

An Archaeological Evaluation at Stoke Road, Bishop's Cleeve, Gloucestershire



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Date: 2nd December 2015
Status: Revision 1
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Project reference: P4687
Report reference: 2282
Oasis id: fieldsec1-229786

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Andrew Walsh

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

Summary

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Stoke Road, Bishop's Cleeve (NGR SO 9451 2787). It was commissioned by CgMs Consulting whose client intends to develop the site, for which an outline planning application has been submitted.

Twenty six evaluation trenches were excavated to assess the survival of a number of potential archaeological features which had been identified 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 features represented by the geophysical survey, which largely comprise negative features cut into the natural substrate.

Two distinct areas of archaeological activity were identified. The most complex area was identified in the central part of the site where a series of enclosures and other features including a possible corn drier survive. Most of the features relating to the enclosures were dated to the Roman period although some Iron Age material was also found.

To the north-west of the main complex a second smaller series of features were identified. These were less complex than the central area and some of the features 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 migrated and continued after the Roman invasion.

Other features identified during the evaluation included an early Bronze Age cremation and tentative evidence of late or post-Roman activity.

Report

1 Background

1.1 Reasons for the project

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Stoke Road, Bishop's Cleeve (NGR SO 9451 2787; Figure 1). It was commissioned by CgMs Consulting whose client intends to develop the site for which an outline planning application has been submitted to Tewkesbury District Council (reference 15/00166/OUT).

Prior to the evaluation, a desk-based assessment of the site was carried out (CgMs 2014). This recognised the survival of Roman settlement remains in the vicinity of the site.

A subsequent geophysical survey (Stratascan 2015) identified anomalies of probable archaeological origin in two distinct areas of the site. The proposed development site was therefore considered to include heritage assets and potential heritage assets, and liaison between CgMs Consulting and Charles Parry, Planning Archaeologist for Gloucestershire County Council established that the results of an archaeological evaluation should accompany the planning application.

Prior to fieldwork a Written Scheme of Investigation (WA 2015) was submitted and approved by Charles Parry.

The project conforms to the standard evaluation brief issued by Gloucestershire County Council and for which a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was produced by Worcestershire Archaeology (WA 2015) in consultation with CgMs Consulting. The project also conforms to the *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014). The WA project reference for this project is P4687.

2 Aims

The aims of this evaluation are:

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

3 Methods

3.1 Personnel

The project was led by Andrew Walsh (BSc; MSc; ACIfA; FSA Scot); who joined Worcestershire Archaeology in 2013 and has been practicing archaeology since 2004, assisted by Jamie Wilkins (BA), Timothy Cornah (BA; MA), James Spry (BA; MA), and Jessica Wheeler (BA). The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Tom Rogers (BA; MSc). Illustrations were prepared by Carolyn Hunt (BSc; PG Cert; MCIfA). Jane Evans (BA; MA; MCIfA) contributed the finds report, Elizabeth Pearson (MSc; ACIfA) contributed the environmental report and James Spry undertook the animal bone assessment.

3.2 Documentary research

An Archaeological Desk-based Assessment (DBA) was prepared by CgMs Consulting in August 2014 (CgMs 2014).

3.3 Fieldwork strategy

Twenty six trenches, amounting to approximately 2340m² in area, were excavated over the site area of 13.5ha (Figure 2). The trenches were located to test a series of potential archaeological anomalies identified during a geophysical survey of the site (Trenches 1-4 and 15-21) and to cover

the remainder of the site (Trenches 5-14 and 22-26). The fieldwork was undertaken between 26 October and 6 November 2015. The site reference number and site code is P4687.

Deposits considered not to be significant were removed using a 360° tracked 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. Finds were recovered from unexcavated deposits. Deposits were recorded according to standard Worcestershire Archaeology practice (WA 2012). On completion of the 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 C Jane Evans

The finds work reported here conforms with the relevant sections of *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (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>).

3.5.1 Recovery policy

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

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 pro forma sheets.

Artefacts from environmental samples are not quantified in the tables below as they were not available when the report was written. These were scanned but do not provide any additional dating.

Fabrics were not quantified as part of the assessment, but the variety of fabrics present was noted, to characterise and date the assemblage

3.5.3 Discard policy

A discard policy will need to be decided.

3.6 Environmental archaeology methodology by Elizabeth Pearson and James Spry

3.6.1 Sampling policy

Samples were taken according to standard Worcestershire Archaeology practice (2014). A total of 10 samples (each of up to 40 litres) were taken from the site, from which five were selected for assessment.

3.6.2 Sample processing and analysis

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

The residues were scanned by eye and the abundance of each category of environmental remains estimated. A magnet was also used to test for the presence of 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).

3.6.3 Animal bone methodology

All of the animal bones included in this assessment were hand-collected on site. The bone has been identified using the aid of modern bone reference collections housed at the Worcestershire Archaeology and identification guides (Sisson, 1930, Hillson 2005, Serjeantson 2009). The overall recording strategy followed the guidance set out by Davis (1992) for rapidly recording animal bone assemblages. The number of individual bone fragments and weight per context has been recorded. General observations on preservation (Harland *et al* 2003) species present, butchery (Lauwerier 1988, Sykes 2007), burning (O'Connor 2000: 45) and gnawing marks have been made.

3.6.4 Discard policy

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

3.7 Statement of confidence in the methods and results

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

4 The application site

4.1 Topography, geology and archaeological context

The proposed development site is located approximately 1.5km west of Bishop's Cleeve (Figure 1). It is bounded to the north and west by agricultural land, residential properties to the north-east, light industrial units to the south-east and Stoke Road to the south. An unnamed brook, a tributary of Dean Brook, crosses the site flowing south-east to north-west. The site is generally flat and lies at approximately 40m above Ordnance Datum (AOD). 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 DBA prepared by CgMs Consulting identified that no designated heritage assets are located in the site (CgMs 2014). Evidence of Roman activity, characterised by small farmsteads and field systems, was identified to the north and east of the site although geophysical survey in this area had indicated these features did not extend into the site. No other significant archaeological evidence was identified although extant ridge and furrow, probably relating to the medieval field system centred on Bishop's Cleeve, was noted.

A geophysical survey of the site, undertaken in 2015, identified the presence of a series of anomalies of probable archaeological origin (Stratascan 2015). Most of these anomalies were focussed in the central part of the site with a second smaller cluster to the north-west (Figure 2). These appear to represent the remains of later prehistoric and/or Roman settlement activity. In the remainder of the site no anomalies of archaeological origin were identified except for evidence of ridge and furrow ploughing.

4.3 Current land-use

The site is farmland in use as a mixture of arable and pasture.

5 Structural analysis

The trenches and features recorded are shown in Figures 3-7. The results of the structural analysis are presented in Appendix 1. Within the trenches the features are generally described from west to east or north to south.

The earliest deposits identified in the trenches were natural deposits of superficial yellowish brown gravelly sandy clay, overlying irregular patches of blue grey clay which are consistent with the Charmouth Mudstone recorded by the BGS. The superficial deposits are not mapped in the site by the BGS although layers of Cheltenham Sand and Gravel are recorded to the south and east of the site.

5.1 Trench 1

The natural stratum was cut by four linear and eighteen discrete features, of which three features were selected for excavation. Ditch 107 measured 1.63m in width and 0.75m in depth and was filled by two deposits (105 and 106; Plate 1). The upper fill (105) yielded a copper alloy chain, which may be Roman in date. Gully (119) was 0.56m wide and 0.28m deep. It was filled by a brownish-grey, silty clay which yielded one sherd of Bronze Age to early Middle Iron Age pottery. Pit (117) measured approximately 1.40m in diameter and contained a single fill which did not yield any finds (Plate 2).

The remaining features and deposits were not excavated although they included deposit 111, which yielded later prehistoric pottery, and ten small undated features (131-149) which may have been stakeholes. The features were sealed by an historic subsoil (102) measuring up to 0.24m in depth, containing ceramic fragments, charcoal flecks and gravel.

5.2 Trench 2

The natural stratum was cut by at least nine linear and five discrete features. None were excavated. Ditches 205 and 207 yielded surface finds of Iron Age pottery, and Ditch 209 and Linear 219 yielded Roman finds. The features were sealed by an historic subsoil (202) measuring up to 0.25m in depth, which contained frequent flecks of charcoal and was most clearly visible at the northern end of the trench.

5.3 Trench 3

Three undated layers of burnt clay (306, 307 and 308) were identified. No datable material was identified although seventeen fragments of burnt clay were recovered. The features correlated well with geophysical anomalies of possible archaeological origin targeted by this trench. A possible ditch (304) was also identified although it contained a sterile fill and did not appear to be contemporary with the other archaeological features.

5.4 Trench 4

The natural stratum was cut by four linear features, a furrow (405) and four discrete features, of which one linear feature was selected for excavation. Ditch (417/419) measured 1.35m in width and 0.20m in depth and was filled by greyish-brown silty clay which yielded four sherds of Roman pottery.

Residual Roman pottery was also recovered from Furrow (405). No datable finds were recovered from the other features in the trench.

5.5 Trenches 5-14

An undated gully (1304) was identified in Trench 13 measuring 0.65m in width and 0.2m in depth, and filled by a greyish-brown sandy clay silt (1303). No finds were recovered from this feature. No other archaeological features were identified in these trenches.

Well preserved ridge and furrow ploughing was visible across the field in which Trenches 5 to 9 were located, orientated approximately east to west. The same ridge and furrow appeared to

continue into the field to the east (Trenches 10 to 14), but in this area modern ploughing had levelled most of the furrows. The furrows were typically formed of a light yellowish-brown sandy clay silt subsoil.

5.6 Trench 15

This trench contained a large number of archaeological features and deposits, across the entire length of the trench. At the western end, a sequence of recut ditches was excavated (Plates 3 and 4). The earliest ditch (1530) was heavily truncated by Ditch (1536) but the only surviving fill yielded Iron Age pottery. Also cut by Ditch (1536) was Ditch (1532) which was excavated to ground water depth (c.1.8m below ground level). It contained at least three fills which yielded Roman and early Roman pottery. Ditch (1536) also contained three fills and yielded early Roman pottery. It was, itself, cut by Ditch 1540 which contained a single fill which yielded Roman pottery, iron pan and slag. The whole sequence was sealed by layers (1529 and 1503). This sequence of ditches appears to correlate with a boundary ditch

The remaining features and layers were not excavated although they clearly represent a complex archaeological sequence. Artefacts were recovered from a number of deposits and these ranged in date from the 1st century in layer (1526) to late 3rd to 4th century in Feature (1513). Also of note was early Roman deposit (1526) which may correlate with a north-west to south-east aligned ditch visible on the geophysical survey, and layer 1525 and Ditch (1523) which may correlate with the irregular geophysical anomalies at the south-eastern end of the trench.

