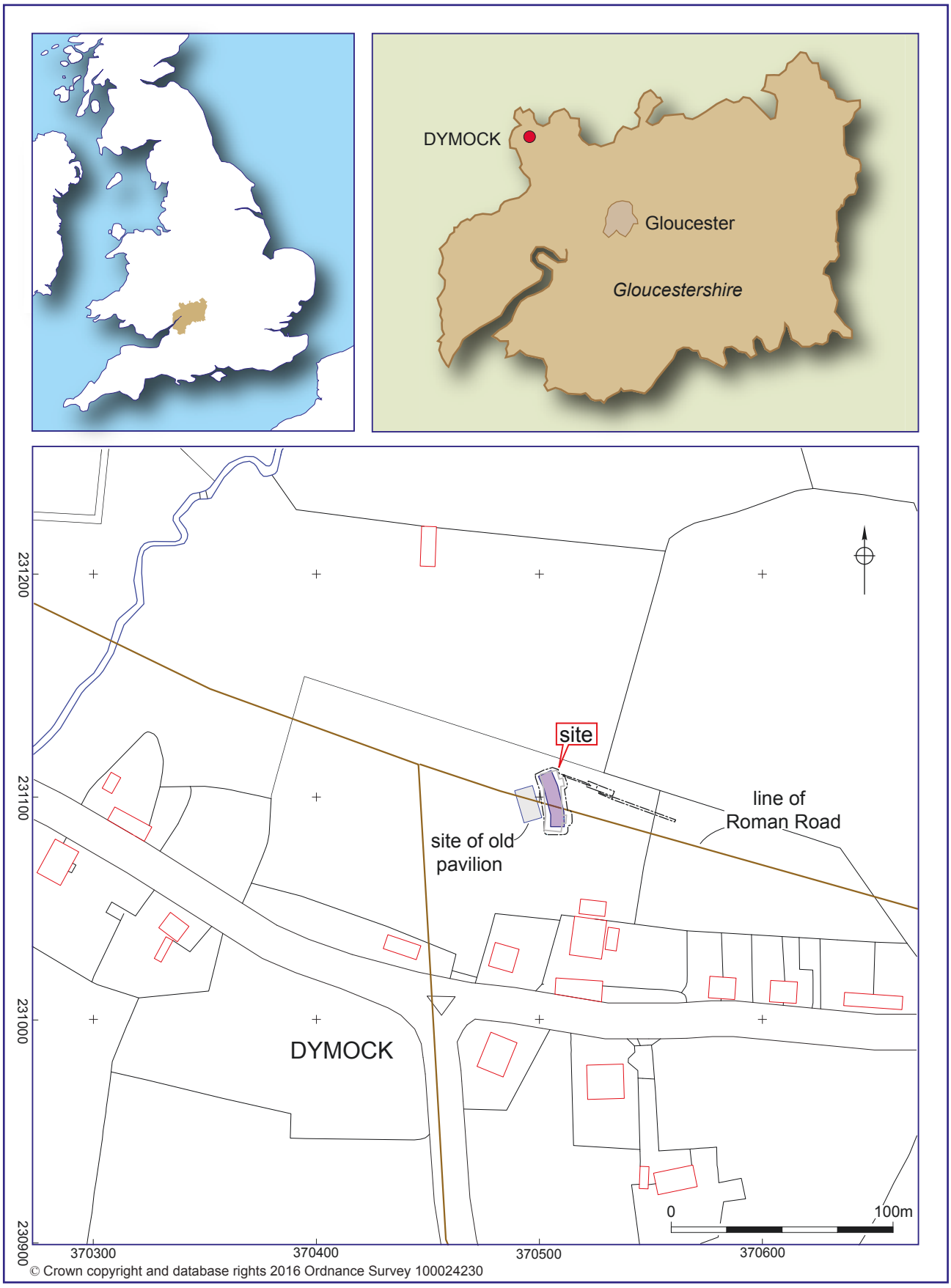
Walsh, A M and Vaughan, T M, 2014 *An archaeological evaluation at Dymock Cricket Club, Dymock, Gloucestershire,* Worcestershire Archaeology, Worcestershire County Council, report **2095**, revision 1, dated 18 February 2013, P4260

WA 2012 *Manual of service practice, recording manual*, Worcestershire Archaeology, Worcestershire County Council, report **1842**

