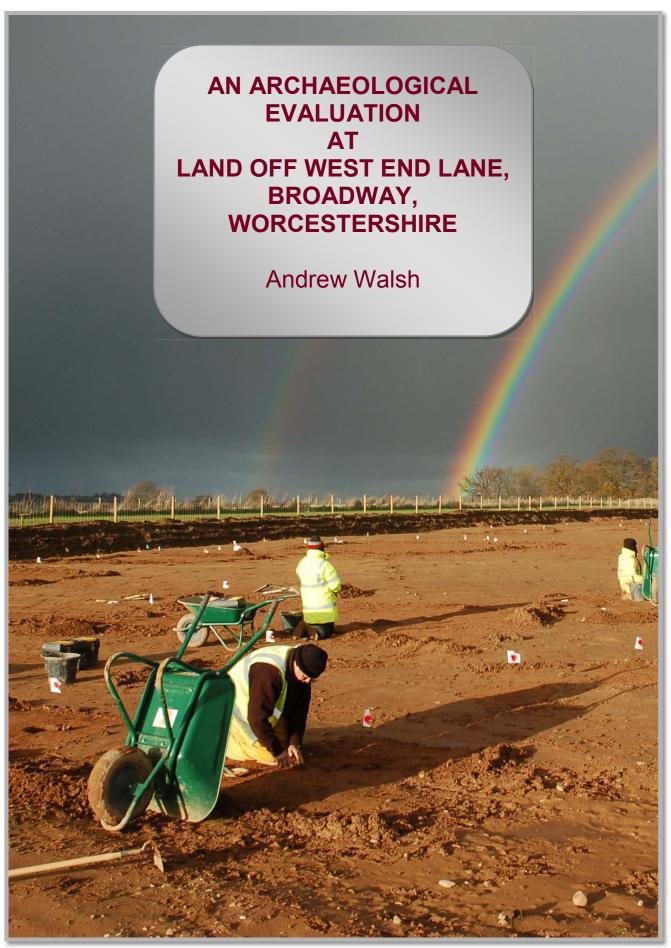
# **Worcestershire Archaeology**







# An Archaeological Evaluation at Land off West End Lane, Broadway, Worcestershire







© Worcestershire County Council

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

Status: Version 1 (for Client approval)

Date: 1 October 2015

Author: Andrew Walsh, awalsh@worcestershire.gov.uk

Contributors: Jane Evans, Rob Hedge, Elizabeth Pearson, Suzi Richer and James Spry

Illustrator: Carolyn Hunt

Project reference: P4523
Report reference: 2262
HER reference: WSM6

HER reference: WSM67020 OASIS ID: fieldsec1-222110

# **Contents**

Summary	1
Report	
1 Background	2
1.1 Reasons for the project	<u> </u>
2 Aims	
3 Methods	
3.1 Personnel	
3.2 Documentary research	
3.3 Fieldwork strategy	ა ვ
3.5 Artefact methodology, by Jane Evans and Rob Hedge	
3.5.1 Artefact recovery policy	<b>3</b> 3
3.5.2 Method of analysis	
3.6 Environmental archaeology methodology	
3.6.1 Animal bone methodology, by James Spry	
3.6.2 Sampling policy	
3.6.3 Sample processing and analysis, by Elizabeth Pearson	
3.6.4 Pollen assessment methodology, by Suzi Richer	
3.6.5 Discard policy	
3.7 Statement of confidence in the methods and results	
4 The application site	5
4.1 Topography and geology	
4.2 Archaeological Context	5
4.3 Current land-use	
5 Structural analysis	7
5.1.1 Natural deposits	7
5.1.2 Abbots Grange trenches	7
5.1.3 West End Lane trenches	
5.2 Artefact analysis, by Jane Evans	
5.2.1 Summary artefactual evidence by period	10
5.3 Environmental analysis	
5.3.1 Animal bone, by James Spry	16
5.3.2 Plant and other macrofossil remains, by Elizabeth Pearson	
5.3.3 Pollen assessment, by Suzi Richer	
5.3.4 Human bone	
6 Synthesis	
6.1 Phase 1: Earlier prehistoric deposits	
6.2 Phase 2: Iron Age and Roman enclosures	
6.3 Phase 3: Medieval activity	
6.4.1 Artefactual evidence, by Jane Evans and Rob Hedge	
6.5 Environmental remains, by Elizabeth Pearson	
6.6 Research frameworks, by Jane Evans, Rob Hedge and Andrew Walsh	
7 Significance	
7.1 Nature of the archaeological interest in the site	
7.1 Nature of the archaeological interest in the site	
7.3 Physical extent of the archaeological interest in the site	
8 Recommendations	
	. 20

9	Publication summary	25
	Acknowledgements	
	Bibliography	

# An archaeological evaluation at Land off West End Way, Broadway, Worcestershire

**Andrew Walsh** 

With contributions by Jane Evans, Rob Hedge, Elizabeth Pearson, Suzi Richer and James Spry

# **Summary**

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Land off West End Lane, Broadway, Worcestershire (NGR SP 0892 3784). It was commissioned by the Environment Agency in advance of a proposed flood alleviation scheme for which a planning application will be submitted.

Twelve evaluation trenches were excavated to test a number of potential archaeological features which had been identified through cropmark evidence and by a geophysical survey of the site, as well as the archaeological potential of other areas of the site. The evaluation demonstrated the good survival of the features represented by the cropmarks and geophysical survey, which largely comprise negative features cut into the natural substrate generally at a shallow depth.

The most complex archaeology was identified in the central part of the site where a series of enclosures and other features survive. Most of the features relating to the enclosures were dated to the Iron Age although some Roman material was also found, suggesting that the settlement may have been founded during the Iron Age but continued after the Roman invasion.

To the north-east of the enclosures a layer, possibly alluvial in origin, was identified containing a small number of Mesolithic and Early Neolithic flints. This layer was cut by a palaeochannel and other features which contained pottery dating to the 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> centuries AD. This medieval material is of interest as it appears to pre-date the establishment of Abbot's Grange and the planned settlement at Broadway.

# Report

# 1 Background

### 1.1 Reasons for the project

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Land off West End Lane, Broadway, Worcestershire (NGR SP 0892 3784; Figure 1). It was commissioned by the Environment Agency in advance of a proposed flood alleviation scheme for which a planning application will be submitted to Wychavon District Council.

The proposed development site is considered to include heritage assets and potential heritage assets the significance of which may be affected by the application (WSM01862 & WSM25255).

The project conforms to a brief prepared by the planning advisory section of Worcestershire County Council Archive and Archaeology Service (WCC 2014) and for which a project proposal (including detailed specification) was produced by Worcestershire Archaeology (WA 2015). The project also conforms to the *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014); and the *Standards and guidelines for archaeological projects in Worcestershire* (WCC 2010). The event reference for this project, given by the HER is WSM67020.

### 2 Aims

The project brief identified that the key aim of the evaluation is to characterise the known remains, and provide appropriate investigation of the 'blank' areas to be satisfied that the cropmark and geophysical evidence is indicative of the actual potential extent of the archaeological site. In addition the brief also outlined the following aims:

- Establish as far as reasonably possible, the full chronological range of heritage assets within the area of interest.
- Establish the preservation of discrete features within the enclosure complex and in the wider setting.
- Establish the palaeoenvironmental potential of the site.
- Establish the significance of remains present on a National, Regional and Local level.
- Identify relevant Local and National research objectives based on the findings of the evaluation.
- Identify appropriate research priorities / opportunities.
- Provide a risk and opportunity plan of the area of interest
- From the evidence gathered discuss mitigation options for the area of interest.

### 3 Methods

### 3.1 Personnel

The project was led by Andrew Walsh (BSc; MSc; ACIfA; FSA Scot); who joined Worcestershire Archaeology in 2013 and has been practicing archaeology since 2004, assisted by Graham Arnold (BA, MSc), Robin Jackson (BA, ACIfA), Adrian Robbins, Tom Rogers (BA; MSc), and Jessica Wheeler (BA). The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Robin Jackson (BA; ACIfA). Illustrations were prepared by Carolyn Hunt (BSc; PG Cert; MCIfA). Elizabeth Pearson (MSc; ACIfA), Suzi Richer (BSc; MSc; PhD) and James Spry (BSc, MSc) contributed the environmental reports, and Jane Evans (BA, MA, MCIfA) and Rob Hedge contributed the finds reports.

### 3.2 Documentary research

A Heritage Chapter was prepared by Atkins on behalf of the Environment Agency as part of the Environmental Statement (EA 2015).

### 3.3 Fieldwork strategy

A project proposal including a detailed specification was prepared by Worcestershire Archaeology (WA 2015). Twelve trenches, amounting to approximately 650m² in area, were excavated over the site area of 9ha. The trenches were located to test a series of anomalies identified during a geophysical survey of the site. Trenches 1 and 2 had to be split due to the presence of a small tree and a footpath respectively. The fieldwork was undertaken between 27<sup>th</sup> July and 7<sup>th</sup> August 2015. The site reference number and site code is WSM67020.

Deposits considered not to be significant were removed using a 360° tracked/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).

A truncated human burial was identified at the interface between the subsoil and natural gravel, and due to its shallow depth it was decided in consultation with the Environment Agency Senior Archaeologist to lift the burial to prevent further damage. A License for the Removal of Human Remains was obtained from the Ministry of Justice (ref: 15-0211) to enable this.

On completion of excavation, trenches were reinstated by replacing the excavated material.

### 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 Jane Evans and Rob Hedge

The finds work reported here conforms with the relevant sections of Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (ClfA 2014; http://www.archaeologists.net/codes/ifa), with archive creation informed by Archaeological archives: a guide to the best practice in the creation, compilation, transfer and curation (AAF 2011; http://www.archaeologyuk.org/archives/), and museum deposition by Selection, retention and dispersal of archaeological collections (SMA 1993; http://www.socmusarch.org.uk/publica.htm). Fabrics are described with reference to the Worcestershire County Fabric Type Series (http://www.worcestershireceramics.org/).

### 3.5.1 Artefact recovery policy

The artefact recovery policy conformed to standard Worcestershire Archaeology practice.

### 3.5.2 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. The date was used for determining the broad date of phases defined for the site. All information was recorded on proforma sheets.

No artefacts from environmental samples were examined.

The pottery and ceramic building material was scanned rather than studied in detail; it was not examined under x20 magnification, but a note was made of fabric type and form where this provided useful dating evidence. Where fabrics are described this is with reference to the series

maintained by Worcestershire Archaeology (Hurst and Rees 1992 and www.worcestershireceramics.org).

Worked stone was examined under x20 magnification, and characteristics recorded in a Microsoft Access database. Techno-typologically distinctive pieces were identified and ascribed a broad date range.

### 3.6 Environmental archaeology methodology

### 3.6.1 Animal bone methodology, by James Spry

Animal bone was quantified (by fragment count and weight) and where possible identified with the aid of modern bone reference collections housed at WA and identification guides (Schmid 1972 and Hillson 1992). No attempt was made to distinguish between sheep or goat at this stage. Cattle, pig and sheep specimens have been aged using either epiphyseal bone fusion (Reitz and Wing 2008: 72, 193) or the wear stages of teeth (Payne 1973, 1987; Grant 1982). However, the insufficient size of the assemblage did not allow for useful age profiles to be established.

Ungulate animals have been sexed using Greenfield's (2005) criteria for the pelvis; with pigs also sexed using canine morphology (Schmid 1972). However, not enough sexable specimens were recovered to establish sex profiles.

Butchery marks have been recorded as cut, chop or saw and their anatomical location (Lauwerier 1988; Sykes 2007). Evidence of burning has been recorded as singed, burnt or calcined (O'Connor 2000: 45). Preservation has been recorded on a four point scale (Harland *et al* 2003): 1 – Excellent; 2 – Good; 3 – Fair; 4 – Poor.

### 3.6.2 Sampling policy

Samples were taken according to standard Worcestershire Archaeology practice (2012).

### 3.6.3 Sample processing and analysis, by Elizabeth Pearson

The environmental processing and analysis conforms to relevant sections of *Environmental Archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation* (EH 2010), and *Environmental archaeology and archaeological evaluations* (AEA 1995).