The archaeological features and deposits were sealed by historic subsoil layers (1502, 1503 and 1529) which measured up to 0.4m in depth. Near the middle of the trench the sequence of historic subsoils appeared to be cut by a sterile linear feature (1527), possibly a trackway, which was only visible in section (Plate 5). This feature correlates with linear anomaly identified during the geophysical survey which was interpreted as a probable bank or earthwork.

5.7 Trench 16

The natural stratum was cut by up to seven linear features visible in the eastern half of the trench. None were excavated although five of the features correlate well with ditches identified by the geophysical survey in this area. Ditches (1607, 1609, 1611 and 1613) yielded Roman pottery, with residual prehistoric pottery in Ditches (1611 and 1613). The archaeological features and deposits were sealed by historic subsoil layers (1502 and 1503) which measured up to 0.7m in depth, and both yielded Roman pottery.

5.8 Trench 17

This trench also contained an extensive number of archaeological features and deposits, across the entire length of the trench. Two potential structural features were identified and targeted for excavation.

Feature (1720) was square in plan, measuring 0.60m by 0.60m and contained stone rubble (1718; Plate 6). It was flanked on two sides by a distinct deposit of clay (1719). Excavation around the feature revealed that the stone rubble was not coursed, and it is thought that this feature may be a form of post pad.

A stone rubble spread (1715) measured up to 2.5m in width and was originally interpreted as a possible wall. Excavation revealed that the stone was irregular in nature (Plates 7 and 8), and also contained six pieces of Roman tile including one piece of *tegula*, as well as later Iron Age and Roman pottery, iron nails and piece of iron slag.

The remaining features and layers were not excavated although they clearly represent a complex archaeological sequence. Artefacts were recovered from a number of deposits and these ranged in date from later Iron Age in linear feature (1710) to 3rd to 4th century in Ditch (1726). The complete base of later Iron Age/conquest period vessel (1727) was identified cutting a possible subsoil layer (1704; Plate 9).

The archaeological features and deposits were sealed by an historic subsoil (1703) measuring up to 0.30m in depth and visible across the entire trench except for the 6m at the north-western end of the trench. This deposit was cut by a sterile linear feature (1730) which was only visible in section (Plate 10). This feature was on the same alignment as the possible trackway (1527) in Trench 15. No other features in this trench appear to correlate directly with the geophysical anomalies identified in this area.

5.9 Trench 18

The natural stratum was cut by up to two linear features (1808 and 1821) visible towards the western end of the trench, which correlate well with the two linear geophysical anomalies identified in this area. These may have enclosed a stone built structure (1812). Ditch (1808) was targeted for excavation and measured 1.65m wide and 0.65m deep and was filled by three deposits. A small amount of Roman pottery was recovered from the ditch.

The stone built structure was partially exposed after the removal of a layer of possible demolition rubble (1813) which appeared to seal it (Plates 11 and 12). The structure may be a corn dryer and a moderately abundant assemblage of charred cereal, possibly from two phases of activity, was recovered from a layer (1815) in the base of the feature (Plate 13). The southern wall (1817) which was located in the edge of the trench appeared to be poorly constructed suggesting that the corn dryer may have been rebuilt or possibly reused an earlier structure. To the north of the main structure a layer (1814) of burnt material, which appeared to lie on natural deposits also yielded abundant well-preserved cereal grains.

The stone rubble and the western end of the trench were sealed by an historic subsoil layer similar to those identified in the other trenches in this area. A hand-excavated sondage through this deposit at the western end of the trench (Plates 14 and 15) yielded a small assemblage of Roman pottery, and a sample taken from the deposit also identified charred cereal grains.

5.10 Trench 19

Seven linear features and one discrete feature were identified within Trench 19. Four of the larger linear features correlate well with the results of the geophysical survey, although possible ditch (1906) appears to correlate with a discrete feature on the geophysical survey. None of the features were excavated.

Roman pottery dating from the late 1st century was recovered from possible ditch (1908), while artefacts from the late 3rd to 4th centuries were recovered from ditches (1910) and (1916). Finds dating broadly to the Roman period were identified in ditches (1906) and (1908).

The archaeological features and deposits were sealed by historic subsoil layer (1902) which measured up to 0.30m in depth, and yielded Roman pottery. Although this deposit clearly sealed the features it was also visible in plan between some of the features.

5.11 Trench 20

Within the trench four linear features and one discrete feature were identified. Three of the linear features and the discrete feature correlate with the geophysical anomalies recorded in this area. None of the features were excavated; although a hand dug sondage was excavated across the top of Ditch (2007) to clarify the nature of the deposits, which was not clear after machine excavation (Plate 16).

Ditches (2005) and (2007) both yielded finds dating to the broad Roman period. The sondage confirmed the archaeological features were sealed by historic subsoil layer (2003) which measured up to 0.12m in depth, and yielded Roman pottery. The features also cut deposit (2004) which may be an interface layer between the natural and subsoil or an historic subsoil. This deposit measured up to 0.22m in depth and yielded Roman pottery.

5.12 Trench 21

No archaeological features or deposits were identified in this trench.

5.13 Trenches 22-26

An unexcavated pit (2204) containing a possible cremation was identified near the western end of Trench 22 (Plate 17). The pit appeared slightly oval in shape, although it may have been cut by a gully (2206) which lay immediately to the south. The pit contained a number of fragments of burnt bone, which were left in-situ, as well as sixteen small sherds of early Bronze Age pottery which were recovered.

Gullies (2206) and (2208) were also identified in the western end of the trench. They were cut by a furrow to the east and, as noted above Gully (2206) appeared to cut possible cremation pit (2204). No relationship between the two gullies was visible.

Extant ridge and furrow ploughing was visible across this area orientated approximately north to south. The furrows were typically formed of a light yellowish-brown sandy clay silt subsoil. No other significant archaeological deposits were identified in these trenches.

5.14 Artefact analysis by C Jane Evans, with a contribution by Rob Hedge

The evaluation produced 1177 sherds of pottery, along with fragments of ceramic building material, fired clay, a small assemblage of metal work, part of a shale bracelet, and a possible Iron Age sling shot. The finds are summarised in Tables 1, 2 and 3.

The assemblage came from 67 stratified contexts and a range of feature types (Table 3). In most cases these deposits were associated with the upper fills of features, and surface spreads. While there were relatively few diagnostic forms, there was sufficient evidence to suggest that the bulk of the assemblage dated to the late Iron Age and Roman period. Roman activity dated from the 1st century AD, through the 2nd and into the late 3rd to 4th. A few sherds dating to the early Bronze Age or Middle Iron Age hinted at the presence of earlier activity in the vicinity.

The condition of the pottery was generally good. The majority of sherds displayed only moderate levels of abrasion and the average sherd weight was above average; the low average sherd weight for the late Iron Age/conquest period is misleading as 605 of these sherds (3285g) were from a single, fragile, in-situ vessel (pit 1728, fill 1727).

period	material class	material subtype	object specific type	count	weight(g)
Mesolithic/Neolithic	stone	flint	retouched piece	1	0.6
Bronze Age	ceramic	earthenware	pot	1	11
Bronze Age?	ceramic	earthenware	pot	2	9
early Bronze Age?	ceramic	earthenware	pot	16	16
Iron Age	ceramic	earthenware	pot	32	584
Iron Age	ceramic	earthenware	sling shot	1	10
Iron Age	ceramic	fired clay	fragment	19	82
Iron Age/conquest	ceramic	earthenware	pot	655	3429
Iron Age/Roman	ceramic	earthenware	pot	6	12

period	material class	material subtype	object specific type	count	weight(g)
Iron Age/Roman	stone	shale	bracelet	1	1
late Iron Age	ceramic	earthenware	pot	1	50
late Iron Age/conquest	ceramic	earthenware	pot	1	2
late Middle Iron Age	ceramic	earthenware	pot	1	6
prehistoric	ceramic	earthenware	pot	4	66
Roman	ceramic	earthenware	oven	1	194
Roman	ceramic	earthenware	pot	458	9199
Roman	ceramic	earthenware	tegula	5	1266
Roman	ceramic	earthenware	tile	7	1668
Roman	metal	iron	hobnail	7	8
Roman?	ceramic	earthenware	brick/tile	1	6
Roman?	metal	copper alloy	chain	1	3
Roman?	metal	iron	nail	6	61
Roman?	slag	slag(Fe)	fragment	2	82
undated	ceramic	fired clay	fragment	118	1000
undated	organic	coal	fragment	2	10
undated	organic	shell	fragment	1	3
undated	slag	fuel ash slag?	fragment	1	9
undated	stone		burnt stone	18	535

Table 1: Quantification of the assemblage

period	count	Weight (g)	average weight (g)
Bronze Age	17	27	2
Bronze Age?	2	9	5
Iron Age	32	584	18
Iron Age/conquest	655	3429	5

Iron Age/Roman	6	12	2
late Iron Age	1	50	50
late Iron Age/conquest	1	2	2
late Middle Iron Age	1	6	6
prehistoric	4	66	17
Roman	458	9199	20
total	1177	13384	11

Table 2: Quantification of the pottery by period

5.14.1 Summary of artefactual evidence by period and type

The flint by Rob Hedge

A single piece of worked flint, residual within context (1819), was recovered. The raw material was very high-quality, fine-grained honey-coloured translucent flint. The piece comprised a thin-butted soft-hammer struck flake with retouch along a slightly concave right lateral margin, with a possible break at the distal end of the left lateral margin. A Mesolithic or Neolithic date is suggested, although the precise form and function remains unclear.

The pottery

Early Bronze Age

Sixteen sherds of pottery were associated with cremation 2204 (fill 2203). These sherds were abraded as well as very fragmentary, making precise identification difficult. The fabric included grog, and hints of impressed decoration survived on the surface of a couple of sherds, the combination suggesting that they may be from a beaker and therefore of early Bronze Age date. Another grog-tempered sherd with comb-impressed decoration was recovered from linear feature 1706 (fill 1708).

Two small sherds with angular quartz/quartzite temper may also be Bronze Age. These, however, were unstratified, having been found mixed with sherds from the damaged vessel in pit 1728.

Iron Age

Only one sherd of diagnostically Middle Iron Age pottery was identified, from ditch 1611 (fill 1612). This sherd, in Palaeozoic limestone tempered ware (Peacock 1968, B1), had the linear-tooled decoration characteristic of later Middle Iron Age assemblages from the unpublished assemblage at Beckford, Worcestershire. A handful of sherds were in a local, fossil shell tempered fabric, which at Beckford was shown to have gone out of use in the first half of the Middle Iron Age. The bulk of the Iron Age pottery was in the Palaeozoic limestone tempered fabric or a handmade Malvernian fabric (Peacock 1968, A). While the Palaeozoic fabric was used through the Iron Age in this region, it is increasingly common in later Iron Age assemblages. The black firing noted on many of the sherds from this site is also characteristic of later Iron Age vessels, and this later date was supported by a couple of diagnostic forms. This fabric continued into use into the conquest period, hence the Iron Age/conquest period *tpq* of many assemblages. The sherds of handmade Malvernian ware could not be closely dated; this fabric continued in use into the Roman period.