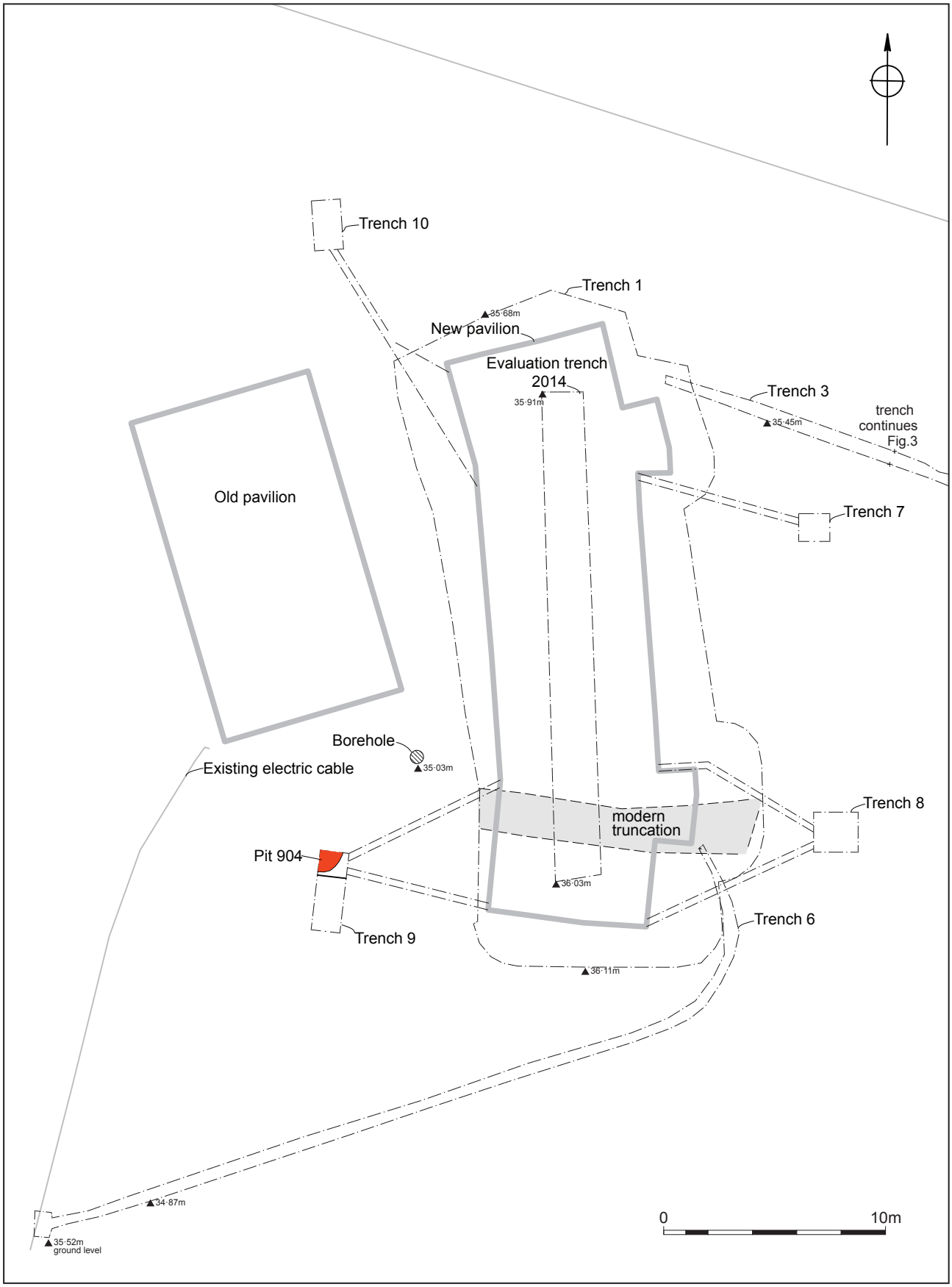
WA 2015 *Proposal for an archaeological watching brief at Dymock Cricket Club, The Pound, Dymock, Gloucestershire*, Worcestershire County Council, unpublished document dated 4 November 2015, **P4722**