For the palaeochannel (312) <1>, a sub-sample of 1 litre was processed by the wash-over technique as follows. The sub-sample was broken up in a bowl of water to separate the light organic remains from the mineral fraction and heavier residue. The water, with the light organic faction was decanted onto a 300mm sieve and the residue washed through a 1mm sieve. The remainder of the bulk sample was retained for further analysis.

The remaining 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).

### 3.6.4 Pollen assessment methodology, by Suzi Richer

Three pollen samples, each 2cm³, were selected from the organic and clay deposits. The samples were submitted to the laboratories of the Department of Geography and Environment at the

University of Aberdeen for chemical preparation following standard procedures as described by Barber (1976) and Moore *et al* (1991).

Where preservation allowed, a presence/absence assessment was made whereby the preservation, abundance and main taxa in each sample was noted. A GS binocular polarising microscope at x400 magnification was used and identification was aided by the pollen reference slide collection maintained at the Worcestershire Archaeology office, and the pollen reference manuals by Moore *et al* (1991) and Beug (2004). Nomenclature for pollen follows Stace (2010) and Bennett (1994).

Fungal spores and parasite ova were noted with rapid identification being undertaken to genus level. Identifications were aided through reference material maintained at the Worcestershire Archaeology office and reference manuals, Kirk *et al* (2008) and Grant-Smith (2000).

### 3.6.5 Discard policy

All finds will be retained until further excavation/post-excavation analysis has been completed and a report submitted. At that stage the following categories/types of material will be discarded after a period of 6 months, unless there is a specific reason/request to retain them (and subject to the collection policy of the relevant depository):

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

The sample material and scanned residue will be discarded after a period of 6 months following the submission of this report unless a specific request is made to retain it.

### 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 and geology

The proposed development site is located approximately 400m south-west of Broadway with Bunches Brook running from south-east to north-west through the centre of the site (National Grid Reference SP 091 373; Figure 1). It is bounded to the north by residential properties, farmland to the south-east and west, and West End Lane to the south-west. The site lies within the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and part of the site also falls within the Broadway Conservation Area.

The site lies at approximately 80m above Ordnance Datum (AOD), although the ground rises gently up away from Bunches Brook towards the north-east and south-west. The underlying geology is mapped as Charmouth Mudstone Formation (BGS 2015) and superficial deposits are not mapped on the site.

## 4.2 Archaeological Context

The following information is taken from Historic Environment chapter of the Environmental Statement (EA 2015), supplemented by some limited research by Worcestershire Archaeology.

The earliest evidence of human occupation within the vicinity of the proposed site appears to date from the Neolithic / Bronze Age with flint scatters (WSM47946) located within the 500m of the site as well as a settlement site which is thought to date from the Bronze Age and into the Anglo Saxon period identified during quarrying to the west of Broadway near Milestone Ground). No sites of Neolithic or Bronze Age date have been identified within the site itself, however.

The Iron Age to Roman periods are relatively well recorded in the area, as evident from the cropmarks recorded on the HER and excavations during quarrying activities in the mid-20th century. Fieldwalking in 2005 near Smallbrook Farm, c. 1.3km north of the site, recovered over 1,800 sherds of Roman pottery in fields associated with cropmark enclosures. Prehistoric and Roman field boundaries have been identified, shown as cropmarks in a number of fields surrounding the village and cropmarks (WSM01861) suggesting an enclosure settlement and cemetery dating from the late Bronze Age to late Roman period has been identified c. 200m to the north-west, indicating a level of settlement and organisation of the landscape in this period.

Within the proposed development site itself there are two areas of cropmarks (WSM01862 & WSM25255) shown as small irregular adjoined enclosures with larger rectilinear enclosures and are thought to represent possible prehistoric (Bronze Age or more likely Iron Age) or Roman field boundaries. A watching brief covering the site was undertaken in September 2013 which observed eight test pits c. 2.5m x 1.75m in size and identified Roman and medieval ceramics and ferrous objects, as well as a single flint implement. A geophysical survey of the site undertaken in October 2013 confirmed the presence of these features, and identified a number of other features of possible archaeological origin.

Less is generally known of the early medieval period in around Broadway. An Anglo-Saxon cemetery on Broadway Hill, c. 3km east of the site, was excavated in 1955, but the associated settlement has not yet been identified with only one pottery sherd find of Anglo-Saxon date found in the area associated with the occupation site within the guarry to the west (WSM36370).

The medieval period has been well-documented in Broadway and is thoroughly covered in the EUS and the Central Marches Historic Towns Survey. The original settlement of Broadway was most likely located *c*. 1km south of the current settlement, centred on the church of St Eadburga. In the 10<sup>th</sup> century the manor of Broadway was the property of the monastic church of St Mary and Eadburga of Pershore, to whom 20 manses of land were said to be confirm by Edgar in 972. The current settlement of Broadway was created by the Abbey of Pershore in the late 12th or early 13th century, around the same time that Abbots Grange was built. It was a planned town, designed around a central green and perfectly suited for the weekly market, first recorded in 1196. By 1250, there was both a weekly market and a fair. The medieval green, at the junction of High Street and Church Street, still functions as a focal point in the village. The manor remained the property of the Abbey of Pershore until the Dissolution in 1539-40.

Historic mapping indicates the presence of a corn mill, called Lower Mill on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (1884), on the very north western edge of the site alongside Bunches Brook. The building known as Old Mill is still located on the site, which has since been converted into housing. The Victoria County History (BHO 2015) records that there were two mills in the manor of Broadway in 1291 and also notes various references to mills throughout the medieval and post-medieval periods. The historic mapping also indicates that the alignment of Bunches Brook has been probably been altered.

The former mill buildings are located on the northern side of Bunches Brook immediately north of the site boundary. Some of the buildings appear to straddle the brook on the historic mapping and these are likely to be related to a mill wheel and possible sluice or weir structure. Areas of dressed and rubble stone revetments are still visible in this area lining Bunches Brook with occasional small sections of cut off brick walls. The weir at the northern edge of the site appears to be a concrete structure with steeply sloping sides. Historic mapping indicates that this weir was constructed in the 1980's, but also indicates the potential for earlier parts of weir structures to exist along this section of the brook. Generally, Bunches Brook has sections of surviving rough cut and dressed stone lining the brook, some of which could be remnant historic stone and some sections which are more modern. Though mills are not uncommon in the medieval and post medieval period it is possible that the former mill could relate to the wider Abbots Grange complex which would make it of more interest to understanding the history of Abbots Grange.

### 4.3 Current land-use

The majority of the site lies to the west of Bunches Brook and is former arable land whilst the eastern part of the site is a private garden forming part of the grounds of the Grade II\* listed Abbots Grange. To the north a small part of the application site follows the course of the brook where it flows between residential properties on The Old Mill and Lifford Gardens.

# 5 Structural analysis

The trenches and features recorded are shown in Figures 2-6. The results of the structural analysis are presented in Appendix 1. For ease of description and due to the distinct nature of the archaeological remains and deposits Trenches 1-3 are described as the Abbots Grange trenches and Trenches 4-12 as the West End Lane trenches.

### 5.1.1 Natural deposits

In Trenches 1-10 and 12 superficial natural deposits of limestone gravel were identified. These deposits are not mapped at this location by the BGS (BGS 2015), but they are consistent with natural deposits found at Milestone Ground, Broadway, c.500m north-west of the present site. In Trench 11 an orangey yellow clay was identified.

### 5.1.2 Abbots Grange trenches

In Trench 1A and 1B the only feature identified was a furrow cutting the natural strata.

In Trench 2A a significant dump of late 19th and 20th century material (204), including ceramics, glass bottles and tin cans, was identified cutting the subsoil and natural deposits. This correlates well with an area of magnetic disturbance identified by the geophysical survey.

In Trench 2B the natural strata was cut by three linear features (206, 208 and 210) and a possible pit (212). Feature 206 was only partially visible in section at the north-western end of the trench and yielded no finds (Figure 6, S.1). Ditch 208 was visible running obliquely across the trench on a north to south orientation. It measured approximately 1.6m in width and at least 0.6m in depth and was filled by a grey brown clayey silt (207), which yielded two small pieces of Roman pottery, and animal bone. This feature correlates with an ephemeral geophysical anomaly. A small linear (210) measuring 0.85m in width and 0.28m in depth was located to the south of the ditch. It was filled by a grey brown silt (209) which did not yield any finds. A possible pit (212) was also identified in this trench. It measured approximately 1.7m in diameter and the single fill (211) yielded Iron Age pottery, although it was extremely irregular in profile and maybe related to animal disturbance or tree rooting.

The earliest deposit identified in Trench 3 (Figure 4) was the natural limestone gravel (315) which was exposed in a machine excavated sondage at the north-eastern end of the trench. The natural strata appeared to be cut by a small undated channel of brownish yellow clayey silt (316) which measured 0.8m in width and yielded a small number of snail shells. These deposits were sealed by a layer of silty clay (302) which was probably alluvial in origin. It measured approximately 0.3m in depth and yielded a number of Mesolithic and Early Neolithic flints. This deposit was cut by Ditch 306 (see below).

In the south-western half of Trench 3 was a sequence of features and deposits which dated to the medieval period. The earliest deposit identified in this sequence was an undated yellow brown silty clay (313). This was 'cut' by a feature (314), probably a palaeochannel, which was filled by a dark grey brown silty clay (312), which yielded medieval pottery. The channel was possibly also filled by a dark grey brown gritty silty clay (310), which also yielded medieval pottery. The latter deposit appeared to be cut by ditch (306), which correlates with a slightly ephemeral linear geophysical anomaly, and feature (309)/(311) which could also have been a recut or upper fill of feature (314). Both these features produced medieval pottery. Finally feature (309)/(311) was cut (308) by an undated rubble stone wall (307).

At Abbots Grange the archaeological and natural deposits were sealed in all three trenches by a sequence of two subsoils and a thin topsoil. The lower subsoil contained occasional charcoal flecks and redeposited natural gravel and may have been a colluvial layer. It which was overlaid by a much more sterile clay which may be associated with landscaping of the gardens. The topsoil typically measured around 0.15m in depth.

### 5.1.3 West End Lane trenches

The main complex of rectilinear enclosures identified through cropmark evidence and confirmed by the geophysical survey was targeted in Trenches 4-8 and 12. The linear features identified in these trenches correlate extremely well with the cropmarks and the results of the geophysical survey.

In Trench 4 four main ditches (404, 406, 407 and 420/424) and a pit (409) were identified cutting the natural strata (Figure 4) and these features could be correlated with geophysical anomalies.

Ditch 404 measured approximately 0.85m in width and 0.25m in depth and was filled by a light greyish brown silty clay (405) which yielded five sherds of Roman pottery. Ditches 406 and 407 were not excavated. Pit 409 was partially exposed in the edge of the trench. It measured approximately 1.1m in diameter and 0.45m in depth. It contained two fills, of which the upper fill yielded a small piece of Iron Age pottery.

Ditches 420 and 424 were located together and, although their spatial and temporal relationships are unclear, they are probably related (Figure 6, S.15; Plate 1). Ditch 420 measured approximately 1.8m in width and 0.9m in depth and contained a four fills which yielded a long sequence of pottery. Pottery from the earliest fill (419) dated to the Late Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age, the middle two fills (417 and 418) yielded pottery dating broadly to the Iron Age, while pottery from the upper fill (416) contained Roman (and earlier) pottery. Ditch 424 measured approximately 0.85m in width and 0.67m in depth and contained a three fills which also yielded a sequence of pottery. The lower fill (423) yielded Iron Age pottery, while the upper fill (421) yielded later Iron Age and Roman pottery.

Pit 409 was a partially exposed within the trench. It measured approximately 1.1m in diameter and 0.5m in depth, and contained two fills. The upper fill yielded a small sherd of Late Iron Age pottery.

Also identified within Trench 4 was a second pit (408), two irregular features (425 and 428), and four small post or stakeholes (412, 414, 415 and 427), which may have formed part of a structural or linear feature.