Roman

The Roman pottery reflected a long period of activity on the site. The earliest vessels dated to the conquest period/1st century. A single sherd of South Gaulish samian was recovered, from rubble spread 1715. This dated to c AD 90-110. The presence of Dorset Black-Burnished ware (BB1) indicated a *tpq* of c AD 120 for some assemblages, while others included vessels that could be dated to the mid-late 2nd century. The Severn Valley ware included a tankard and jars dating broadly to the 2nd-3rd centuries, as well as some forms more typical of late 3rd-4th century assemblages. The latest dated piece was a body sherd of shell-tempered ware, a type typically associated with mid 4th to early 5th century deposits. This, however, was unstratified. Other fabrics included Nene Valley ware and Mancetter/Hartshill mortaria. Ditch 1715 (fill 1725) produced a fragment of pre-formed ceramic oven, of a type associated with late 3rd to 4th century sites in Worcestershire.

Roman building material

A small quantity of ceramic and stone building material was recovered, hinting at the presence of a Roman building somewhere in the vicinity of the site. Fragments of *tegula* were found in linear 1507 (fill 1508), rubble spread 1715, and subsoil layer 1704. Other contexts produced fragments of less diagnostic ceramic tile. Two fragments of stone roof tile were recorded, one from linear feature 1513 (fill 1514) and the other unstratified.

Fired clay

The fired clay mainly comprised undiagnostic fragments, but some pieces of interest were identifiable. Ditch 1530 (fill 1531) produced three angular edge fragments from a triangular or pyramid shaped loomweight. The precise type, and therefore date, was not identified, but the fragments were associated with sherds of Iron Age to conquest period, Palaeozoic limestone tempered ware. Rubble layer 1715 included curving edge fragments from possibly two circular objects. These need further research before identification, but are possibly crude oven plates. These were associated with quantities of Roman material. A few fragments of briquetage were also noted, from ditch 206 (fill 207). These were associated with very fragmentary sherds of Iron Age to conquest period, Palaeozoic limestone-tempered ware. The most unusual find, however, was a small clay sphere c 21mm across, found mixed in with the damaged vessel from pit 1728 (1727). This is thought to be a small, Iron Age sling shot.

Other finds

Iron finds comprised a handful of nails and hobnails, the latter from rubble spread 1715. Links from a copper alloy chain were recovered from ditch 107 (fill 105) and a small fragment of a shale bracelet from layer 1529.

Fill of	Feature type	context	material class	material subtype	object specific type	period	count	weight(g)	tpq date range
	Layer	111	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Iron Age/ conquest	1	5	Iron Age/ conquest
		111	ceramic	fired clay	fragment		2	7	
	Layer	306	ceramic	fired clay	fragment		14	58	undated
	Layer	307	ceramic	fired clay	fragment		3	16	undated
	Layer	1525	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Iron Age/ conquest	2	10	Iron Age/ conquest

Fill of	Feature type	context	material class	material subtype	object specific type	period	count	weight(g)	tpq date range
			stone	limestone	fragment		1	28	
	Layer	1526	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	12	178	Roman (1 st)
			ceramic	fired clay	fragment		4	13	
	Layer	1529	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Iron Age	4	33	Roman (late 1 st -2 nd)
			ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	8	82	
	Layer	1529	stone	shale	bracelet	Iron Age/ Roman	1	1	
	Layer	1602	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	2	24	Roman
	Layer	1603	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	4	85	Roman (2 nd -3 rd)
	Layer	1703	ceramic	earthenware	pot	late Iron Age	1	50	Roman (1 st -2 nd)
			ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	6	33	
	Layer	1809	ceramic	earthenware	brick/tile	Roman	1	6	Roman
			ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	10	35	
	Layer	1819	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	5	15	Roman (late 2 nd -4 th)
			ceramic	fired clay	fragment		3	7	
			slag	slag(Fe)	fragment	Roman?	1	58	
	Layer	1819	stone	flint	retouched piece		1	0.6	
	Layer	1822	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	3	18	Roman
	Layer	2003	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	33	455	Roman (Late 3 rd -4 th) NB 1 st -2 nd also present
			ceramic	earthenware	tile	Roman	1	16	
			ceramic	fired clay	fragment		1	2	
			metal	iron	nail	Roman?	1	3	
	Rubble spread	1715	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Iron Age/ conquest	8	33	Roman (late 3 rd -4 th) includes mid-late 2 nd material
			ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	73	742	
			ceramic	earthenware	<i>tegula</i>	Roman	1	287	

Fill of	Feature type	context	material class	material subtype	object specific type	period	count	weight(g)	tpq date range	
	Rubble spread	1715	ceramic	earthenware	tile	Roman	5	1625		
			ceramic	fired clay	fragment			10		235
			metal	iron	hobnail		Roman	7		8
			metal	iron	nail		Roman?	3		30
			metal	iron pan	fragment			1		1
			slag	slag(Fe)	fragment		Roman?	1		24
			stone		burnt stone			1		31
	Subsoil	1704	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	12	111	Roman	
			ceramic	earthenware	<i>tegula</i>		Roman	3		794
	Subsoil	1801	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	5	36	Roman (3 rd -4 th)	
	Subsoil	1902	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Prehist.	1	3	Roman (120+)	
			ceramic	earthenware	pot		Roman	11		101
			stone	limestone	fragment			1		30
	Subsoil	2004	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	25	212	Roman (120+)	
			ceramic	fired clay	fragment			3		5
	Subsoil	2101	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	3	21	Roman	
	Topsoil	1700	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	7	58	Roman (late 1 st -2 nd)	
	Topsoil	2000	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	1	18	Roman	
107	Ditch	105	metal	copper alloy	chain	Roman?	1	3	Roman?	
110	Pit	109	ceramic	fired clay	fragment		8	273	undated	
119	Gully	118	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Bronze Age-early MIA	1	11	Bronze Age-early MIA	
			ceramic	fired clay	fragment		1	1		
204	Ditch	205	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Iron Age	2	10	Iron Age	
			stone		burnt stone		7	346		
206	Ditch	207	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Iron Age/ conquest	34	77	Iron Age/ conquest	

Fill of	Feature type	context	material class	material subtype	object specific type	period	count	weight(g)	tpq date range
			ceramic	fired clay	fragment	Iron Age	19	82	
			stone		burnt stone		9	137	
208	Ditch	209	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Iron Age/ Roman	4	2	Iron Age/ Roman
			ceramic	fired clay	fragment		1	6	
			stone	limestone	fragment		2	14	
212	Linear	213	ceramic	fired clay	fragment		1	3	undated
218	Linear	219	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Iron Age/ Roman	1	7	Iron Age/ Roman
222	Pit	223	ceramic	fired clay	fragment		12	66	undated
405	Furrow	406	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	1	22	Roman (1 st -2 nd)
			ceramic	fired clay	fragment		4	1	
417	Linear	418	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	4	24	Roman (1 st -2 nd ?)
1505	Pit	1506	ceramic	fired clay	fragment		17	25	undated
1507	Linear	1508	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	3	17	Roman (late 1 st -2 nd)
			ceramic	earthenware	<i>tegula</i>	Roman	1	185	
			ceramic	fired clay	fragment		1	46	
1511	Linear	1512	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	5	73	Roman (2 nd -4 th)
1513	Linear	1514	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Iron Age	13	407	Roman (late 3 rd -4 th)
			ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	19	250	
			stone	limestone	roof tile	Roman	1	259	
1515	Ditch	1516	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Iron Age	2	22	Roman (2 nd -late 3 rd)
			ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	30	260	
			stone	limestone	fragment		1	69	
1521	Linear	1522	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Iron Age/ conquest	3	16	Roman (late 1 st - early 2 nd)
			ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	2	15	
			ceramic	fired clay	fragment		5	17	
1523	Linear	1524	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	7	59	Roman (120+)

Fill of	Feature type	context	material class	material subtype	object specific type	period	count	weight(g)	tpq date range
1530	Ditch	1531	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Iron Age	2	51	Iron Age
			ceramic	fired clay	fragment		3	83	
1532	Ditch	1534	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	5	20	Roman
1532	Ditch	1535	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	4	31	Roman (1 st)
			ceramic	fired clay	fragment		1	5	
1536	Ditch	1538	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	35	197	Roman (1 st)
1536	Ditch	1539	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Iron Age	2	18	Roman
			ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	3	34	
			ceramic	fired clay	fragment		2	26	
1540	Ditch	1541	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	4	35	Roman
			metal	iron pan	fragment		1	1	
			slag	fuel ash slag?	fragment		1	9	
1607	Ditch	1608	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	5	88	Roman
1609	Ditch	1610	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	10	236	Roman (2 nd -3 rd)
			metal	iron pan	fragment		1	13	
			stone	limestone	fragment		1	93	
1611	Ditch	1612	ceramic	earthenware	pot	later Middle Iron Age	1	6	Roman
			ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	3	15	
			ceramic	fired clay	fragment		2	13	
1613	Ditch	1614	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Prehist.	2	52	Roman
			ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	1	2	
			ceramic	earthenware	tile	Roman	1	27	
1706	Linear	1708	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Early Bronze Age	1	11	Roman (1 st)
			ceramic	earthenware	pot	Iron Age/ conquest	1	1	
			ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	1	4	
			ceramic	fired clay	fragment		2	8	

Fill of	Feature type	context	material class	material subtype	object specific type	period	count	weight(g)	tpq date range
1710	Linear	1709	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Iron Age/ conquest	1	2	Iron Age/ conquest
1712	Linear	1711	ceramic	fired clay	fragment		2	3	undated
			stone	limestone	burnt stone		1	21	
1714	Linear	1713	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	8	95	Roman (mid-late 2 nd)
			ceramic	fired clay	fragment		1	5	
			organic	coal	fragment		2	10	
1726	Ditch	1725	ceramic	earthenware	oven	Roman	1	194	Roman (3 rd -4 th)
			ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	2	11	
			metal	iron	nail	Roman?	1	26	
1720	Unknown	1718	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	33	453 9	Roman
			ceramic	fired clay	fragment		2	37	
1722	Linear	1721	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	3	20	Roman
1724	Linear	1723	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Iron Age/ Roman	1	3	Roman
			ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	4	11	
1728	Pit	1727	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Iron Age/ conquest	605	328 5	Iron Age/ conquest
1808	Ditch	1807	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	2	13	Roman
1906	Ditch	1907	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	1	4	Roman (120+)
			organic	shell	fragment		1	3	
1908	Ditch	1909	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	8	41	Late 1 st +
1910	Ditch	1911	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	6	315	Roman (late 3 rd - 4 th)
1916	Ditch	1917	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	4	185	Roman (late 3 rd - 4 th)
2005	Ditch	2006	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	1	13	Roman
2007	Linear	2008	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Roman	9	82	Roman (2 nd -4 th)
			ceramic	fired clay	fragment		7	17	
			metal	iron	nail	Roman?	1	2	

Fill of	Feature type	context	material class	material subtype	object specific type	period	count	weight(g)	tpq date range
2204	Cremation	2203	ceramic	earthenware	pot	Bronze Age	16	16	Bronze Age (early?)