Webster, C J (ed), 2008 *The Archaeology of South West England, South West Archaeological Research Framework; Resource Assessment and Research Agenda*, Somerset County Council http://www1.somerset.gov.uk/archives/hes/swarf/publications.htm

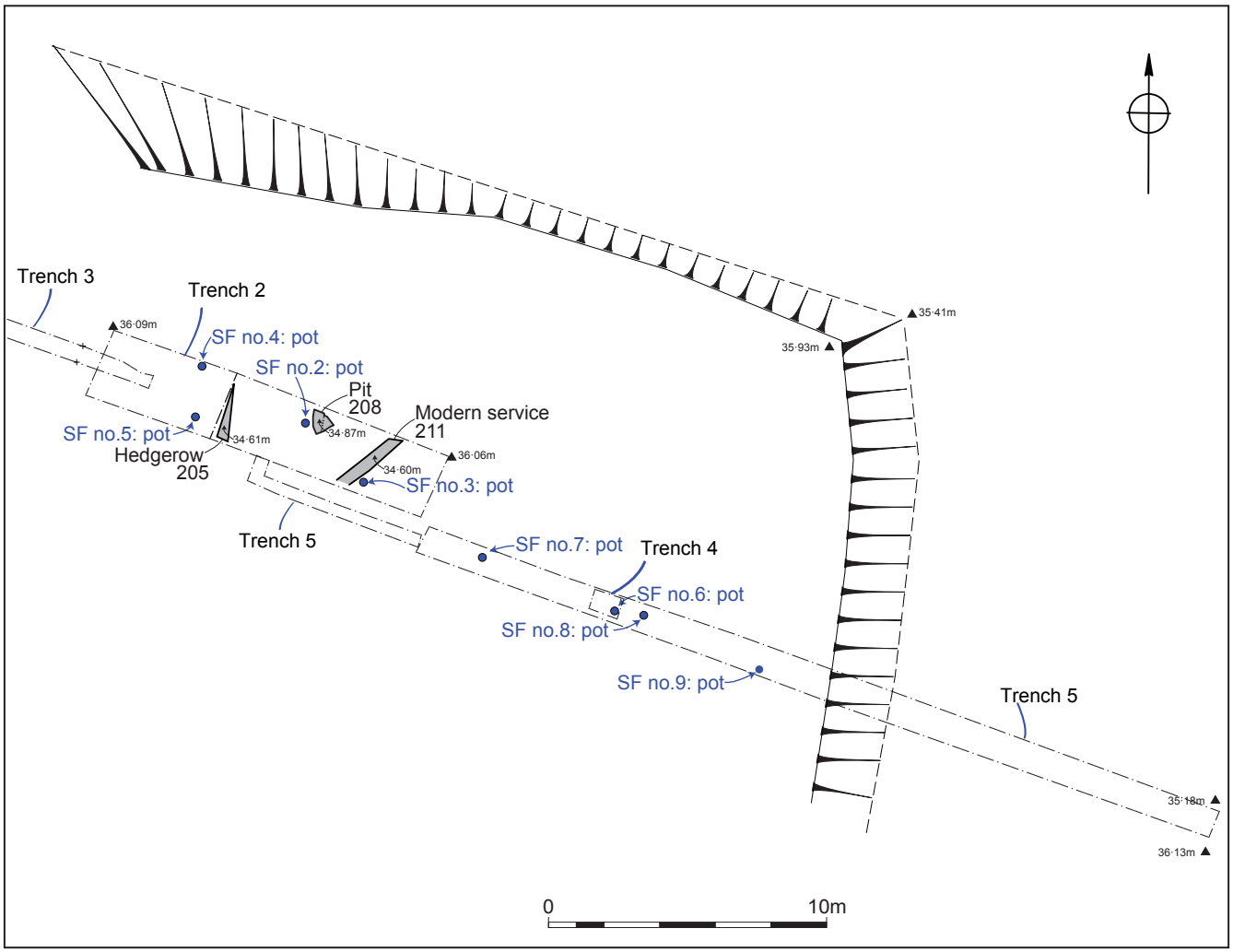
Figures



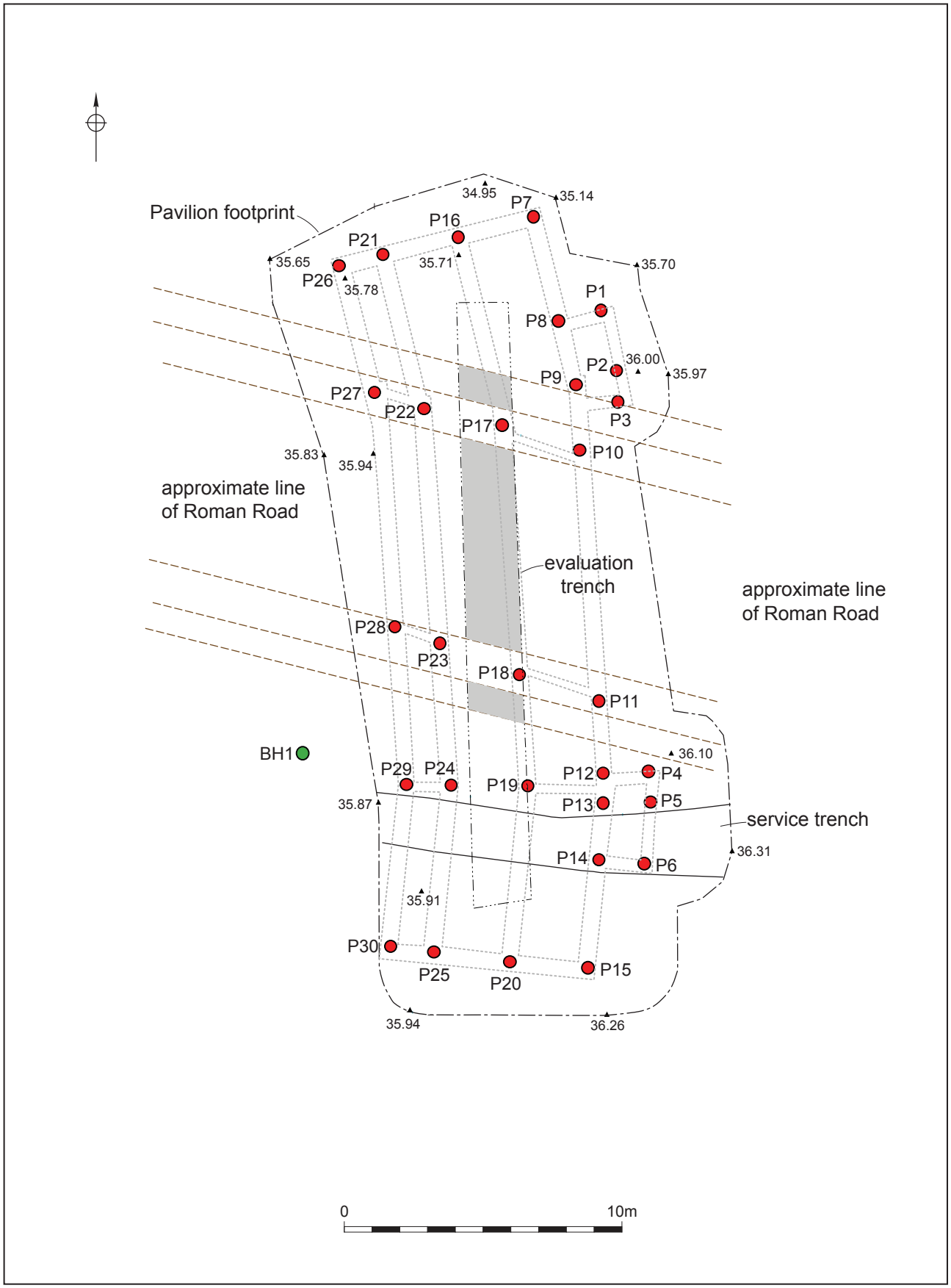
Location of the site *Figure 1*



Trench locations - west *Figure 2*



Trench locations - east *Figure 3*



Location of the piling *Figure 4*

Plates

Plate 1: Trench 1 topsoil strip (evaluation trench outline visible), view north, 1m scales

Plate 2: Borehole 1 auger samples, 1m scale

Plate 3: Area after piling matt levelling; piling in progress, looking north-west