In Trench 5, seven discrete features (507, 509, 511, 513, 515, 517 and 519) were identified cutting the natural strata, of which three were excavated (507, 513 and 519). No datable artefacts or other finds were identified in any of the features.

In Trench 6 an arcing ditch (606) was identified cutting the natural strata and this feature correlates well with the geophysical anomaly forming part of rectilinear enclosure in this area. The ditch measured 1.6m in width and at least 1.25m in depth and was filled by at least three deposits (Figure 17, S.17). The upper fill (603) yielded Iron Age pottery, fired clay and a small piece of iron.

An undated inhumation was located at the south-western end of Trench 6. It was heavily truncated with no visible evidence of a grave cut into the natural gravel. Only the lower legs survived *in-situ* (Figure 5, Plate 2), although a number of other bone fragments were recovered from the surrounding area. No grave goods or other finds were present.

In Trench 7 a shallow linear feature was identified cutting the natural strata (704) and this correlates well with one of a pair of ephemeral linear features identified on the geophysical survey. It measured 0.75m in width and 0.1m in depth and was filled by a reddish brown sandy silt, which yielded one piece of Roman pottery (Figure 6, S.7). The other feature visible on the geophysical survey was not identified within the trench.

Trench 8 targeted the interior of the largest rectilinear enclosure. No archaeological features or deposits were identified in this trench.

In Trench 12 two ditches (1204 and 1215) were identified cutting the natural strata. Both features correlate well with geophysical anomalies. Ditch 1204 measured 0.9m in width and 0.16m in depth, and was filled by a yellowish brown silt, which yielded no finds (Figure 6, S.21). Ditch 1216 measured over 3m in width and at least 0.75m in depth. It contained at least three fills and a possible recut (1215; Figure 6, S.27). The fill of the recut (1211) yielded a piece of Late Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age pottery as well as a quantity of bone and fuel ash slag.

Trenches 9-11 targeted the area to the south-west of the enclosures. No significant archaeological features or deposits were identified in these trenches.

Cultivation furrows, some of which cut earlier features, were identified in Trenches 5, 8, 9 and 12. These furrows correlate well with the anomalies identified as furrows during the geophysical survey. The archaeological and natural deposits at West End Lane were sealed by a thin and patchy mid brownish yellow subsoil which was overlaid by a dark greyish brown silty topsoil.

### 5.2 Artefact analysis, by Jane Evans

The artefactual assemblage recovered is summarised in Tables 1-4.

The assemblage came from 23 stratified contexts. Much of the pottery and lithic material was not closely datable so it is not possible to give precise dates for the periods of occupation. The assemblage dated to the Mesolithic period onwards, with a small assemblage of Mesolithic/Early Neolithic and (probably) later prehistoric worked stone. There was clear evidence for Iron Age activity, with some sherds perhaps dating as early as the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age, some Middle Iron Age sherds, and some more typical of the Late Iron Age. Small quantities of Roman pottery were noted, and some medieval pottery (see Tables 1 and 2).

period	material class	material class sub-type	object specific type	count	weight (g)	average weight (g)
Mesolithic/early Neolithic	stone	flint	worked flint	6	36	6
Later Prehistoric	stone	flint & chert	worked stone	7	67	10
late Bronze Age/ Iron Age	ceramic	earthenware	Pot	7	65	9
Iron Age	ceramic	earthenware	briquetage	1	51	51
Iron Age	ceramic	earthenware	Pot	27	175	6
?Iron Age	ceramic	earthenware	Pot	1	4	4
Middle Iron Age	ceramic	earthenware	Pot	1	35	35
late Iron Age	ceramic	earthenware	Pot	22	133	6
Roman	ceramic	earthenware	Pot	11	122	11
Roman	ceramic	earthenware	Tile	1	81	81
?Roman	ceramic	earthenware	Pot	1	3	3

period	material class	material class sub-type	object specific type	count	weight (g)	average weight (g)
medieval	ceramic	earthenware	Pot	29	286	10
undated	ceramic	fired clay	Fragment	24	113	5
undated	metal	iron	Fragment	3	31	10
undated	metal	slag(Fe)	Fragment	3	81	27
undated	slag	fuel ash slag	fuel ash slag	34	482	14
undated	stone	limestone	Fragment	2	311	156
undated	stone	sandstone?	Fragment	1	126	126

Table 1: Quantification of the assemblage

period	count	weight (g)	average weight (g)
Late Bronze Age/Iron Age	7	65	9
Iron Age	27	175	6
?Iron Age	1	4	4
Middle Iron Age	1	35	35
Late Iron Age	22	133	6
Roman	11	122	11
?Roman	1	3	3
medieval	29	286	10

Table 2: Quantification of the pottery by period

# 5.2.1 Summary artefactual evidence by period

Mesolithic/Early Neolithic and Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age, by Rob Hedge

Thirteen pieces of prehistoric worked stone were recovered (Table 3). A variety of raw material sources were evident: most were of fine to moderate-grained white and blue-grey patinated flint, likely to be of non-local origin. Coarse-grained flint and chert, possibly from local fluvial or glaciofluvial deposits, was also utilised.

All were from the northern part of the site (Trenches 2, 3 and 4), with the majority being from a single deposit (303) within Trench 3. Most comprised pieces of flint debitage: flakes and

chunks which are the by-products of flint tool production. However, some techno-typologically diagnostic pieces were present, including:

- 1) A heat-shattered fragment of a small, multi-platform flake core
- 2) An unusual obliquely truncated microlith in an acute isosceles shape, with abrupt retouch along left lateral margin.
- 3) Bladelet exhibiting platform preparation, truncated at distal end
- 5) Large crested blade with small, diffuse bulb and pronounced longitudinal curve.
- 8) Rejuvenation flake from a small multi-platform flake core of coarse-grained chert.

Of the remainder, another small flake **(4)** from deposit (303) shows signs of careful platform preparation. A flake and two chunks from Trench 4 are not diagnostic, and show signs of post-depositional edge-damage. One piece **(10)** from deposit (303) is likely to have been a retouched flake or scraper but has suffered extensive recent damage consistent with being struck during the machine excavation of the trench.

Although a small assemblage, the presence of small multi-platform core fragments, platform preparation, core rejuvenation efforts (in the form of the crested blade), a microlith, and suggestions of blade production, are suggestive of a Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date for the pieces from Trenches 2 and 3. A later prehistoric date is possible for the three pieces from Trench 4.

Index No.	context	material subtype	object class	flint object type	weight(g)	diameter (mm)	length (mm)	width (mm)	thickness (mm)	start date	end date	period
1	211	flint	production waste	core	8.85		29.6	29.8	8.8	-10000	-3000	Mesolithic/ early Neolithic
2	303	flint	tool	microlith	0.17		14	7.8	1.8	-10000	-6000	Mesolithic
3	303	flint	production waste	bladelet	0.39		16.6	10.7	1.6	-10000	-6000	Mesolithic
4	303	flint	production waste	flake	0.31		12.1	10.8	3.3	-10000	-3000	Mesolithic/ early Neolithic
5	303	flint	production waste	crested blade	19		84.4	24.1	15.2	-10000	-3000	Mesolithic/ early Neolithic
6	303	flint	production waste	flake	13.9		44.7	34.4	12.5	-10000	43	prehistoric
7	303	flint	production waste	chunk	32		44.1	33.9	19.8	-10000	43	prehistoric
8	303	chert	production waste	rejuv flake	6.86		24.6	32	7.9	-10000	-3000	Mesolithic/ early Neolithic
9	303	flint	production waste	chunk	1.47		18.9	10.8	7.5	-10000	43	prehistoric
10	303	flint	unident	chunk	6.97	34.4			8.1	1950	2015	modern
11	401	flint	production waste	flake	8.51		29.5	38.2	7.8	-10000	43	prehistoric
12	411	flint	production waste	chunk	0.88		24.3	8.2	4.8	-10000	43	prehistoric
13	416	flint	production waste	chunk	2.84		27.2	12.1	9.3	-10000	43	prehistoric
				Totals	102.15							

Table 3: Worked Stone

### Late Bronze Age/Iron Age

Fifty-eight sherds of pottery dated broadly to the Iron Age (Table 2). Amongst these, seven sherds were in a fossil shell-tempered ware (Fabric 4.3). This fabric is typical of earlier prehistoric assemblages in the area having been found, for example, in the Late Bronze Age assemblage from Huntsman's Quarry, Kemerton (Woodward and Jackson 2015, 48-9). In the major, but as yet unpublished, assemblage from Beckford this continued to be the main fabric used into the first half of the Middle Iron Age but then appeared to go rapidly out of use (evidence supported by C14 dating). One sherd from the Broadway site (Trench 6, 603) was a rim from a barrel-shaped or globular jar with an in-turned rim, and incised decoration (cf unpublished Beckford form 2.1). This form, occurring in this fabric, is also particularly associated with the earlier Middle Iron Age deposits at Beckford. The other sherds were undiagnostic body fragments, making more precise dating difficult. They could perhaps date to the Late Bronze Age, but given the date of the rest of the assemblage are more likely to date to the earlier Middle Iron Age.

A number of body sherds, mainly in Malvernian ware and Palaeozoic limestone-tempered ware (Fabrics 3 and 4.1 respectively) could only be attributed a general Iron Age date. One rim in the Palaeozoic limestone-tempered fabric, however, can be more securely dated to the Middle Iron Age (Trench 4, 421). This was from a jar with an upright, beaded rim decorated with linear-tooled decoration (unpublished Beckford form 3.62). At Beckford linear-tooled decoration was more common towards the end of the Middle Iron Age.

Twenty-two sherds are thought to date to the Late Iron Age. This dating is not certain, but all sherds were in the Malvernian fabric and had the black firing and high burnish typical of Late Iron Age vessels from Beckford.

### Roman

Twelve sherds of Roman/possible Roman pottery were identified (Table 2), from Trenches 2, 3, 4 and 7 (Table 4). These included oxidised and reduced Severn Valley ware (Fabrics 12 and 12.1); fine, reduced sandy wares (Fabric 14); Black-burnished ware (BB1, Fabric 22); and a handful of, as yet, unidentified fabrics. Most could only be broadly dated to the Roman period. The sherd of BB1 (Trench 4, 405) indicates a *tpq* of at least *c* AD120, the date when this Dorset fabric is thought to have become more widely distributed. The only form sherd, from the same context, was from a medium-mouthed jar in Fabric 14, of a type produced from the late 1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> century.

A fragment of roof tile was recovered from Trench 3 (context 311). The fabric and firing of this were typical of Roman tile, but the presence of a large peg hole was not (Laura Griffin, pers. comm.). This might be Roman, but will require further analysis.