Table 3: Summary of context dating based on artefacts (excluding unstratified finds)

5.14.2 Synthesis of artefacts

The finds reflect the presence of extensive Roman and late Iron Age activity on the site. They suggest a long sequence of occupation, with evidence of activity dating to the late Iron Age/conquest period, the 2nd century AD and the late 3rd to 4th century AD.

The presence of early Bronze Age and Middle Iron Age finds, albeit in small quantities, tentatively suggest earlier activity across the site. A sherd of shell-tempered ware also hinted at very late Roman activity on the site, although this find was unstratified. No post-Roman finds were identified, but the absence of these cannot be taken as clear evidence that activity did not continue into the post-Roman period.

5.15 Environmental analysis

5.15.1 Macrofossils by Elizabeth Pearson

The environmental evidence recovered is summarised in Table 4. Uncharred plant remains (mainly unidentifiable root fragments) are thought to be modern and intrusive as they are unlikely to have survived for long in the soils on site.

Context	Sample	Feature type	Fill of	Position of fill	Period	Sample volume (L)	Volume processed (L)	Residue assessed	Flot assessed
105	1	Ditch	107		Roman?	20	0	No	No
106	2	Ditch	107		Roman?	20	0	No	No
118	10	Gully	119		Bronze Age – early Middle Iron Age	10	0	No	No
1534	7	Ditch	1532		Roman	40	0	No	No
1537	8	Ditch	1536	Primary	Undated	30	0	No	No
1541	6	Ditch	1540		Roman	40	10	Yes	Yes
1814	5	Carbonized layer			Undated	40	40	Yes	Yes
1815	4	Layer in Stone Structure			Roman?	40	10	Yes	Yes
1819	9	Layer			Roman	40	10	Yes	Yes
2008	3	Linear	2007		Roman	40	10	Yes	No

Table 4: List of plant remains

Results

Results are summarised in Tables 5 and 6.

context	large mammal	small mammal	fish	mollusc	charcoal	charred plant	uncharred plant	comment
2008	occ	occ		mod	occ			occ pot, fired clay
1541	occ	occ	occ	occ	occ		occ*	occ pot, oyster, * = probably intrusive
1814	occ	occ			occ	abt	occ*	occ fired clay, pot Fe obj, * = probably intrusive
1815				occ		mod		
1819	occ				occ	occ	occ*	occ fired clay, pot, * = probably intrusive

Table 5: Summary of environmental remains occ= occasional; mod = moderate, abt = abundant

context	sample	preservation type	species detail	category remains	quantity/diversity	comment
2008	3	?wa	unidentified root fragments	misc	+++/low	probably modern and intrusive
2008	3	ch		misc	+/low	very small unidentifiable fragments of charcoal
1541	6	wa		misc	+/low	root fragments etc probably modern and intrusive

context	sample	preservation type	species detail	category remains	quantity/diversity	comment
1814	5	ch	<i>Triticum dicoccum/spelta</i> grain, Cereal sp indet grain (fragment), <i>Bromus</i> sp grain, Poaceae sp indet grain (fragments)	grain	+++/medium	mostly well preserved emmer/spelt wheat grain and cereal or grass grain fragments
1814	5	?wa	<i>Ranunculus acris/repens/bulbosus</i>	seed	+/low	probably modern and intrusive
1814	5	ch	<i>Quercus robur/petraea</i> wood	misc	+/low	
1815	4	ch	<i>Triticum dicoccum/spelta</i> grain, <i>Triticum</i> sp (free-threshing) grain, <i>Triticum</i> sp grain, <i>Hordeum vulgare</i> grain (hulled), Cereal sp indet grain	grain	++/low	poorly preserved T dicoccum/spelta but well preserved free-threshing wheat & barley
1815	4	ch	unidentified seed	seed	+/low	
1815	4	?wa	cf <i>Linum usitatissimum</i> stem fragment	misc		probably ?modern and intrusive
1819	9	ch	<i>Triticum dicoccum/spelta</i> grain, <i>Triticum</i> sp (free-threshing) grain, <i>Triticum</i> sp grain, Poaceae sp indet grain	grain	+/low	
1819	9	?wa		seed	+/low	probably modern and intrusive

Key:

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

Table 6: Plant remains from bulk samples

Roman

Environmental remains were poorly preserved, although charred cereal grains were recorded in layer (1819) which was extensive in the evaluation trench and may have partially overlain the stone structure/possible corn dryer [1816 and 1817]. The charred grain consisted of occasional charred emmer or spelt wheat (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*), free-threshing wheat (*Triticum* sp free-threshing), and unidentified wheat and grass grains. This material, because of the extensive deposit, is most likely to derive from crop processing activities (parching grain in corn dryers). Emmer or spelt wheat crops are consistent with the Roman date of the context, whereas free-threshing wheat, although occasionally found in Roman deposits, is more characteristic of Early medieval or later deposits.

Terrestrial or fresh-water molluscs were found in low to moderate levels in linear and ditch fills (2008 and 1541). A single, small fragment of oyster shell was also noted.

Possible Roman

Abundant well preserved charred cereal grains of similar composition to layer (1819) above, with the exception of free-threshing wheat, were found in (1814), a layer adjacent to the stone-structure or possible corn dryer, and hence may be associated with the use of this structure.

Undated

An assemblage of charred cereal grains found in the base of the stone structure (1816 and 1817) was similar in composition to layer (1819) above, but may represent two distinct phases of activity, as poorly preserved emmer/spelt wheat grain was associated with well-preserved free-threshing wheat grain.

5.15.2 Environmental synthesis

The presence of both glume or hulled wheats (emmer/spelt wheat) and free-threshing wheats is of interest. It is assumed that the free-threshing wheat grain in both the stone structure and the charcoal-rich layer (1819) in Trench 18 is the residue of an episode of grain parching which post-dates that of parching emmer/spelt wheat grain. This could be Saxon or Early medieval in date, representing re-use of a previously abandoned structure, as this is when free-threshing wheat appears more consistently in the archaeological record in most parts of England. Without artefactual or radiocarbon dating, however, it is not possible to conclusively determine if this was the case.

An alternative interpretation is that the free-threshing wheat indicates an introduction to the Roman arable economy, but free-threshing wheat remains are only occasional finds in the south-west region (Straker 2008), as it is elsewhere, for example in Worcestershire to the north (Pearson pers. comm.). In the West Midlands, a combination of emmer/spelt wheat (glume or hulled wheats) and free-threshing wheats have been found at Redhill Reservoir, Shropshire (Pearson 2015a) and Wall, Staffordshire (Pearson 2015b), but in both cases these sites were associated with Roman roads which acted as important trade routes and a roadside settlement post-dating a fort and settlement post-dating a Flavian fort, respectively.

Mollusc remains and charcoal were of low significance although there is potential to recover mollusc assemblages of a suitable size for analysis.

Further material for analysis (should further work be carried out) has been retained in the form of unprocessed sample material from contexts (1815) and (1819).

5.15.3 Animal bone by James Spry

Results

In total, 233 individual fragments and 2.94kg of animal bone were recorded (Table 7). Four of these (37g) were un-stratified.

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Feature type	tpq date range
105	19	235	Ditch	Roman?
106	2	5	Ditch	Roman?
109	4	0.5	Pit	Undated
111	1	7	Layer	Iron Age/Roman conquest
116	1	0.5	Pit	Undated
205	1	2	Ditch	Iron Age
207	3	6	Ditch	Iron Age/Roman conquest
209	2	2	Ditch	Iron Age/Roman
1508	9	44	Linear	Roman
1512	1	2	Linear	Roman
1514	5	35	Linear	Roman
1516	1	6	Ditch	Roman
1522	3	24	Linear	Roman
1525	5	60	Layer	Roman/Roman conquest
1526	5	31	Layer	Roman
1529	9	41	Layer	Iron Age/Roman
1534	2	151	Ditch	Roman
1535	12	61	Ditch	Roman
1538	20	378	Ditch	Roman
1539	3	47	Ditch	Roman
1541	21	205	Ditch	Roman
1606	1	252	Ditch	Undated
1610	1	3	Ditch	Roman
1614	21	300	Ditch	Roman
1703	2	106	Layer	Roman
1708	6	146	Linear	Roman
1709	1	0.5	Linear	Iron Age/Roman conquest
1711	1	15	Linear	Undated
1715	6	26	Rubble spread	Roman
1718	10	29	Unknown	Roman
1727	2	1	Pit	Iron Age/Roman conquest
1809	4	18	Layer	Roman
1813	4	8	Rubble spread	Undated
1819	1	4	Layer	Roman
1902	2	8	Subsoil	Roman
1909	2	5	Ditch	Roman
1917	1	114	Ditch	Roman
2003	6	32	Layer	Roman
2004	8	212	Subsoil	Roman
2006	5	3	Ditch	Roman

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Feature type	tpq date range
2008	6	275	Linear	Roman
TOTAL	219	2900.5		

Table 7: Stratified animal bone count and weight per context

Iron Age

Those contexts dating to the Iron Age or Iron Age to Roman conquest period contained eight animal bone fragments weighing a total of 16.6g. None of these were identified to species. A slice mark was noted on one bone fragment and carnivore gnawing marks on another. The overall preservation of the remains is fair.

Iron Age/Roman

Those contexts dated within the Iron Age/Roman range contained 11 animal bone fragments weighing a total of 43g. One sheep/goat tooth and one dog tooth was identified in layer 1529. However the rest of the remains were not identified to species. The overall preservation of the remains is fair.

Roman

Those contexts dated within the *Roman* range contained 168 animal bone fragments weighing a total of 2.33kg. Most of those fragments identified to species were recorded in a similar quantity as cattle or sheep/goat; with horse (*Equus*) and dog remains both present in smaller quantities. Butchery, burning and gnawing marks were recorded on several of the bones. One long bone shaft from rubble spread 1715 showed possible signs of modification and one horse metatarsal from linear 2008 exhibited cut marks. The preservation of most of the remains was fair.

In addition, 32 fragments (516g) remain undated.

6 Synthesis

The archaeological features can be divided into five broad phases.