Plate 4: Trench 2, view east, 1m scales

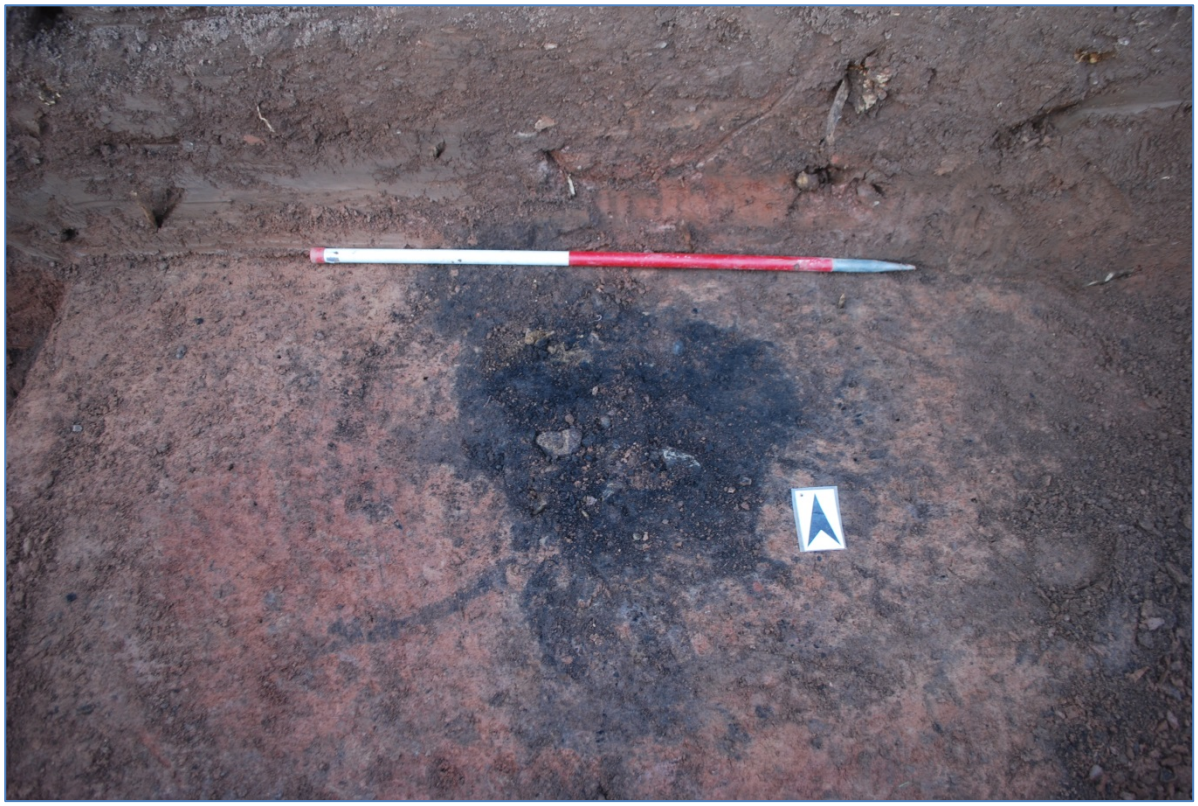


Plate 5: Trench 2, pit 208 after cleaning up, 1m scale

Plate 6: Trench 2, pit 208 after full excavation, view north, 1m scale

Plate 7: Trench 3, view south-east, 1m scales

Plate 8: Trench 4 test pit, view north, 1m scale

Plate 9: Eastern extent of Trench 5, view north-west, 1m scales

Plate 10: Trench 6, service trench, view west

Plate 11: Trench 7 soakaway trench, view north-west, 1m scale

Plate 12: Trench 8 soakaway trench, view west, 1m scale

Plate 13: Trench 9 soakaway trench with pit 904 in north-west corner, view north, 1m scale

Plate 14: Trench10 soakaway trench, view south-east

Appendix 1 Trench descriptions

Main deposit description

Trial Borehole 1

Site area: South-west corner of current pavilion

Maximum dimensions: Diameter: 0.10m Depth: 4.00m

Orientation: n/a

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
10000	Topsoil	Friable dark greyish brown sandy silt with occasional slag waste, moderate charcoal and bioturbation	0.00 – 0.41m
10001	Subsoil or former topsoil	Soft orangey brown silty sand with occasional charcoal flecks and occasional sub-angular stones	0.41 – 0.90m
10002	Relict subsoil / archaeological horizon	Soft mid orangey grey silty sand with rare charcoal flecks	0.90 – 1.72m
10003	Natural	Soft mid orangey grey clay – clean natural glacial drift	1.72 – 3.02m
10004	Natural	Firm Weathered Mercian Mudstone	3.02 – 4.00m