### Medieval

The 29 sherds of medieval pottery all came from Trench 3 (Table 4). These included: cooking pots, in Cotswold unglazed ware (Fabrics 57, 57.1), Worcester-type sandy ware (Fabric 55) and other probably more local sandy wares; and the rim from a jug or pitcher in a sandy glazed ware (possibly Worcester Fabric 64.1 but perhaps a more local fabric). The overall date range was from the 11<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> century, but the emphasis seemed to be on material from the 11<sup>th</sup> (perhaps late 11<sup>th</sup>) to early 13<sup>th</sup> century (Laura Griffin, pers. comm.).

context	material subtype	object specific type	Count	weight(g)	period	start date	end date	tpq
207	earthenware	pot	1	2	Roman	AD 43	410	Roman
	earthenware	pot	1	3	Roman?			

context	material subtype	object specific type	Count	weight(g)	period	start date	end date	tpq
211	flint	core	1	9	Mesolithic/ early Neolithic	-10000	-3000	Iron Age
	earthenware	pot	1	3	Iron Age	Iron Age	Iron Age	
	earthenware	pot	1	10	Iron Age	Iron Age	Iron Age	
300	earthenware	pot	1	9	medieval	12th	13th	12 <sup>th</sup> -13th
303	flint	microlith	1	0.17	Mesolithic	-10000	-6000	Prehistoric
	flint	bladelet	1	0.39	Mesolithic	-10000	-6000	
	flint	flake	1	0.31	Mesolithic/ early Neolithic	-10000	-3000	
	flint	crested blade	1	19	Mesolithic/ early Neolithic	-10000	-3000	
	flint	flake	1	13.9	prehistoric	-10000	43	
	flint	chunk	1	32	prehistoric	-10000	43	
	chert	rejuv flake	1	6.86	Mesolithic/ early Neolithic	-10000	-3000	
	flint	chunk	1	1.47	prehistoric	-10000	43	
	flint	chunk	1	6.97	prehistoric	-10000	43	
305	earthenware	pot	6	50	medieval	late 11th	mid 14th	Late 11 <sup>th</sup> -
	earthenware	pot	11	60	medieval	11th	early 13th	Mid 14th
	earthenware	pot	2	66	medieval	late 11th	early 13th	
309	earthenware	pot	1	7	medieval	11th	early 13th	11 <sup>th</sup> -early 13th
310	earthenware	pot	4	48	medieval			11 <sup>th</sup> -early
	earthenware	pot	2	15	medieval	11th	early 13th	13th
311	earthenware	tile	1	81	Roman			Roman
312	earthenware	pot	1	7	medieval	11th	early 13th	11 <sup>th</sup> -14th
	earthenware	pot	1	24	medieval	11th	14th	
401	flint	flake	1	8.51	prehistoric	-10000	43	prehistoric
405	earthenware	pot	2	24	Roman	AD 43	410	Roman

context	material subtype	object specific type	Count	weight(g)	period	start date	end date	tpq
	earthenware	pot	1	12	Roman	C1st late	2nd	
	earthenware	pot	1	3	Roman	120+	410	
	earthenware	pot	1	37	Roman	AD 43	410	
411	flint	chunk	1	0.88	prehistoric	-10000	43	Late Iron
	earthenware	pot	1	3	late Iron Age	late Iron Age	late Iron Age	Age
	limestone	fragt	2	311	undated			
416	flint	chunk	1	2.84	prehistoric	-10000	43	Roman
	earthenware	pot	2	36	Roman	AD 43	410	
	earthenware	pot	1	2	Roman	AD 43	410	
	earthenware	pot	4	46	late Bronze Age/ Iron Age	late Bronze Age	early- Middle Iron Age	
	earthenware	pot	4	34	Iron Age	Iron Age	Iron Age	
	earthenware	pot	2	10	late Iron Age	late Iron Age	late Iron Age	
	earthenware	pot	1	9	Iron Age	Iron Age	Iron Age	
	fired clay	frag	1	1	undated			
	fired clay	frag	5	15	undated			
	slag(Fe)	frag	3	81	undated			
	fired clay	frag	1	27	undated			
417	earthenware	pot	1	4	Iron Age?	late Bronze Age	early- Middle Iron Age	Iron Age
	earthenware	pot	5	46	Iron Age	Iron Age	Iron Age	
	fired clay	frag	1	2	undated			
	fired clay	frag	3	14	undated			
	sandstone?	frag	1	126	undated			
418	earthenware	pot	2	14	Iron Age	Iron Age	Iron Age	Iron Age
	fired clay	frag	1	2	undated			
	earthenware	briquetage	1	51	Iron Age	early Iron Age	late Iron Age	

context	material subtype	object specific type	Count	weight(g)	period	start date	end date	tpq
	fired clay	frag	1	15	undated			
419	earthenware	pot	1	8	late Bronze Age/Iron Age	late Bronze Age	Iron Age	
	earthenware	pot	1	5	late Bronze Age/Iron Age	late Bronze Age	early- Middle Iron Age	
421	fired clay	frag	6	18	undated			Roman
	earthenware	pot	1	2	Roman	AD 43	410	
	earthenware	pot	3	44	late Iron Age	late Iron Age	Late Iron Age	
	earthenware	pot	1	35	middle Iron Age	Middle Iron Age	Late Middle Iron Age	
423	earthenware	pot	9	19	Iron Age	Iron Age	Iron Age	Iron Age
426	earthenware	pot	16	76	late Iron Age	late Iron Age	late Iron Age	Late Iron Age
603	earthenware	pot	1	7	Iron Age	early Middle Iron Age		Iron Age
	earthenware	pot	1	9	Iron Age	Iron Age	Iron Age	
	earthenware	pot	2	24	Iron Age	Iron Age	Iron Age	
	fired clay	frag	1	14	undated			
	iron	frag	3	31	undated			
703	earthenware	pot	1	4	Roman	AD 43	410	Roman
1211	fired clay	frag	2	3	undated			
	earthenware	pot	1	6	late Bronze Age/Iron Age	late Bronze Age	early- Middle Iron Age	Late Bronze Age-early/ middle Iron Age
	fuel ash slag	fuel ash slag	18	394	undated			
	fuel ash slag	fuel ash slag	16	88	undated			
1213	fired clay	frag	2	2	undated			undated

Table 4: Summary of context dating based on artefacts

### 5.3 Environmental analysis

### 5.3.1 Animal bone, by James Spry

In total, 207 individual bones fragments were collected, weighing a total of 728 grams (Table 5).

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Feature Type	Period	Phase
207	7	36.1	Ditch	Roman	2
211	4	10.1	Pit	Iron Age	2
305	9	156.1	Ditch	Medieval	3
309	2	11.3	???	Medieval	3
310	1	21	Palaeochannel	Medieval	3
312	1	20	Palaeochannel	Medieval	3
405	4	62.6	Ditch	Roman	2
416	18	106.3	Ditch	LBA - RB	1,2
417	16	44.7	Ditch	Iron Age	2
418	9	72.9	Ditch	Iron Age	2
421	1	2.2	Ditch	Roman	2
423	4	20.8	Ditch	Iron Age	2
603	1	8.1	Ditch	Iron Age	2
1211	114	125.1	Ditch	LBA/IA	1,2
1213	16	30.7	Ditch	Undated	N/A

Table 5. Hand collected bone.

From the assemblage, 42 fragments (20%) were identifiable to taxon, with the other 80% recorded as either *unidentified medium mammal*, *unidentified large mammal*, or *unidentified mammal*. The *unidentified medium mammal* specimens are most likely pig or sheep/goat, and the *unidentified large mammal* most likely cattle or horse. All of the fragments identified to taxon were recorded as domestic species, with no wild fauna present.

Sheep/goat have by far the highest NISP count, followed by cattle, pig and then horse (Table 6). This higher percentage of sheep/goat bones – half of which are from Iron Age contexts – is in contrast to the nearby assemblage recovered at Milestone Ground which consisted of a similar number (230) of animal bone fragments from Iron Age, Romano British and medieval contexts. Here the assemblage was dominated by cattle/horse sized bones with only occasional fragments of sheep/goat bones and teeth (Pearson 2014: 13).

The size of the assemblage does not warrant breaking down the NISP into context of period, and thus reliable conclusions cannot be drawn from these results.

Taxon	NISP	Total %	Ident. to taxon %
Cattle	8	3.9	20.5
Horse	2	1.0	5.1
Pig	4	2.0	10.3
Sheep/goat	25	12.3	64.1
Unidentified mammal	40	19.6	
Unid. Medium mammal	111	54.4	
Unid. Large mammal	14	6.9	

Table 6. NISP for the entire assemblage

One hundred and forty five (70%) of the fragments were identified to element (Table 7), although this high number is distorted by the large number of skull fragments (97) from an unidentified medium-sized mammal (in context 1211), which are probably from one individual animal; most likely sheep/goat. Therefore this percentage should not be used as an indicator as to the preservation level of the assemblage.

Element	Count	Total %	Ident. to element %
Calcaneum	1	0.5	0.7
Femur	2	1.1	1.4
First phalanx	1	0.5	0.7
Humerus	3	1.6	2.1
Long bone shaft	17	8.9	11.7
Mandible	3	1.6	2.1
Metatarsal	3	1.6	2.1
Pelvis	2	1.1	1.4
Radius	2	1.1	1.4
Rib	3	1.6	2.1
Skull	99	52.1	68.3
Tibia	7	3.7	4.8
Zygomaticus	2	1.1	1.4
Unid. Fragment	45	23.7	

Table 7. Element count for the entire assemblage.

The average preservation score for the assemblage was 3 (Fair). Considering the expected levels of bone preservation within the county, this is a reasonable score, though it is evident that the natural preservation characteristics of the soils would have had an effect on the makeup of the assemblage.

Butchery marks were recorded on only five of the specimens (3%), suggesting that butchery practices have not greatly influenced the preservation of the assemblage. The only bone of particular interest is a horse tibia (dated to Roman by context) with cut marks on the medial malleolus. The consumption of horse meat throughout the Roman Britain and the rest of the Roman Empire is rare (Johnstone 2004: 81) and where it has been identified it usually indicates economic stress. However, such butchery marks – in particular on the extremity of a tibia – are more likely the result of the removal of meat to feed dogs (Luff 1982) or the skinning or division of the carcass prior to disposal (Johnstone 2004; 81).

Gnawing marks – carnivore in this instance – were only recorded on a single specimen (0.5%). This low percentage indicates that not only has animal gnawing not had a significant effect on the preservation of the assemblage, but also that the specimens were deposited and covered up rapidly within their individual contexts, and thus not left exposed to scavengers. This helps indicate deliberate backfilling of individual contexts rather than siltation events over time.

Only a single specimen (0.5%) showed evidence of burning. None of the bones exhibited pathologies. Only 10 (5%) of the bones were ageable.

### 5.3.2 Plant and other macrofossil remains, by Elizabeth Pearson

A total of 6 samples (each of up to 40 litres) were taken from the site (Table 8).

Context	Sample	Feature type	Period	Sample volume (L)	Volume processed (L)	Res assessed	Flot assessed
312	1	Palaeochannel	?Medieval	40	1	Yes	Yes
312	2	Palaeochannel	?Medieval	1	0	No	No
312	3	Palaeochannel	?Medieval	1	0	No	No
312	4	Palaeochannel	?Medieval	1	0	No	No
316	5	Palaeochannel	?early	1	1	Yes	Yes
			prehistoric				
608	6	Grave	undated	1	1	Yes	Yes

Table 8. List of environmental samples

A summary of the environmental remains is presented in Table 9.

context	mollusc	charcoal	charred plant	waterlogged plant	comment
312		abt	abt	abt*	*mostly unidentified root fragments
316	осс	осс			
608		осс		abt*	unidentified root fragments

Table 9. Summary of environmental remains

Environmental remains from the palaeochannel (312) (Sample 1) were dominated by charred cereal grain and charcoal (Table 10). The cereal grain, which was abundant, consisted of mostly free-threshing wheat (*Triticum* sp free threshing) with occasional hulled barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) which is consistent with the archaeology dating to the medieval period in the vicinity. These remains may derive from accidental charring of cereal grain in a corn dryer during processing. The charcoal fragments were small and unidentifiable. Occasional waterlogged seeds of elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*) and hedge woundwort (*Stachys sylvatica*) were also noted in the flot, but these remains provide only limited information on the surrounding landscape, the fluvial environment, or human activity on the site.

context	sample	preserv type	category remains	quantity/diversity	comment
312	1	ch	grain	+++/low	Mainly free-threshing wheat grain with some chaff. Charred remains very well preserved.
312	1	ch	chaff	+/low	Hordeum rachis
312	1	ch	seed	+/low	Sheep's sorrel, scentless mayweed
312	1	wa	seed	+/low	elderberry and hedge woundwort

context	sample	preserv type	category remains	quantity/diversity	comment
316	5	ch	misc	+/low	unidentified small charcoal fragments
608	6	?wa	misc	+++/low	unidentified herbaceous root fragments, probably intrusive

Table 10. Plant remains from palaeochannel (312)

The grave fill (608) (sample 6) contained a moderate quantity of bone fragments assumed to be human but are small unidentifiable fragments, and in context (316) only fragments of mollusc shell were identified.

Only small fragments of unidentified mollusc shell were recorded in context (316).

### 5.3.3 Pollen assessment, by Suzi Richer

Samples 3 and 4 were grab samples from context 312 within Palaeochannel 314. Sample 2 was from the basal palaeochannel deposits reached in Augerhole 2; this is thought to be the same context (312) as the other samples. The results of the pollen analysis are summarised in Table 11.