6.1 Phase 1: Possible Bronze Age cremation

An unexcavated pit (2204) containing a possible cremation identified near the western end of Trench 22. The pit appeared slightly oval in shape, although it may have been cut by a gully (2206) which lay immediately to the south. The pit contained a number of fragments of burnt bone, which were left in-situ, as well as sixteen small sherds of early Bronze Age pottery which were recovered.

6.2 Phase 2: Later prehistoric deposits

Features and/or deposits dating to the later prehistoric period were identified in Trenches 1, 2, 15 and possibly 17. Later prehistoric finds were also recovered from later deposits in Trench 16. Given the morphology of the site it is suggested that the prehistoric settlement was probably focused around the features identified in and around Trenches 1 and 2 before migrating to the central area of the site around Trenches 15 to 20.

6.3 Phase 3: Roman deposits

The Roman features were focussed in Trenches 15 to 20 although some Roman material was recovered from features in Trenches 1 and 2. The Roman features generally correlated well with the results of the geophysical survey and include an extensive number of ditches and layers, as well as a smaller number of discrete features and a corn dryer associated with Roman material. Ceramic and stone building material was also identified suggesting at least one Roman-style building may have been located on the site.

The nature, extent and date of the Roman features suggest that the site was in use throughout the Roman period. Some of the ditches appear to have been subject to a number of recutting events suggesting that the layout of the site may have been altered or reworked during this period.

6.4 Phase 4: Post-Roman deposits?

Historic subsoils were identified sealing the Roman and earlier deposits in Trenches 1, 2 and 15 to 20. These deposits contained Roman cultural material and may date to the later Roman period although the presence of emmer or spelt wheat in this deposit in Trench 18 is more characteristic of early medieval or later activity.

The historic subsoils were cut by a linear feature which was identified in the geophysical survey as a positive anomaly running across the main area of settlement activity. This feature appeared to be a trackway or possibly a ditch. Within the trenches it was only visible as a sterile, light-coloured deposit contrasting against the darker historic subsoil and, as such, may continue unseen to the north and south of the settlement.

6.5 Phase 5: Medieval

Extant ridge and furrow earthworks were visible across the field in which Trenches 5 to 9 were located, orientated approximately east to west. The same ridge and furrow appeared to continue into the field to the east (Trenches 10 to 14), but in this area modern ploughing had levelled most of the furrows. Extant ridge and furrow ploughing was visible across the field in which Trenches 22 to 26 were located, orientated approximately north to south. The furrows were typically formed of a light yellowish brown sandy clay silt subsoil.

A single furrow was recorded at the southern end of Trench 4. No evidence of ridge and furrow ploughing was identified in Trenches 1 to 3 and 15 to 21. This correlates well with the results of the geophysical survey which only identified furrows in the central area around Trench 4 (Figure 2). It is noted that evidence of ridge and furrow ploughing has been identified in all areas of the site except for around the main settlement area. This indicates that the area was not ploughed during the medieval period, and suggests that the remains of the Roman settlement were still visible, possibly as earthworks, when the medieval fields were laid out. It is also possible that some post-Roman activity continued in this area. This may be related to the possible post-Roman soils identified or the trackway identified in Trenches 15 and 17 which appears to may cut these deposits.

No evidence of palaeochannels or palaeoenvironmental deposits were identified during the evaluation but it is noted that the site is crossed by an unnamed brook which has been straightened to form field boundaries.

6.6 Research frameworks

The site has the potential to address some key questions and objectives identified as part of the South West Archaeological Research Framework (SWARF; Webster 2008). The 'chronologies, transitions and contexts' of non-villa rural settlements is noted in SWARF Resource Assessment as 'problematic', and it states that 'so little is known of the lesser status rural settlement, villages, farmsteads, hamlets and other forms of settlement in which the majority of population in the region must have lived (Holbrook 2008, 152-153).

The SWARF Resource Assessment also notes that there is a 'particular need for more work on the Roman/Post-Roman transition focussing on settlement formsand land-use/field-systems which may have continued functioning at different levels within this period' (ibid, 153).

The evaluation identified a later prehistoric and Roman settlement which was abandoned at some point after the 4th century AD. However the exact date of this abandonment is unclear and some evidence from the site, including the late/post-Roman subsoils cut by a possible trackway and the absence of furrows on the settlement site suggest that activity may have continued on the site into the post-Roman period.

The evaluation also identified charred plant remains which are of significance for investigating the change from glume/hulled wheats to free-threshing wheat as principle wheat crops. This is an important transition in arable farming between the Roman and post-Roman periods, and one which has been identified as part of the SWARF (Straker 2008).

With specific reference to the SWARF Research Agenda the site has the potential to directly address a number of research aims including:

- *Research Aim 16: Increase the use and improve the targeting scientific dating, specifically sub-category h concerning the Early Medieval period*
- *Research Aim 27: Investigate the origins of free-threshing wheat*
- *Research Aim 26: Investigate the changes in landscape and population at the end of the Roman period*
- *Research Aim 29: Improve our understanding of non-villa Roman rural settlement*
- *Research Aim 57: Widen our understanding of Neolithic and Early Bronze Age mortuary practice, specifically sub-categories c and d concerning scientific analysis of bone and evidence of mortuary practice*

7 Significance

7.1 Nature of the archaeological interest in the site

The site comprises the remains of ditches, pits and other discrete features, a possible corn dryer, rubble deposits and potential structural features surviving beneath the subsoil. Most of the features appear to date to the later prehistoric or Roman periods, with the exception of a possible early Bronze Age cremation, and a post-Roman linear feature, possibly a trackway.

Preservation of the later prehistoric and Roman features at the site is good and some of the features are sealed below a subsoil which may be late Roman or post-Roman in date. The features revealed during the evaluation align well with the recorded geophysical anomalies implying that the remainder of the settlement survives equally well.

The finds reflect the presence of significant Roman and late Iron Age activity on the site. They indicate a long sequence of occupation, with evidence dating from the late Iron Age/conquest period to the late 3rd-4th century AD, with hints that earlier prehistoric deposits may also be present. The finds also have the potential to reveal significant data about trade links during the later prehistoric and Roman periods 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 potential for recovery of animal bone, charred plant remains and molluscs. Further work at the site has the potential to recover assemblages of sufficient size for interpretation of the economy, land-use and wider landscape at the site.

7.2 Relative importance of the archaeological interest in the site

The presence of an early Bronze Age cremation has the potential to contribute to our understanding of the date and nature of mortuary practice in the early prehistoric period.

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, the post-Roman transition, and to provide information about agricultural practice and trade links.

7.3 Physical extent of the archaeological interest in the site

The later prehistoric and Roman features revealed during the evaluation align well with the recorded geophysical anomalies. These anomalies indicated there are two discrete areas of settlement, and this was confirmed by the evaluation. No significant archaeological features were identified in Trenches 3, 21, the western half of Trench 16 and the east ends of Trenches 18 and 20 signifying the probable edges of the main Roman settlement correlate with the geophysical anomalies. Other archaeological and/or potential archaeological features were identified around the smaller settlement area in Trenches 1, 2 and 4 although this area of activity was less clearly defined in the trenches.

The trenches in the southern and two eastern fields have demonstrated that later prehistoric and Roman archaeological features are much less dense in these areas. However the presence of a possible early Bronze Age cremation indicates that discrete early prehistoric features may survive in areas of the site.

8 Acknowledgements

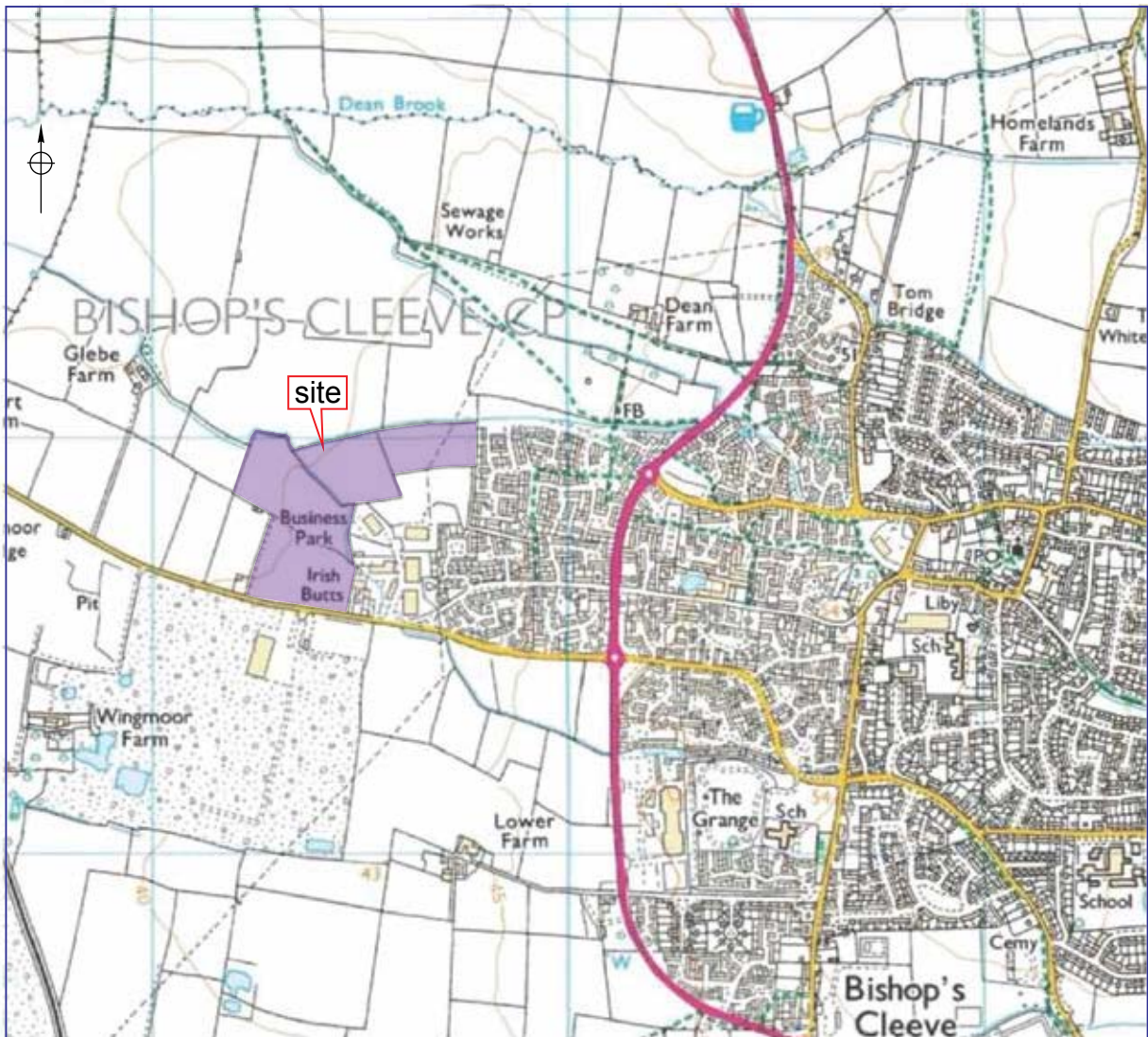
Worcestershire Archaeology would like to thank the following for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project, Richard Smalley and Paul Chadwick of CgMs Consulting for commissioning the project and their help and support, the landowners for providing access to the land and their help and support throughout, and Charles Parry (Planning Archaeologist for Gloucestershire County Council) for monitoring the project and his advice.