Trench 1

Site area: Building footprint

Maximum dimensions: Length: 30.00m Width: 12.50m Depth: 0.20m

Orientation: N-S

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
100	Topsoil	Friable dark greyish brown sandy silt	0.00 – 0.20m
101	Backfill	Mixed deposits of backfilled 2014 evaluation trench including loose angular orange gravels and blackish brown sandy silt	0.20m
102	Cut	Cut of 2014 evaluation trench measuring c 22.00m x 1.60m and orientated north to south	0.20m

Trench 2

Site area: Treatment Plant

Maximum dimensions: Length: 13.50m Width: 2.40m Depth: 2.40m

Orientation: NW-SE

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
200	Modern made ground	Firm orangey brown silty clay with frequent concrete brick, metalwork, plastics and occasional redeposited sand and gravels. Modern levelling of field behind pavilion	0.00 – 0.70m
201	Modern Layer topsoil	Friable dark greyish brown sandy silt	0.70- 0.90m
202	Roman soil	Firm dark greyish brown sandy silt with frequent tree roots and occasional Roman pot.	0.90m – 1.10
203	Natural	Compact mid orangey red sandy clay – glacial drift	1.20m - 2.20m
204	Fill	Hedgerow	1.10 – 1.25m
205	Cut	Hedgerow and rooting orientated N-S	1.10 – 1.25m
206	Natural	Dark purplish red marl and blue grey silt mottling – Mercian / Raglan Mudstone	2.20 – 2.40m +
207	Upper fill of burnt pit	Friable blackish grey clayey silt with extensive charcoal; 0.20m thick	1.10 – 1.30m
208	Cut of pit	0.70 x 0.60, straight sides, flat base. Fire pit.	1.10 – 1.40m
209	Roman subsoil	Mid brown silty clay	1.10 – 1.20m
210	Fill of modern service trench	Mixed modern topsoil, orange clay and brick rubble	1.20 – 1.70m
211	Modern service	Service 0.40m wide and 0.50m +m. Soil pipe to soakaway for nearby house	1.20 – 1.70m
212	Tree rooting containing Roman pot	Amorphous spread with tree roots and containing Roman pot.	1.10 – 1.25m
213	Base fill of pit 208	Burnt sandstone	1.30 – 1.40m

Trench 3

Site area: Inlet pipe to Treatment Plant

Maximum dimensions: Length: 30.00m Width: 12.50m Depth: 0.20m

Orientation: NE-SW

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
300	Modern made ground	Friable dark greyish brown sandy silt	0.00 – 0.70m

Trench 4

Site area: Soakaway test pit

Maximum dimensions: Length: 1.00m Width: 0.70m Depth: 0.80m – 1.00m

Orientation: N-S

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
400	Made ground	Friable dark greyish brown sandy silt	0.00 – 0.25m
401	Topsoil	Mixed deposits of backfilled evaluation trench including loose angular orange gravels and blackish brown sandy silt	0.25 – 0.45m
402	Subsoil	Firm mid orangey brown silty sand with occasional roots	0.45 – 0.80m
403	Natural	Soft mid orangey grey clay – clean natural glacial drift, becoming more compact with depth	0.80 – 1.00m +
404	Natural	Compact brownish yellow weathered mudstone	1.00 – 1.20m

Trench 5

Site area: Outflow pipe and soakaway

Maximum dimensions: Length: 7.50m + 30.00m Width: 0.30 – 1.00m Depth: 0.90–1.40m

Orientation: N-S

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
500	Made ground	Friable dark greyish brown sandy silt	0.00 – 0.50m
501	Topsoil	Mixed deposits of backfilled evaluation trench including loose angular orange gravels and blackish brown sandy silt	0.50 – 0.70m
502	Subsoil/ Roman deposit	Compact orangey brown silty clay	0.30 – 0.90m

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
503	Natural	Soft mid orangey grey clay – clean natural glacial drift	0.90 – 1.20m
504	Natural	Firm reddish brown sandy clay and gravels with frequent manganese and occasional sandstone, becoming darker and more compact with depth.	1.20 – 1.40m
505	Modern topsoil	Ashy topsoil in Eastern field	0.00 – 0.30m