Sample	Depth (AOD m)	Context	Sediment	Pollen present	Pollen abundance	Pollen preservation	Observed taxa
2	77.78m	312	Dark grey clay	Y	Medium	Good	Microcharcoal, Plantago lanceolata- type, Cerealia-type, Cichorium intybus- type, Poaceae, Chenopodiaceae, Roseaceae, Salix, Ulmus, Apiaceae,
4	78.17m	312	Mid-grey silty clay with some sand inclusions	Y	Extremely low	Good	Microcharcoal, Poaceae, Brassiceae
3	78.51m	312	Mid-grey silty clay with charcoal flecks	Y	Extremely low	Good	Microcharcoal, Plantago lanceolata- type, Salix, Cirsium- type

Table 11. Summary of the pollen assemblages, taxa in **bold** are dominant in the sample Preservation and abundance

Pollen was preserved in all three samples, with the highest levels of preservation coming from Sample 2 (from the base of the augerhole).

The abundance of pollen was low-medium throughout the sequence. This is partly due to the extremely high concentrations of microcharcoal, which have effectively 'diluted' the pollen signal. Achieving full assessment or full analysis counts of 150, or 300, grains would be possible with Sample 2, but would prove difficult for Samples 3 and 4.

### Vegetation information

Due to the fact that the samples were only scanned to assess for preservation and concentration, only tentative observations about the vegetational history of the site can be made. The alluvial nature of the deposit could suggest that the pollen is regional in origin; however, the generally good condition of the pollen in combination of the fine-grained nature of the clay, indicative of slow-moving water, suggests that the pollen has not travelled very far and is likely to be local in origin.

The taxa and high concentrations of microcharcoal contained in the samples are indicative of an open and anthropogenic environment. Pollen from *Plantago lanceolata*-type was present Samples 2 and 3; and Chenopodiaceae was present in Sample 2, both are indicative of disturbed ground. The presence of *Cerealia*-type in Sample 2 suggests that crops were also being grown close by.

The remaining pollen is indicative of a damp environment (willow) with open/disturbed ground close-by indicated by the presence of pollen from grasses (Poaceae), thistles (*Cirsium*-type) and dandelion (*Cichorium intybus*-type) and carrot family (Apiaceae).

### 5.3.4 Human bone

The *in situ* skeleton (607) excavated in Trench 6 comprised of tibia, fibula and a small number of foot bones (Figure 5; Plate 2). The individual was probably adult and had been buried with their legs extended. Disarticulated remains were found in the subsoil in the vicinity and they had almost certainly come from the same skeleton. These included cranium fragments, the lower part of a right humerus, and rib and long bone fragments. Although many of the bone fragments had both recent and historic breaks, the preservation of the bone was good.

# 6 Synthesis

### 6.1 Phase 1: Earlier prehistoric deposits

The evaluation identified one layer which contained a small number of Mesolithic and Early Neolithic flints. Although the deposit many have been alluvial in origin the presence of these finds indicates that early prehistoric activity was occurring in the vicinity of the site.

### 6.2 Phase 2: Iron Age and Roman enclosures

The evaluation has established that the series of rectilinear enclosures at West End Lane date to the Iron Age, with some evidence of continuity into the Roman period. Although some postholes were excavated during the evaluation no datable evidence of structural remains associated with the enclosures was identified. The works indicate that activity is most heavily concentrated towards the north-western and central part of the site. It is possible that settlement was focused here, with the remaining enclosures to the south-east forming a series of stock and field enclosures. There is also some limited evidence of Iron Age and Roman activity at Abbots Grange.

### 6.3 Phase 3: Medieval activity

Medieval activity identified during the evaluation was focused in Trench 3, where a possible palaeochannel and other features were identified. Interestingly the finds from these deposits date to the 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> centuries which appears to pre-date the establishment of Abbots Grange and possibly the planned town at Broadway. It is possible that the finds come from a site cleared to make way for the town or Abbots Grange itself, or that Abbots Grange has an earlier origin than previously recorded. It is also possible, however, that Lower Mill may date to this period and that the finds relate to realigning the course of Bunches Brook.

### 6.4 Phase 4: Medieval to modern

Cultivation furrows were identified at both Abbots Grange and West End Lane, indicating both areas were in use as arable fields during the later medieval and post-medieval periods.

### 6.4.1 Artefactual evidence, by Jane Evans and Rob Hedge

The lithic assemblage is consistent with a pattern of Mesolithic and Early Neolithic activity in the near vicinity, including a Mesolithic flint scatter recovered to the north of Bunches Brook, during systematic fieldwalking 600m to the NNW of trench 3 (Mora-Ottomano 2006: WSM34400), and a Mesolithic/Early Neolithic assemblage from a watching brief to the rear of Sands Meadow (Topping et al 1997: WSM24810), 450m to the north-east.

Later prehistoric lithic material is also well-represented nearby: artefacts interpreted as later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age have also been identified from the Gordon Russell factory site (Miller et al 2000: WSM30074), also 450m to the north-east. To the north and north-east of the settlement, archaeological works associated with the Broadway Bypass (Jackson 1992, Woodiwiss and Ratkai 1997) also yielded worked flint at a number of locations (including WSM12454, WSM12455 and WSM29555).

This assemblage, therefore, appears to be another instance of increasingly well-documented Mesolithic/Early Neolithic activity in the vicinity of Bunches Brook, in addition to a background scatter of later prehistoric material reflecting settlement activity in the wider area. The latter finds provided evidence for mainly Iron Age activity, associated with ditches and other linear features, with the available dating evidence suggesting that this began in the first half of the Middle Iron Age but continued into the Late Iron Age.

The Roman finds came from the upper fills of linear features and other more ephemeral features. This may reflect manuring in the vicinity, rather than more significant occupation. It is difficult to suggest a reliable date range for such a small assemblage; the existing evidence, however, indicates that activity may have begun in the 2nd century AD.

The medieval finds date primarily to the 11th century, probably late 11th, to early 13th century, which is potentially significant as it appears to pre-date the foundation of the Abbots Grange and planned town.

### 6.5 Environmental remains, by Elizabeth Pearson

The abundance of charred free-threshing wheat grain and the evidence from the pollen remains for an open and anthropogenic environment, with a significant degree of disturbed ground, is consistent with a medieval date for the palaeochannel. Cerealia type pollen suggests that the wheat was grown nearby and the landscape in the vicinity may have been largely arable.

There is potential, therefore, for the palaeochannel (and other samples) to provide information on the farming economy.

A small assemblage of hand-collected animal bone was recovered which was dominated by sheep/goat, with a small proportion of ageable bones (around 5%). Animal bone preservation is relatively good in this area, and full excavation is likely to produce an assemblage with potential for full analysis

### 6.6 Research frameworks, by Jane Evans, Rob Hedge and Andrew Walsh

The site has the potential to address some key questions and objectives identified as part of the West Midlands Regional Research Framework (Watt 2011).

The Research Framework identifies the Mesolithic as "perhaps the least understood" of earlier prehistoric periods in the West Midlands, noting that "the character and scale of Mesolithic activity... remains under-investigated in all aspects" (Garwood in Watt, 2011 31). The possibility of further Mesolithic material from this site is significant, especially in the light of other Mesolithic and Early Neolithic assemblages in the near vicinity, and further work may have the potential to refine the chronology of the activity.

Notwithstanding the fact that later periods would be a key focus of further investigations, the Research Framework notes that 'it is important that strategies are put in place for recognising

and/or prospecting for Mesolithic material during excavations of later sites' (Garwood in Watt 2011, 30).

The main resource identified at the site is the Iron Age and Roman enclosures, features which appear to be focussed on an agrarian economy. It will be important to establish the basis of the agriculture activity at the site (arable or pastoral, or a combination). The enclosures are Iron Age in date but there is evidence that some of the features continued in use through into the Roman period. Various sections of the Research Framework (eg 106, 117, 137-139) draw attention to the gaps in our understanding of agricultural landscapes and field systems during these periods due to there not being much evidence of their date, status, agricultural regime or social structure. Peter Guest (nd), in a seminar held in preparation for the Research Framework publication, suggested that knowledge of the interaction and transition of the Iron Age and early Romano-British period in the West Midlands is 'murky'. This site has the potential to address some of these issues. Questions remaining to be answered, with particular reference to the transition from the Iron Age to Roman-Britain, include the following.

- What impact did the introduction of Roman customs and practices have on different people in the region?
- Did communities actively accept or resist Roman material culture?
- Was the change from Iron Age to Roman gradual or sudden?
- Were these archaeologically visible changes economically or socially driven?
- How localised were responses to the Roman occupation?

The site also has the potential to contribute to our understanding of the rural economy in medieval Worcestershire. The Research Framework highlights water mills as a feature of economic development during the early medieval period (Watt 2011, 164). Bunches Brook has clearly been straightened through the site as part of the management of the water course for the mill. The identification of the palaeochannel combined with 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> century pottery and environmental remains has the potential to enhance our understanding of the origin and development of the water mill, and the environment of the surrounding landscape. Due to the date of the pottery assemblage the site may also help to refine our understanding of the development and chronology of Abbots Grange and the town of Broadway.

# 7 Significance

### 7.1 Nature of the archaeological interest in the site

The site comprises the remains of ditches, pits, a palaeochannel and potential structural features surviving beneath the plough soil.

The features at Abbots Grange include a small number of features in Trench 2, possibly of Late Iron Age and/or Roman date, and well preserved and organic rich deposits associated with a palaeochannel in Trench 3. Most of these deposits dated to the medieval period. There is also evidence for earlier activity in the form of Mesolithic and Early Neolithic lithics, although these were found in an alluvial layer indicating they may have been redeposited. Preservation of the features at Abbots Grange appears to be relatively good.

The excavated features at the West End Lane site form part a series of sub-rectangular enclosures. Features identified and excavated on the site include ditches, gullies, pits, postholes and one inhumation. Preservation of the site is good and elements revealed in the evaluation align well with the recorded cropmarks and geophysical anomalies implying that the remainder of the settlement survives equally well. The site forms one part of a series of cropmark sites and features which extended to the west and north-west of Broadway.

The Iron Age and Roman artefacts recovered are typical of a lower order rural settlement and have the potential to reveal significant data about trade links during this period as well as further define

the dating of the settlement activity, as has been particularly identified as a research question (see above).

The evaluation showed some potential for recovery of animal bone, charred plant remains and pollen, and hinting at the economy of the site and the nature of the surrounding environment. Further work at the site has the potential to recover assemblages of sufficient size for interpretation of the economy and land-use at the site.

### 7.2 Relative importance of the archaeological interest in the site

The Mesolithic and Early Neolithic flints appear to be another instance of increasingly documented Mesolithic/Early Neolithic activity in the vicinity of Bunches Brook. However activity dating to these periods is still not well understood in the region and the site has the potential to contribute to research themes relating to these periods.

The evidence for Iron Age and Roman settlement is relatively common in the area. However the good preservation at the site, its long chronology, and its potential to contribute to a number of research themes, does add to its significance. This is further enhanced by the potential to compare the site with other investigated examples in the immediate area. The site has considerable potential to broaden knowledge of rural life in the Roman and Iron Age in this area, to yield information about the Iron Age and Roman transition and to provide information about agricultural practice and trade links.

The medieval activity on the site is potentially significant as it appears to pre-date the establishment of Abbots Grange and the planned settlement at Broadway.

### 7.3 Physical extent of the archaeological interest in the site

The evaluation has identified that archaeological features are present at Abbots Grange and these broadly correlate with cropmark evidence and anomalies indicated by the geophysical survey. The exact alignment of the palaeochannel is not clearly represented as a geophysical anomaly. It is likely that palaeochannel and/or alluvial deposits are represented by an area of amorphous magnetic variation recorded to the east of Bunches Brook.

At West End Lane the features survive as the cropmarks and geophysical anomalies have indicated. The trenches in the south-western part of the West End Lane field have demonstrated that archaeological features are less dense in this area, giving a potential edge to the prehistoric and Roman settlement activity. However it should be noted that discrete features may also survive in this area. An inhumation was identified south-west of the series of enclosures and it is possible that other burials survive in this area.