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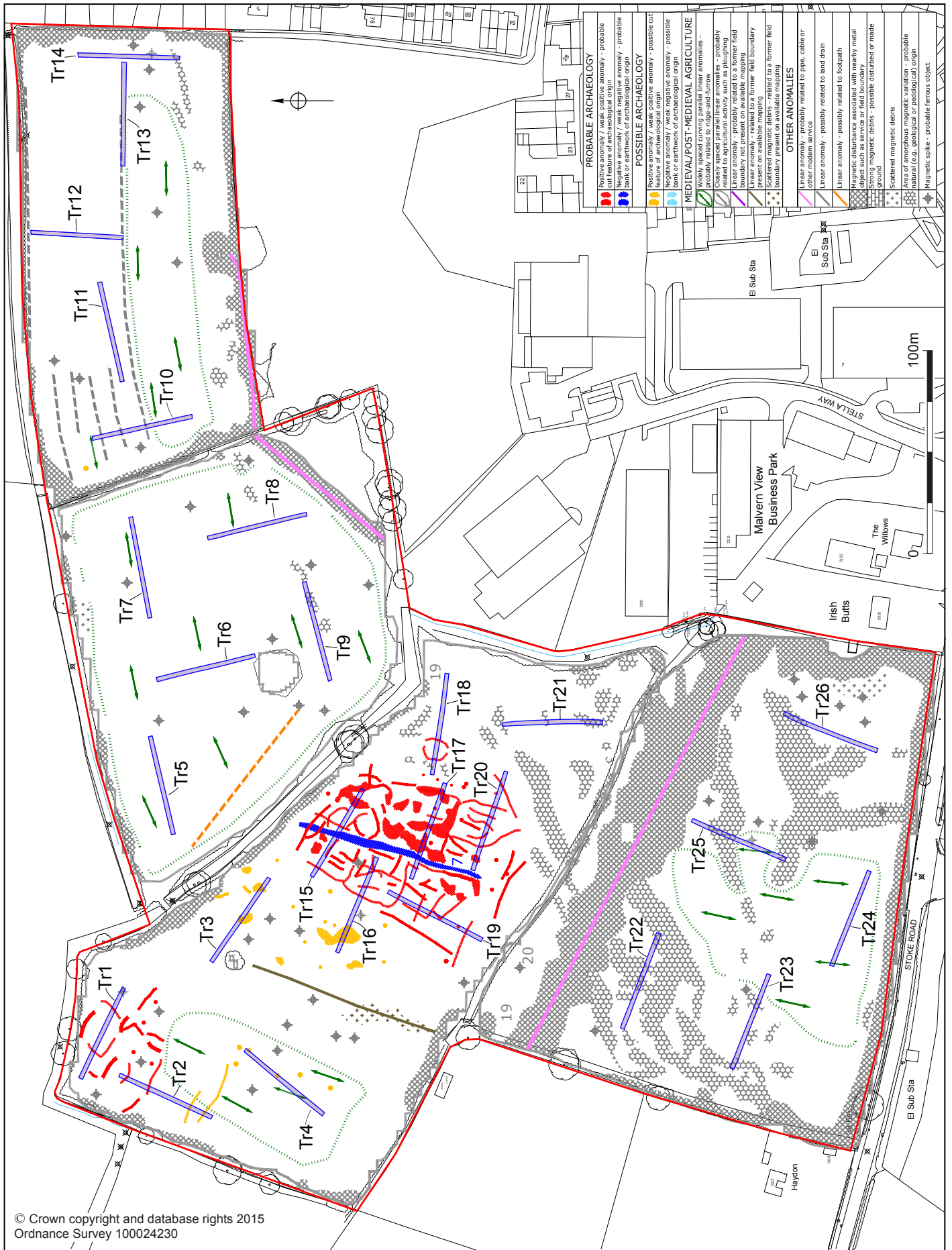
Figures



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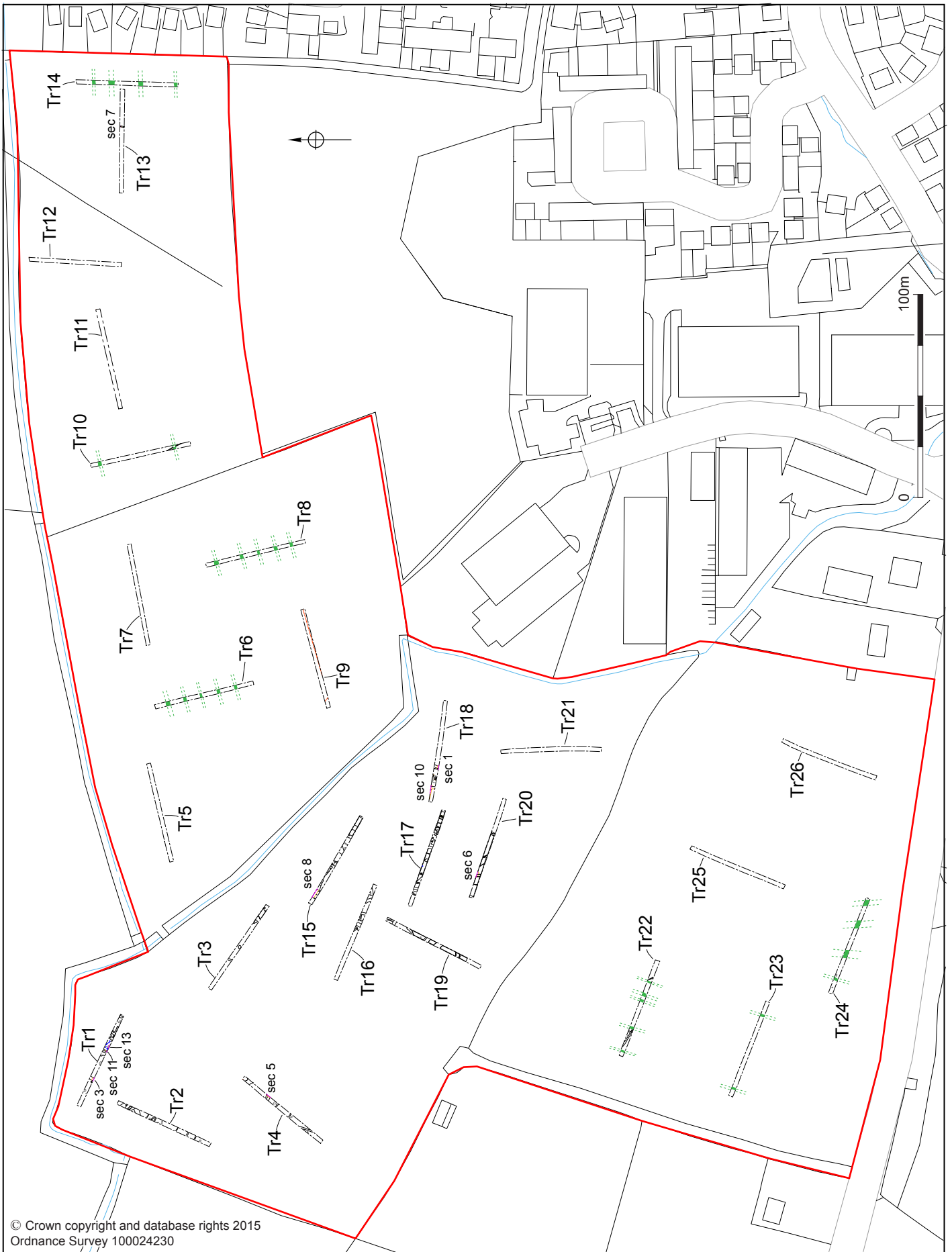
Location of the site

Figure 1



Trench locations with geophysics (based upon Stratascan Fig No. 04)