Trench 6

Site area: Service trench south of new pavilion

Maximum dimensions: Length: 38.00m Width: 0.30m Depth: 00.80m

Orientation: E-W

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
600	Topsoil	Friable dark greyish brown sandy silt with occasional brick and tarmac, moderate charcoal and bioturbation	0.00 – 0.40
601	Subsoil	Soft orangey brown silty sand with occasional charcoal flecks and occasional sub-angular stones and tree roots	0.41 – 0.80m
602	Made ground	Eastern end of new trench, made ground to build up level after initial topsoil strip. Orange gravels, hardcore and mixed silty clay	0.00 -0.20m
603	Fill	Mixed redeposited natural clay marl and dark modern topsoil	0.20 – 1.20m
604	Modern service	V shaped cut with straight angular sides of modern service 0.50m wide x 1.00m + deep. Base not reached.	0.20 – 1.20m
605	Natural	Compact bright red clay marl with occasional sandstone and blue grey silt mottling	0.80m +

Trench 7

Site area: Drain and soakaway northeast of pavilion

Drain maximum dimensions: Length: 7.5m Width: 0.30m Depth: 0.60m

Soak-away maximum dimensions: Length: 1.4m Width: 1.25m Depth: 1.40m

Orientation: E-W

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
700	Topsoil/ overburden	Loose mid brown sandy silt with occasional to moderate brick / cbm rubble, plastic rope and metalwork	0.00 – 0.60m
701	Subsoil	Yellowish brown sandy silt	0.60 – 1.00m
702	Natural	Friable reddish brown sandy silt. 0.40m excavated.	1.00 m +

Trench 8

Site area: Drain and soakaway northeast of pavilion

Drain maximum dimensions: Length: See figure 2 Width: 0.30m Depth: 0.60m

Soakaway maximum dimensions: Length: 2.00m Width: 1.70m Depth: 1.70m

Orientation: E-W

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
800	Topsoil/ overburden	Loose mid brown sandy silt with occasional to moderate brick / cbm rubble, plastic rope and metalwork	0.00 – 0.60m
801	Subsoil	Yellowish brown sandy silt	0.60 – 1.05m
802	Natural	Friable reddish brown sandy silt. 0.40m excavated.	1.05 m +

Trench 9

Site area: Drain and soakaway south-west of pavilion

Drain maximum dimensions: Length: 7.50m + 6.30m Width: 0.30m Depth: 0.65m

Soakaway maximum dimensions: Length: 3.60m Width: 1.30m Depth: 1.40m

Orientation: E-W

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
900	Topsoil	Loose mid reddish brown sandy silt	0.00 – 0.30m
901	Subsoil	Soft orangey brown silty sand with occasional charcoal flecks and occasional sub-angular stones and tree roots	0.30 – 0.65m
902	Natural	Brownish red sandy mudstone	0.65m +
903	Fill of pit	Friable mid greyish brown sandy silt with patches of pinkish red weathered mudstone. Moderate charcoal	0.65m

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
		flecking and sandstone fragments contained Roman pot, slag bone, cu object - pin? Only exposed in plan and cleaned. Not excavated.	
904	Cut of pit	Cut of possible pit. Not excavated.	0.65m

Trench 10

Site area: Drain and soakaway north-west of pavilion

Maximum dimensions: Length: 15.70m Width: 0.30m Depth: 0.60m

Orientation: NW – SE

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1000	Topsoil	Loose mid greyish brown sandy silt	0.00 – 0.30m
1001	Subsoil	Mixture of type 1 hardcore and subsoil – levelling for cricket nets	0.30 – 0.50m
1002	Natural	Brownish red sandy mudstone	0.50 -1.50m +

Appendix 2 Technical information

The archive (WA site code: P4722)

The archive consists of:

3	Context records AS1
7	Field progress reports AS2
3	Photographic records AS3
214	Digital photographs
1	Drawing number catalogues AS4
6	Scale drawings
1	Recorded finds records AS13
2	Sample records AS17
1	Sample number catalogues AS18
2	Flot records AS21
2	Pollen score sheet AS35
10	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:

Dean Heritage Centre
Camp Mill,
Soudley,
Forest of Dean
Gloucestershire
GL14 2UB

Tel: 01594 822170

Summary of data for Gloucestershire HER

trench	context	sf no	Material/ object type	count	Weight (g)	period	start date	end date	tpq
2	202		pot	51	346	Roman	late 1st	2nd/3rd	2nd/3rd
2	202	SF1	pot	7	283	Roman	mid 1st	late 1st	Mid/late 1st
2	202	SF2	animal bone	1	8	undated			
2	202	SF2	pot	10	98	Roman	late 1st	2nd	late 1st/2nd
2	202	SF3	pot	3	46	Roman	late 1st	2nd	late 1st/2nd
2	202	SF3	brick/tile	1	5	undated			
2	202	SF4	pot	1	20	Roman	late 1st	4th	Roman
2	202	SF5	pot	18	321	Roman	late 1st/2nd	3rd/4th	3rd/4th
2	202	SF5	fragment	1	23	undated			
4	402		fragment	1	5	undated			
4	402		pot	3	18	Roman	1st	2nd	1st/2nd
5	502		pot	1	1	Roman	120	4th	120-4th
5	502	SF7	pot	1	14	Roman	late 1st	4th	Roman
5	502	SF8	pot	1	5	Roman	late 1st	4th	Roman
9	903		animal bone	25	380	undated			
9	903		pot	14	162	Roman	late 1st/early 2nd	3rd	3rd
9	903		fe slag	3	541	Roman?			
9	903	SF9	Cu pin	1	1	Roman	late 1st	4th	Roman

Table 3: Summary of context/SF dating based on artefacts

context	material	count	weight(g)	feature type	period
202	animal bone	1	8	topsoil	Roman
402	animal bone	1	5	subsoil	Roman
903	animal bone	25	380	pit	Roman
Total		**27**	**393**		

Table 4: Hand-collected animal bone

Context	Sample	Feature type	Fill of	Position of fill	Period	Sample volume (L)	Volume processed (L)	Residue assessed	Flot assessed
207	1	pit	208	upper	?Roman	40	10	Yes	Yes
213	2	pit	208	basal	?Roman	20	10	Yes	Yes

Table 5: List of bulk samples

Context	*sample*	*mollusc*	*charcoal*	*uncharred plant*	*artefacts*
207	*1*	*occ*	*mod*	*abt**	*occ glass, wood (root material). mod burnt/heat cracked stones*
213	*2*	*occ*	*mod*	*abt**	*occ coal, wood (root material). abt burnt / heat cracked stones*

*Table 6: Summary of remains from bulk samples; occ = occasional, mod = moderate, abt = abundant, * = possibly intrusive*

context	sample	preservation type	species detail	category remains	quantity/ diversity	comment
207	1	?wa	unidentified herbaceous root fragments, unidentified wood fragments	misc	+++/low	
207	1	?wa	*Sambucus nigra*	seed	+/low	possibly modern and intrusive
207	1	ch	*Alnus/Carpinus/Corylus* sp wood, unidentified herbaceous root fragments, non-oak wood	misc	++/low	small fragments but well preserved
213	2	ch	unidentified wood fragments, Tilia sp wood, Corylus avellana, cf Corylus avellana, Alnus/Carpinus/Corylus sp	misc	++/low	small unidentifiable fragments
213	2	?wa	unidentified wood fragments	misc	+++/low	possibly intrusive
213	2	?wa	*Sambucus nigra*	seed	+/low	possibly intrusive
213	2	?wa	unidentified herbaceous root fragments	misc	+++/low	possibly intrusive

Table 7: Plant remains from bulk samples

Key:

preservation	*quantity*
ch = charred	*+ = 1 - 10*
min = mineralised	*++ = 11- 50*
wa = waterlogged	*+++ = 51 - 100*
?wa = waterlogged or uncharred	*++++ = 101+*
	** = fragments*

Latin name	Family	Common name	Habitat	213
Tilia sp wood	Tiliaceae	lime	C	4
Corylus avellana wood	Betulaceae	hazelnut	C	3
cf *Corylus avellana* wood	Betulaceae	hazelnut	C	1
Alnus/Carpinus/Corylus sp wood	Betulaceae	alder/hornbeam/hazel	C	2

Table 8: Charcoal from base of pit 208