### 8 Recommendations

Where the preservation of significant deposits is considered the following aspects may be addressed:

- Where possible design groundwork impacts to minimise damage.
- Protection from accidental damage during construction through fencing and effective communication with workforce.

Where the excavation of deposits is considered as mitigation for their removal the following research objectives may be addressed:

Earlier prehistoric

- Are the prehistoric flints in-situ or washed in?
- What is the environmental setting during the early prehistoric period?
- How does the earlier prehistoric activity fit with other evidence from the region?

### Later prehistoric and Romano-British

- What is the chronology and sequence of the rectilinear enclosures?
- What is the economic and environmental setting of the features? Is there evidence for change during this time?
- Is it possible to establish the age and date of the inhumation identified in the evaluation, and is there evidence for other mortuary practice on the site?
- How does the later prehistoric and Roman activity fit with other evidence from the region?

### Medieval

- Is there evidence for early medieval activity on the site?
- How was Bunches Brook managed during the medieval period?
- How does the 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> century pottery in the palaeochannel relate to the known medieval sites in the area, including the mill and Abbots Grange? What is the relationship between the mill (and its associated features) and Abbots Grange?
- What was the environmental setting during this period and is there evidence for change?
- How does the medieval activity fit with other evidence from the region?

### Artefacts

- The recovery of larger assemblages of finds during any future fieldwork would improve the
  reliability of dating for the site. Any further work should, where possible, use a sampling
  methodology that prioritises the recovery of larger assemblages, particularly of Iron Age
  pottery, to enhance the dating of the site sequence.
- Burnt residues were noted on the internal surfaces of some Iron Age sherds. The possibility
  of C14 dating of burnt residues should be considered in the project design for any further
  work, as this would provide further, independent dating.
- Further work should incorporate a sampling strategy designed to maximise the chances of recovery of earlier prehistoric lithic artefacts, especially in the vicinity of the evaluation trenches from which they have been identified.

The proposed development site can be divided into four broad areas of risks and opportunities (Figure 7).

### Area 1: Abbots Grange (Trenches 1 and 2)

The archaeological features in this area are typically sterile, undated or contain small quantities of finds. The features are visible on the geophysical survey but not clearly represented. This area is of moderate archaeological potential and would be suitable for strip, map and record excavation or watching brief undertaken by professional archaeologists.

### Area 2: Palaeochannel (Trench 3) and Bunches Brook

The archaeological features and deposits in this area date to both the early prehistoric and medieval periods and yielded moderate quantities of artefactual and environmental remains. They are represented on the geophysical survey as an amorphous area of magnetic variation. There is also high potential for waterlogged remains to survive in the palaeochannel and structural remains to survive along Bunches Brook. This area is of high archaeological potential and features in this area are complex, deep and likely to be wet and will require excavation by professional archaeologists.

### Area 3: Iron Age and Roman enclosures (Trenches 4 to 8 and 12)

The archaeological features in this area date to the Iron Age and Roman periods and yielded moderate quantities of artefactual and environmental remains. The enclosures features are clearly represented as a series of enclosures on the geophysical survey, although smaller discrete features are also likely to present. It should also be noted that additional inhumations are likely. This area is of high archaeological potential and would provide the most appropriate location for a community excavation supervised by professional archaeologists should it be determined that this would be appropriate. This would need to be carried out well in advance of the main works.

Area 4: South-west of the enclosures (Trenches 9 to 11)

No archaeological features have been identified in this area except for cultivation furrows. This area is of low archaeological potential and would be suitable for a watching brief undertaken by professional archaeologists. This is to ensure that any discrete or outlying features relating to the Iron Age and Roman enclosures can be rapidly identified and recorded.

# 9 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.

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Land off West End Lane, Broadway, Worcestershire (NGR SP 0892 3784). It was commissioned by the Environment Agency in advance of a proposed flood alleviation scheme for which a planning application will be submitted.

Twelve evaluation trenches were excavated to test a number of potential archaeological features which had been identified by cropmark evidence and through a geophysical survey of the site, as well as the archaeological potential of other areas of the site. The evaluation demonstrated the good survival of the features represented by the cropmarks and geophysical survey, which survive largely as negative features cut into the natural substrate generally at a shallow depth.

The most complex archaeology was identified in the central part of the site where a series of enclosures and other features survive. Most of the features relating to the enclosures were dated the Iron Age although some Roman material was also found, suggesting that the settlement may have been founded during the Iron Age but continued after the Roman invasion.

To the north-east of the enclosures a layer, possibly alluvial in origin, was identified containing a small number of Mesolithic and Early Neolithic flints. This layer was cut by a palaeochannel and other features which contained pottery dating to the 11th to 13th centuries AD. This medieval material is of interest as it appears to predate the establishment of Abbots Grange and the planned settlement at Broadway.

# 10 Acknowledgements

Worcestershire Archaeology would like to thank the following for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project, Ed Wilson of the Environment Agency for commissioning the project and for his help and support throughout, the owners of Abbots Grange, Richard and Topsy Taee, for providing access, Alisha Lewis (EA), Errol Mews (Taylor and Fletcher) and Paul Silcock (Cumulus Consultants) for their assistance in arranging access, and Adrian Scruby (Worcestershire County Council) for monitoring the project.

# 11 Bibliography

AEA 1995 Environmental archaeology and archaeological evaluations. Recommendations concerning the environmental component of archaeological evaluations in England, Working Papers of the Association for Environmental Archaeology 2

Barber, KE 1976 History of vegetation, in S Chapman (ed), *Methods in plant ecology*, 49–52. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications

Bennett, KD 1994 Annotated catalogue of pollen and pteridophyte spore types of the British Isles, unpublished report, Department of Plant Sciences, University of Cambridge

Beug, H-J 2004 Leitfaden der Pollenbestimung Munich: Verlag Dr. Friedrich Pfeil

BGS 2015 Geology of Britain Viewer, <a href="http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html">http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html</a>, British Geological Survey, accessed 18 August 2015

Bho 2015 'Parishes: Broadway', in A History of the County of Worcester: Volume 4, W Page and JW Willis-Bund (eds, 1924), 33-43, <a href="http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/worcs/vol4/pp33-43">http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/worcs/vol4/pp33-43</a>, accessed 18 August 2015

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

ClfA 2014 Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

EA 2015 Badsey Brook (Broadway) Flood Alleviation Scheme: Environmental Statement, Volume 1: Main Text, February 2015, Environment Agency

EH 2010 Environmental archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation, English Heritage

Garwood, P 2011 The earlier prehistory of the West Midlands, in S Watt (ed)

Grant, A 1982 The use of tooth wear as a guide to the ageing of domestic ungulates, in B. Wilson, C Grigson, and S Payne *Ageing and Sexing Animal Bones from Archaeological Sites,* B.A.R. British Series **109**, 91–108, Oxford: British Archaeological Reports

Grant-Smith, E 2000 Sampling and identifying allergenic pollens and molds: an illustrated identification manual for air samplers, San Antonio, Texas

Greenfield, HJ 2005 Sexing fragmentary ungulate acetabulae, in D. Ruscillo Recent Advances in Ageing and Sexing Animal Bones (Proceedings of the 9th ICAZ Conference, Durham 2002), 68–86, Oxford: Oxbow Press

Guest, P nd *The Iron Age-Roman interface*, <a href="http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/Documents/college-artslaw/caha/wmrrfa/3/PeterGuest.doc">http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/Documents/college-artslaw/caha/wmrrfa/3/PeterGuest.doc</a>, accessed 19 August 2015

Harland, JF, Barrett, JH, Carrott, J, Dodney, K and Jaques, D 2003 *The York System: an Integrated Zooarchaeological Database for Research and Teaching*, <a href="http://intarch.ac.uk/journal/issue13/harland">http://intarch.ac.uk/journal/issue13/harland</a> index.html, accessed 6 September 2015

Hillson, S 2005 Teeth Cambridge, Cambridge University Press

Hurst, JD and Rees, H 1992 Pottery fabrics; a multi-period series for the County of Hereford and Worcester, in S Woodiwiss (ed), *Iron Age and Roman salt production and the medieval town of Droitwich*, CBA Res Rep, **81**, 200-9

Jackson, R 1992 Assessment on the proposed route of Broadway Bypass, unpublished report Johnstone, CL 2004 A Biometric Study of Equids in the Roman World. PhD Thesis. University of York, Department of Archaeology,

https://www.york.ac.uk/media/archaeology/documents/researchdegrees/phdthesis/CJohnstonePhD vol1.pdf, accessed 6 September 2015

Kirk, PM, Cannon, PF, Minter DW, and Stalpers JA 2008 Dictionary of the fungi (10th edition). Wallingford

Lauwerier, RCGM 1988 Animals in Roman Times in the Dutch Eastern River Area, Amersfoort: ROB

Luff, RM 1982 A zooarchaeological study of the Roman North-western Provinces, Oxford: British Archaeological Reports International Series **137** 

Miller, D, Hurst, JD, and Jones, L 2000 Archaeological evaluation at the Gordon Russell Factory Site, Broadway, Worcestershire, unpublished report

Moore, PD, Webb, JA, and Collinson, ME 1991 *Pollen analysis* (2nd edition). Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications

Mora-Ottomano, A 2006 Lithic Analysis from Broadway, Worcestershire. unpublished report

O'Connor, T 2000 The Archaeology of Animal Bones, Stroud: Sutton

Payne, S 1973 Kill-off patterns in sheep and goats: the mandibles from Asvan Kale, *Anatolian Studies* **23**, 281-303

Payne, S 1987 Reference codes for ware stages in the mandibular cheek teeth of sheep and goats, *Journal of Archaeological Science* **14**, 609-614

Pearson, E 2014 Animal Bone, In Connolly, E., Walsh and Woodiwiss, S, *An Archaeological Evaluation of Milestone Ground, Broadway, Worcestershire*, Worcestershire Archaeology report. **2127** 

Schmid, E 1972 Atlas of animal bones for prehistorians, archaeologists and Quaternary geologists, Amsterdam, London & New York: Elsevier

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

Serjeantson, D 2009 Birds, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

Sisson, S. 1930 *The Anatomy of the Domestic Animals*, Philadelphia: WB Saunders Company

Sykes, N 2007 *The Norman Conquest: a Zooarchaeological Perspective*, BAR British Series **1656**, Oxford: Archaeopress

Topping, J, Hurst, JD and Jackson, R 1997 Watching brief at land to the rear of Sands Meadow, Broadway. unpublished report

Watt, S (ed) 2011 The archaeology of the west midlands, a framework for research, Oxbow

Woodward, A and Jackson, R, 2015 Prehistoric pottery, in R Jackson, *Huntsman's Quarry, Kemerton, a late Bronze Age settlement and landscape in Worcestershire*, 66-99

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

WA 2015 Project Proposal: Archaeological evaluation (trial trenching) of land off West End Lane, Broadway, Worcestershire, Worcestershire Archaeology, Worcestershire County Council, unpublished document dated 12 February 2015, **P4523** 

WCC 2010 Standards and guidelines for archaeological projects in Worcestershire, Planning Advisory Section, Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service, Worcestershire County Council unpublished report **604**, amended July 2012