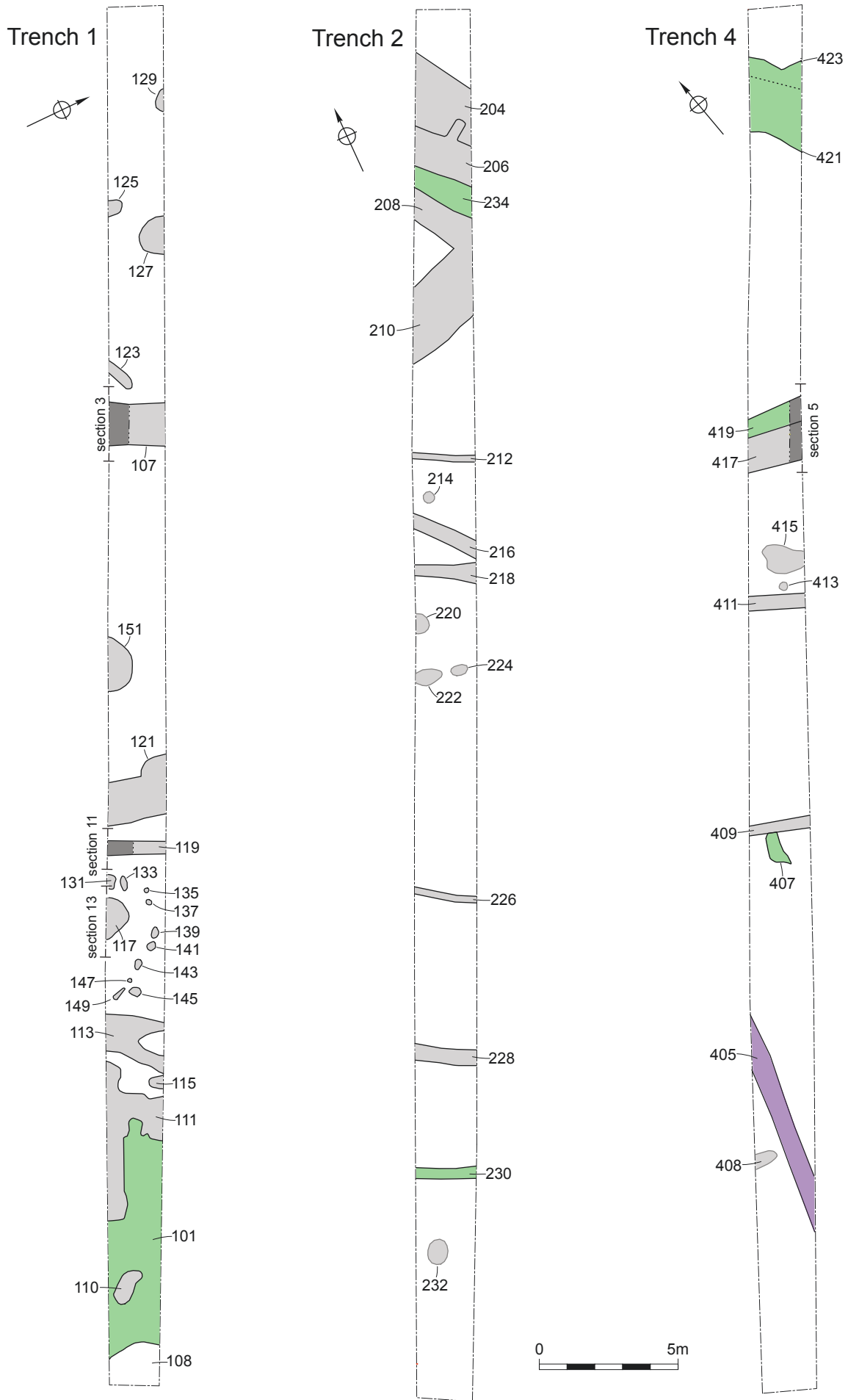
Figure 2



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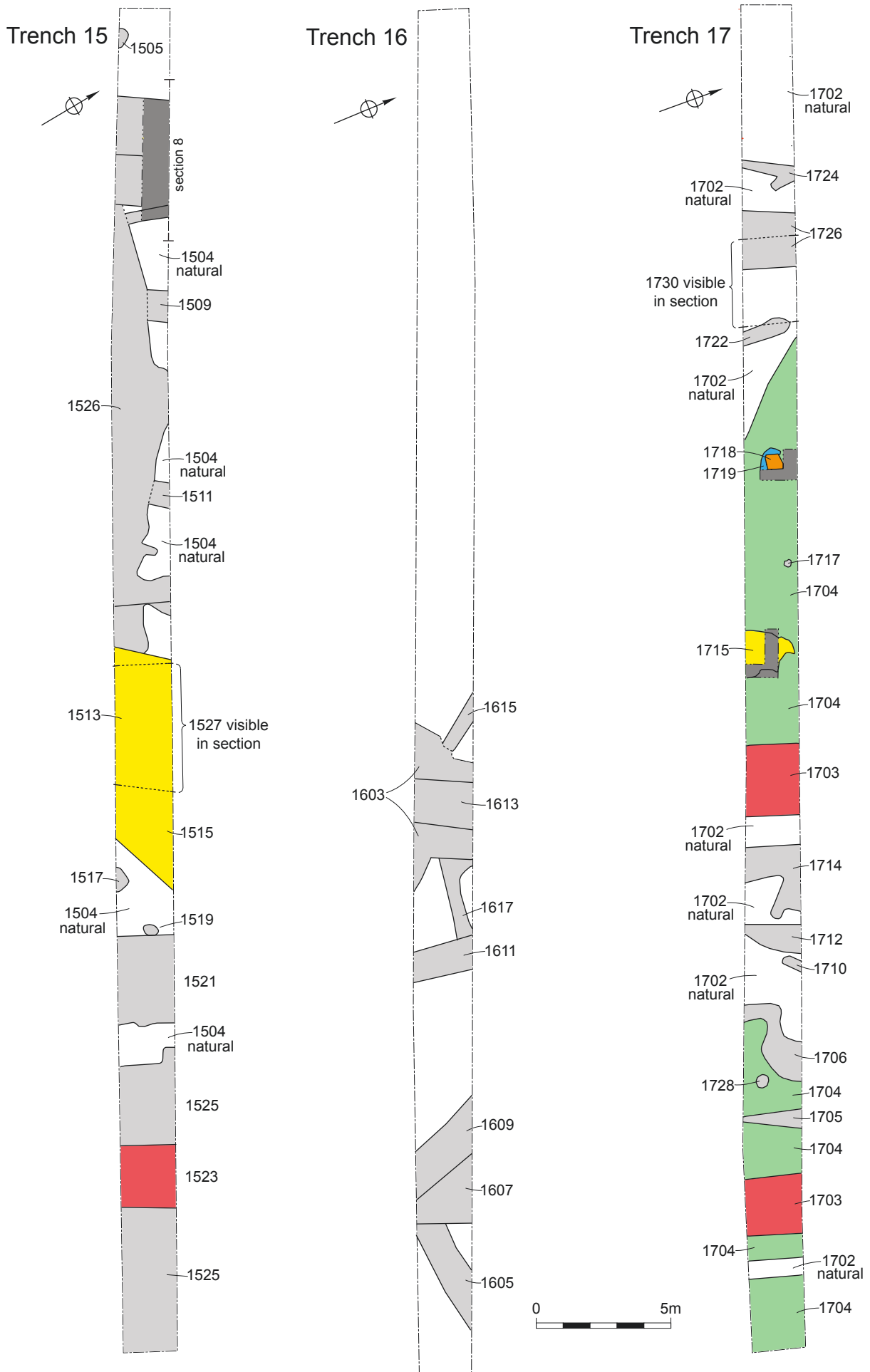
Trench locations with archaeological features