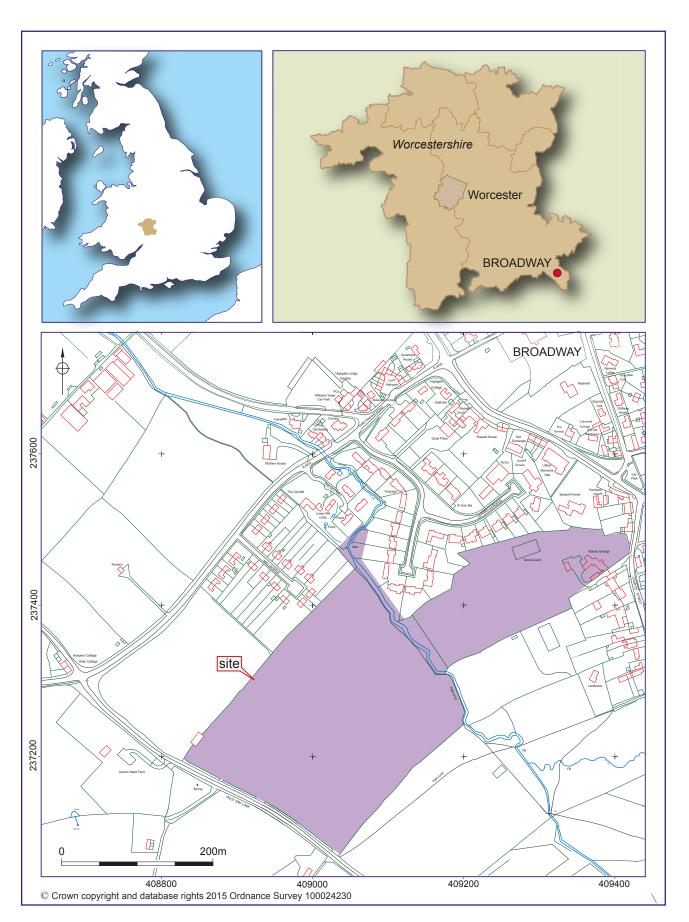
WCC 2014 Requirements for an archaeological evaluation at Land off West End Lane, Broadway, Worcestershire: Pre Application – WAAS consultation ref CWR10296, Information and Advisory Section, Archive and Archaeology Service, Worcestershire County Council unpublished document dated 9 March 2014

Woodiwiss, S and Ratkai, S 1997 Evaluation at Hill Farm, Broadway, unpublished report

Land off West End Lane, Broadway, Worcestershire					

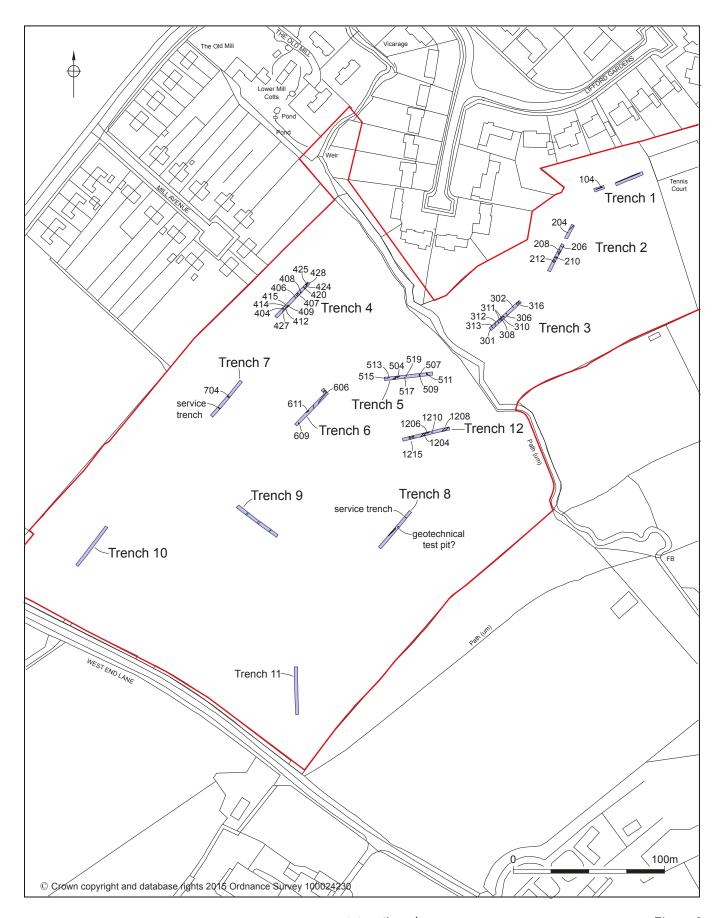
Figures		

Land off West End Lane, Broadway, Worcestershire



Location of the site

Figure 1



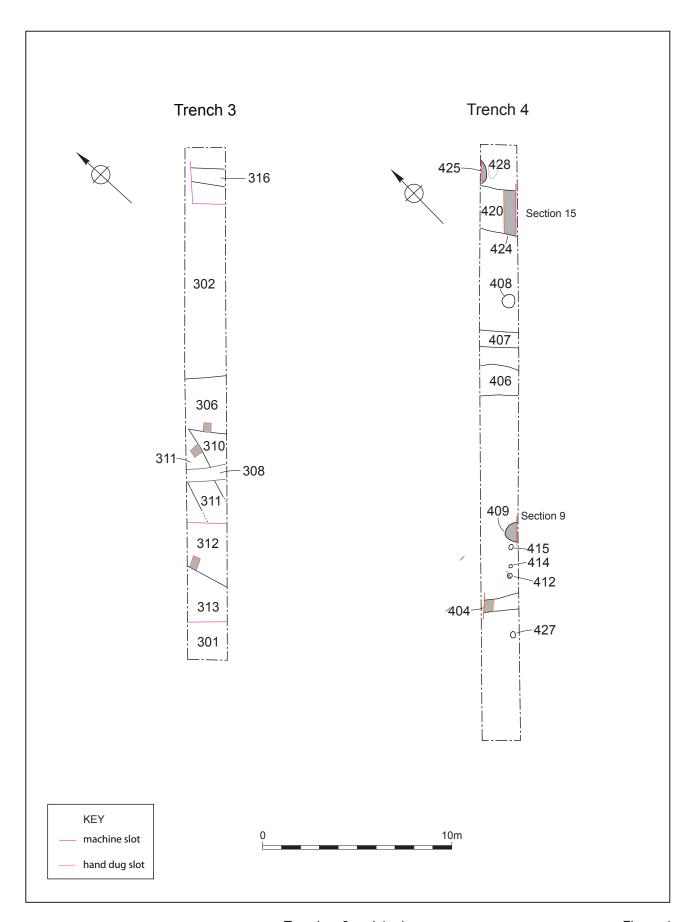
Trench location plan

Figure 2

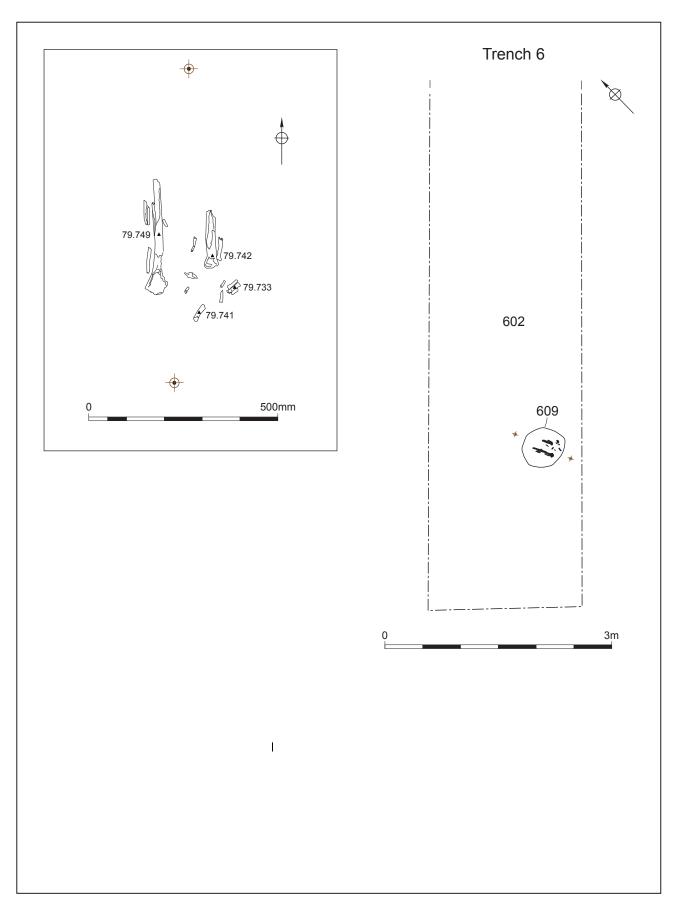


Trenches overlain by geophysical survey

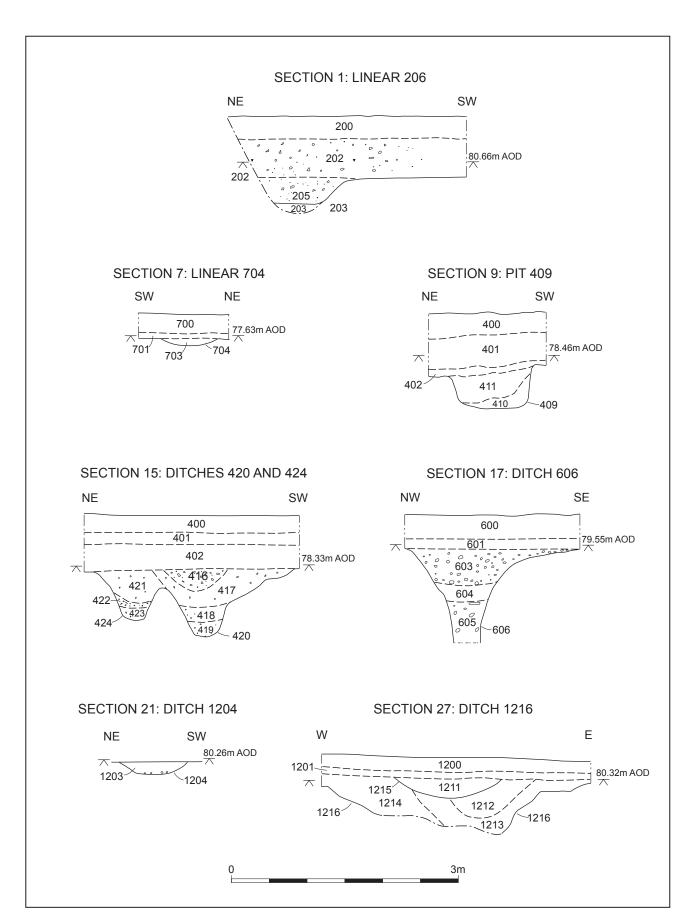
Figure 3



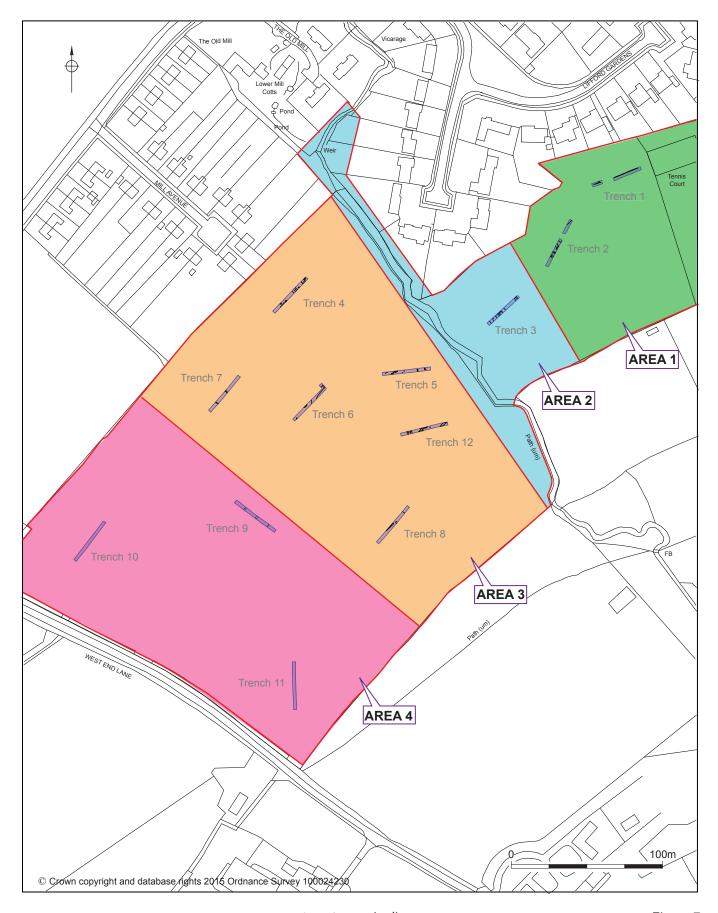
Trenches 3 and 4: plans



Trench 6 plan and detail of skeleton



Sections Figure 6



Risk and opportunity areas

Figure 7

### **Plates**



Plate 1. Ditches 420 (to the right) and 424. Photo looking south-east



Plate 2. Only the lower legs and feet of skeleton 607 survived in situ. Scale: 0.3m

## Appendix 1 Trench descriptions

Trench 1

Length: 26m Width: 2m Orientation: East to west

**Context summary:** 

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
100	Topsoil	Layer	dark greyish brown clay silt	0.15	Topsoil
101	Subsoil	Layer	mid yellowish brown clay silt	0.38	Subsoil
102	Subsoil	Layer	mid greyish brown clay silt	0.22	Colluvium?
103	Natural	Layer			Natural
104	Furrow	Cut		0.06	Cut of furrow
105	Furrow	Fill	dark greyish brown silt	0.06	Fill of furrow 104

Trench 2

Length: 25m Width: 2.3m Orientation: North-east to south-west

Context Summary:		summary:				
	Context	•	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
	200	Topsoil	Layer	dark greyish brown clay silt	0.15	Topsoil
	201	Subsoil	Layer	mid greyish brown clay silt	0.38	Subsoil
	202	Subsoil	Layer	mid greyish brown clay silt	0.22	Colluvium?
	203	Natural	Layer			Natural
	204	Modern	Layer	dark blackish grey ashy rubble	1.1+	Dump of early 20th century material
	205	Linear	Fill	mid greyish brown clay silt	0.3	Fill of linear 206
	206	Linear	Cut		1.28	Cut of linear
	207	Linear	Fill	mid greyish brown clay silt	0.61	Fill of linear 208. Resembles colluvial subsoil
	208	Linear	Cut		0.61	Cut of linear
	209	Gully	Fill	mid greyish brown clay silt	0.26	Colluvial?
	210	Gully	Cut		0.26	Shallow drainage ditch
	211	Pit	Fill	mid greyish brown clay silt		Fill of 212
	212	Pit	Cut			Pit or possible natural feature

Length: 27m Width: 2m Orientation: North-east to south-west

Context summary:					
Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
300	Topsoil	Layer	mid greyish brown clay silt	0.2	Topsoil
301	Subsoil	Layer	mid yellowish brown clay silt	0.5	Subsoil
302	Subsoil	Layer	light yellow clay silt		Alluvium/Colluvium
303		Fill	dark	0.05	Fill of 304
304		Cut		0.05	Small possibly natural feature
305	Ditch	Fill	mid greyish brown clay		Fill of 306
306	Ditch	Cut			NW-SE ditch not excavated. Possibly grange boundary
307	Wall?	Structure		0.45+	Limestone rubble
308	Wall?	Structure		0.45+	Unbonded wall or stone filled drain
309		Fill	yellowish brown loamy		Overlies 310
310		Fill	dark greyish brown sandy silty clay		Not excavated
311		Fill	yellowish brown loamy		Same as 309?
312	Palaeochannel	Fill	dark greyish brown silty	0.75+	Slow silting deposit with sandy bands to show periods of high energy
313		Fill	yellowish brown silty clay		Alluvium
314	Palaeochannel	Cut			Incised through alluvium 313 may have been canalised
315	Natural	Layer			Natural
316	Palaeochannel	Fill	brownish yellow silty clay		Possible palaeochannel?

Length: 32m Width: 1.8m Orientation: North-east to south-west

Context summary:							
Context Feature		Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation	
	400	Topsoil	Layer	dark greyish brown clay silt	0.28	Topsoil	
	401	Subsoil	Layer	light greyish brown clay silt	0.34	Subsoil	
	402	Subsoil	Layer	mid reddish brown clay silt	0.1	Subsoil	
	403	Natural	Layer	light greyish yellow		Natural	
	404	Linear	Cut		0.28	Cut of linear	
	405	Linear	Fill	light greyish brown clay silt	0.28	Fill of linear 404	
	406	Linear	Cut			Unexcavated	
	407	Linear	Cut			Unexcavated	
	408	Pit	Cut			Unexcavated	
	409	Pit	Cut		0.59	Cut of pit	
	410	Pit	Fill	mid orangey brown clay	0.46	Fill of 409	
	411	Pit	Fill	mid orangey brown silty	0.5	Upper fill of 409	
	412	Posthole	Cut		0.09	Cut of posthole	
	413	Posthole	Fill	mid greyish brown clay silt	0.09	Fill of 412	
	414	Posthole	Cut			Unexcavated	
	415	Posthole	Cut			Unexcavated	
	416	Ditch	Fill	dark brown sandy silt	0.3	Upper fill of ditch 420	
	417	Ditch	Fill	dark brown sandy silt	0.46	Third fill of ditch 420	
	418	Ditch	Fill	mid brownish red silty clay	0.2	Secondary fill of ditch 420	
	419	Ditch	Fill	mid greyish brown silty	0.19	Primary fill of ditch 420	
	420	Ditch	Cut		0.89	Cut of ditch	
	421	Ditch	Fill	dark brown sandy silt	0.46	Upper fill of 424	
	422	Ditch	Fill	yellowish brown sandy silt	0.13	Secondary fill of 424	
	423	Ditch	Fill	mid greyish brown silty	0.16	Primary fill of 424	
	424	Ditch	Cut		0.67	Cut of ditch	
	425	Pit	Cut		0.3	Maybe two pits, diffuse and amorphous	
	426	Pit	Fill	dark greyish brown silty	0.3	Fill of 425	
	427	Posthole	Cut			Unexcavated	
	428	Pit	Cut			Unexcavated	
	429	Pit	Fill			Fill of 428	

430	Pit	Fill	mid greyish brown clay silt	Fill of 408
431	Linear	Fill	mid reddish brown clay silt	Fill of 407
432	Linear	Fill	mid greyish brown clay silt	Fill of 406
433	Posthole	Fill	mid greyish brown clay silt	Fill of 414
434	Posthole	Fill	mid greyish brown clay silt	Fill of 415
435	Posthole	Fill	mid greyish brown clay silt	Fill of 427

Length: 31m Width: 1.8m Orientation: East to west

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
500	Topsoil	Layer	dark greyish brown clay silt	0.26	Topsoil
501	Subsoil	Layer	light greyish brown clay silt	0.2	Subsoil
502	Natural	Layer	light greyish yellow	0.46	Natural
503	Furrow	Fill	mid greyish brown sandy		Fill of 504
504	Furrow	Cut			Furrow
505	Pit	Fill	mid reddish brown sandy silt	0.11	Upper fill of 507
506	Pit	Fill	mid greyish brown clay silt	0.1	Lower fill of pit 507
507	Pit	Cut		0.21	Cut of pit
508	Posthole	Fill	mid reddish brown sandy silt		Fill of 509
509	Pit	Cut			Cut of pit
510	Unknown	Fill	dark brown sandy silt		Fill of 511
511	Unknown	Cut			Irregular feature
512	Posthole	Fill	dark greyish brown sandy	0.16	Fill of 513
513	Posthole	Cut		0.16	Cut of posthole
514	Posthole	Fill	dark greyish brown sandy		Fill of 515
515	Posthole	Cut			Cut of posthole
516	Posthole	Fill	dark greyish brown sandy		Fill of 517
517	Posthole	Cut			Cut of posthole
518	Posthole	Fill	dark greyish brown sandy	0.11	Fill of 519
519	Posthole	Cut		0.11	Cut of small posthole or stakehole

Length: 30m Width: 1.8m/4.0m Orientation: North-east to south-west

**Context summary:** 

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
600	Topsoil	Layer	dark greyish brown clay silt	0.28	Topsoil
601	Subsoil	Layer	light greyish brown clay silt	0.1	Subsoil
602	Natural	Layer	light greyish yellow		Natural
603	Ditch	Fill	mid reddish brown silty clay	0.5	Fill of large enclosure ditch 606.
604	Ditch	Fill	mid brown clay	0.2	Secondary fill of 606
605	Ditch	Fill	dark greyish brown silt	0.54	Lower fill of ditch 606
606	Ditch	Cut		1.3	Large enclosure ditch
607	Grave	Fill			Skeleton orientated N-S, lower legs below knees remaining
608	Grave	Fill	mid orangey brown silt		Grave fill
609	Grave	Cut			Grave cut not visible in plan
610	Unknown	Fill			Fill of 611
611	Unknown	Cut			Furrow/ Linear/ Large pit

#### Trench 7

Length: 30m Width: 1.8m Orientation: North-east to south-west

Context summary:

	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
700	Topsoil	Layer	mid greyish brown silt	0.25	Topsoil
701	Subsoil	Layer	mid reddish brown sandy silt	0.25	Subsoil
702	Natural	Layer	light greyish yellow	0.5	Natural
703	Linear	Fill	mid reddish brown sandy silt		Fill of linear 703
704	Linear	Cut			Cut of ephemeral linear

#### Trench 8

Length: 31m Width: 1.8m Orientation: North-east to south-west

	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
800	Topsoil	Layer	dark greyish brown clay silt		Topsoil
801	Subsoil	Layer	mid yellowish brown clay silt		Subsoil
802	Natural	Layer	light greyish yellow gravel		Natural

Length: 32m Width: 1.8m Orientation: North-west to south-west

**Context summary:** 

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
900	Topsoil	Layer	dark greyish brown clay silt		Topsoil
901	Subsoil	Layer	mid yellowish brown clay silt		Subsoil
902	Natural	Layer	light greyish yellow gravel		Natural

Trench 10

Length: 32m Width: 1.8m Orientation: North-east to south-west

**Context summary:** 

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
1000	Topsoil	Layer	dark greyish brown clay silt		Topsoil
1001	Subsoil	Layer	mid greyish brown clay silt		Subsoil
1002	Subsoil	Layer	mid orangey brown silty		Subsoil
1003	Natural	Layer	light greyish yellow gravel		Natural

Trench 11

Length: 31m Width: 1.8m Orientation: North to south

	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
1100	Topsoil	Layer	dark greyish brown silty		Topsoil
1101	Subsoil	Layer	mid brownish yellow silty clay		Subsoil
1102	Natural	Layer	mid orangey yellow sandy		Natural

Length: 32m Width: 1.8m Orientation: East to west

Contex	ı Sullillal y.				
Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
1200	Topsoil	Layer	dark greyish brown silty	0.25	Topsoil
1201	Subsoil	Layer	mid brown silty clay	0.1	Subsoil
1202	Natural	Layer	light yellowish brown		Natural
1203	Ditch	Fill	mid yellowish brown clay	0.16	Fill of 1204
1204	Ditch	Cut		0.16	Cut of ditch
1205	Furrow	Fill	dark brown silt		Fill of 1206
1206	Furrow	Cut			Furrow
1207	Furrow	Fill	mid brown silty clay		Fill of 1208
1208	Furrow	Cut			Furrow
1209	Posthole	Fill	dark brown silty clay		Fill of 1210
1210	Posthole	Cut			Cut of posthole. Possibly modern
1211	Ditch	Fill	dark brownish grey silt	0.28	Fill of recut 1215
1212	Ditch	Fill	light yellowish brown clay	0.52	Upper fill of ditch 1216
1213	Ditch	Fill	mid yellowish brown sandy silt	0.74	Fill of ditch 1216
1214	Ditch	Fill	light greyish brown silt	0.68	Fill of ditch 1216
1215	Ditch	Cut		0.28	Recut of ditch 1216
1216	Ditch	Cut		0.74	Cut of ditch

# Appendix 2 Technical information The archive (site code: WSM67020)

The archive consists of:

49	Context records AS1
3	Photographic records AS3
182	Digital photographs
1	Drawing number catalogues AS4
11	Permatrace scale drawings AS34
2	Context number catalogues AS5
1	Skeleton records AS6
1	Sample records AS17
1	Sample number catalogues AS18
1	Auger record sheets AS26
12	Trench record sheets AS41
1	Pollen record sheet
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:

Worcestershire County Museum

Museums Worcestershire

Hartlebury Castle

Hartlebury

Near Kidderminster

Worcestershire DY11 7XZ

Tel Hartlebury (01299) 250416