Figure 3



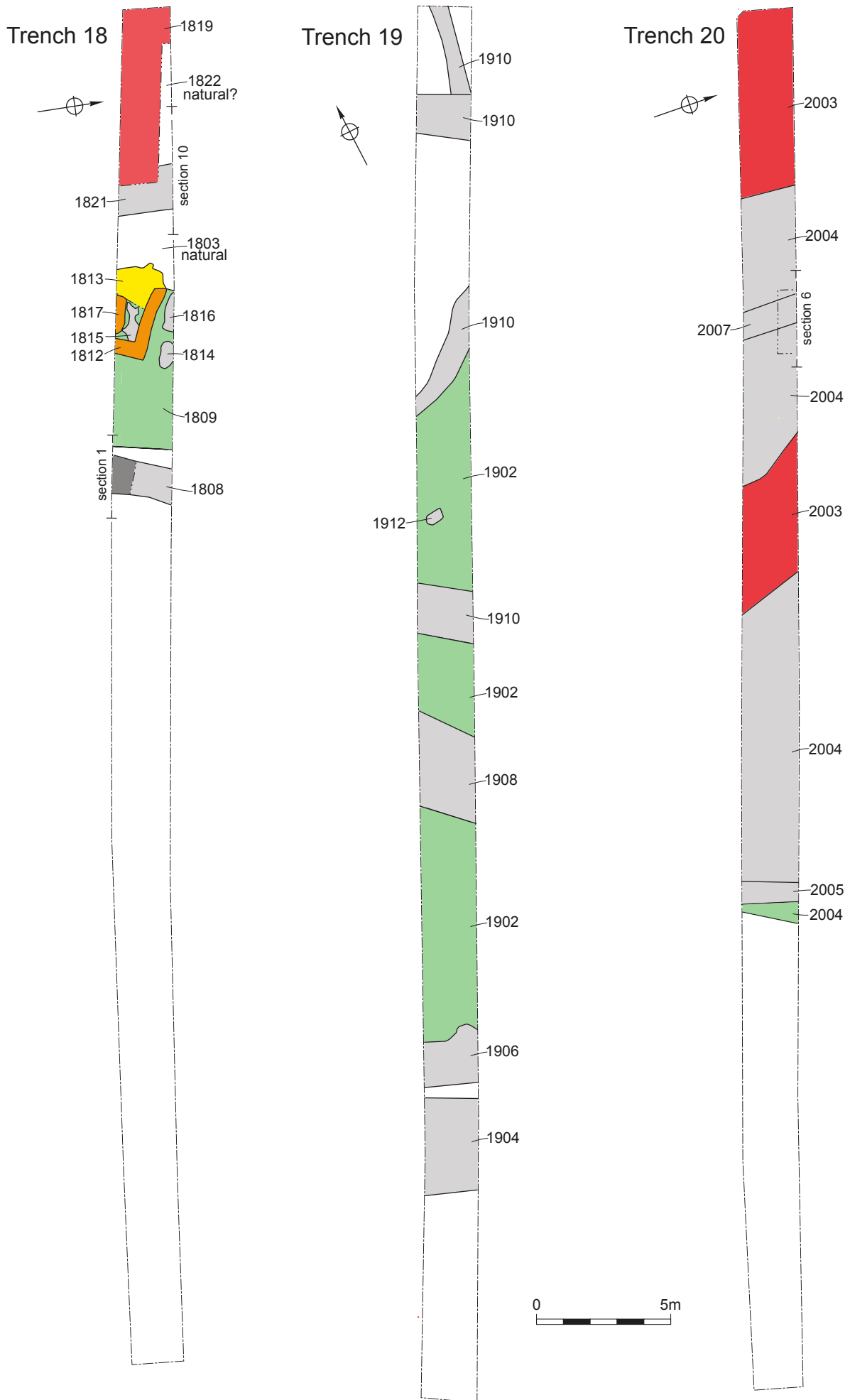
Trenches 1, 2 and 4: plans

Figure 4



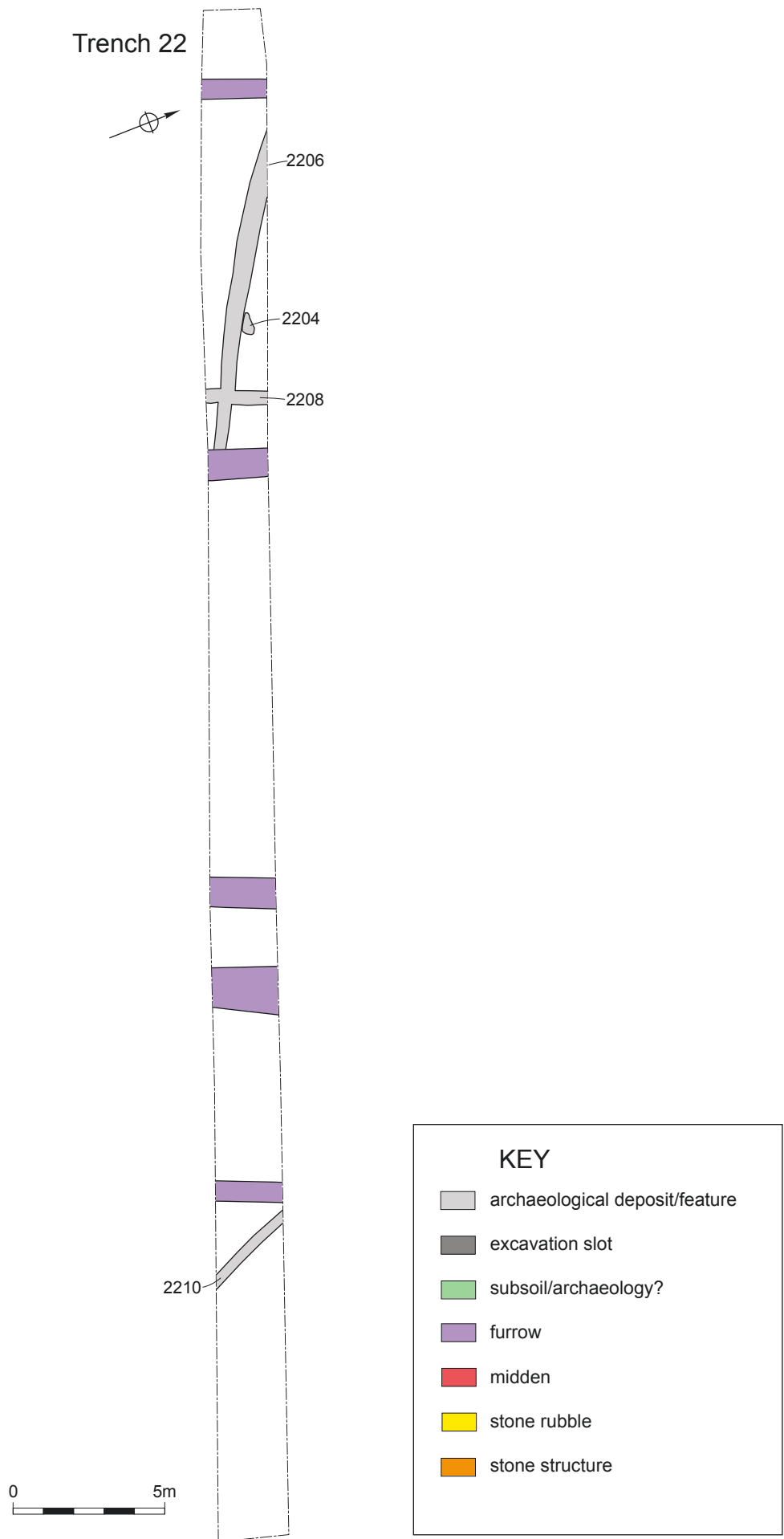
Trenches 15, 16 and 17: plans

Figure 5



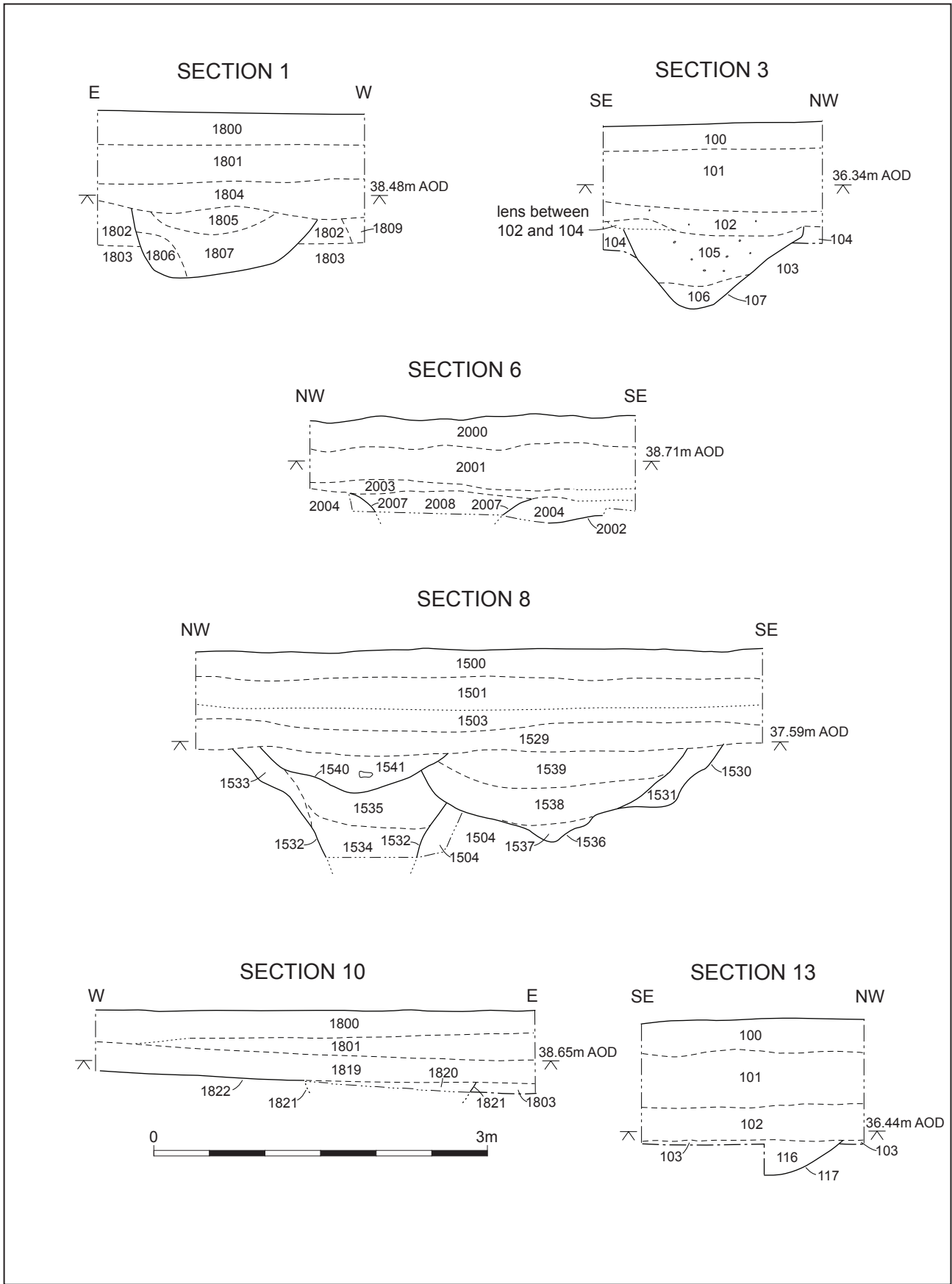
Trenches 18, 19 and 20: plans

Figure 6



Trench 22: plan and key

Figure 7



Sections

Figure 8

Plates



Plate 1: Ditch (107). Note the dark subsoil (102) overlying the ditch and natural deposits. Photo looking south-west.



Plate 2: Pit 107. Photo looking south-west.



Plate 3: Ditch (1532) to the left and Ditch (1536) to the right. Ditch recut (1540) is visible as the dark deposit above Ditch (1532). Photo looking north-east.



Plate 4: Oblique photo of Ditches (1532), (1536) and (1540). Note the dark subsoil layer (1529) overlying the ditch sequence. Photo looking north.



Plate 5: A linear feature (1527) was visible in the section of Trench 15 cutting a dark subsoil deposit and filled with a yellowish brown deposit. Photo looking south-west.



Plate 6: Feature (1720) was lined in clay on two sides and constructed of rubble. Photo looking east.



Plate 7: Rubble spread (1715) contained Roman roof tile. Photo looking south.



Plate 8: Rubble spread (1715), appeared to be within a subsoil deposit (1704) which overlaid natural strata. Photo looking west.

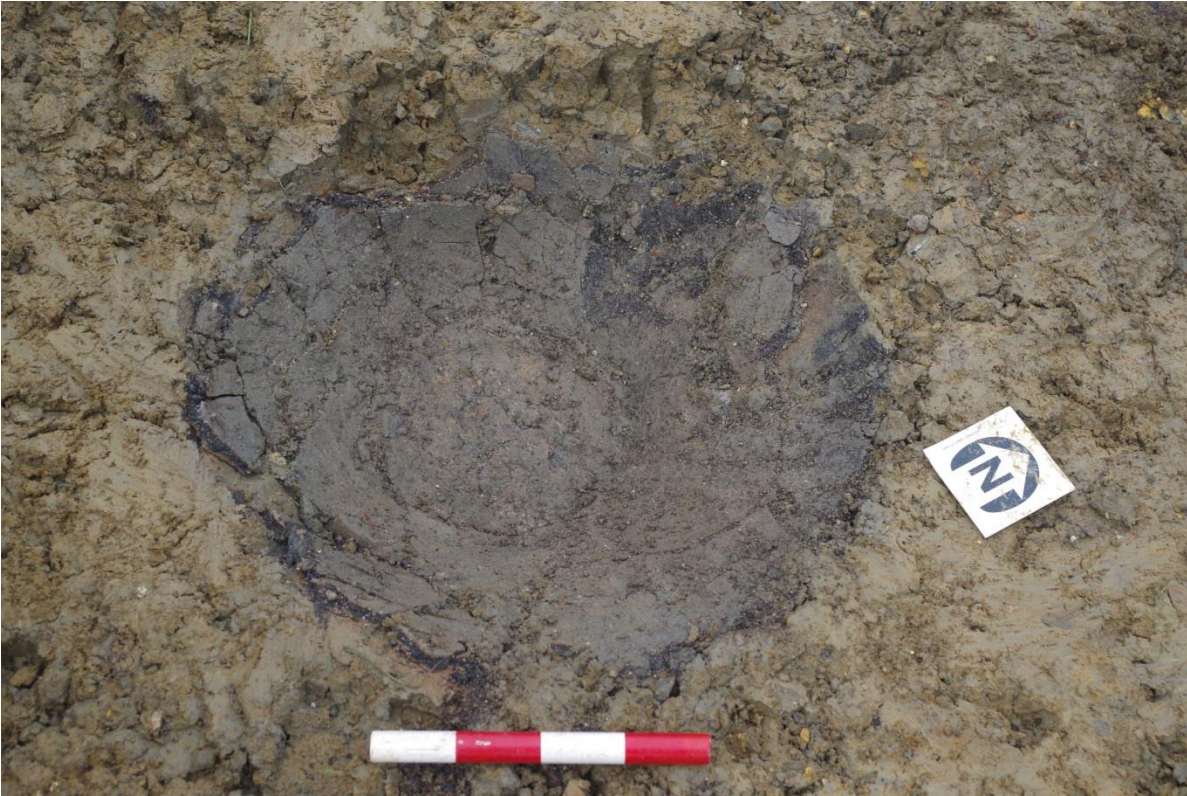


Plate 9: The base of an Iron Age pottery vessel (1727) was identified cutting subsoil (1704). Photo looking north-west



Plate 10: The linear feature cutting the historic subsoil was also visible in the section of Trench 15 (1730). This feature correlates well the linear negative anomaly recorded by the geophysical survey. Photo looking south.



Plate 11: Rubble spread (1813) overlying Structure 1812 in Trench 18. Note the dark subsoil layer (1809) extending over the rubble. Photo looking south.



Plate 12: The east of Feature 1812 was exposed. This structure may have been used as a corn dryer, and deposit (1815) is visible in the base of the feature. Photo looking south.



Plate 13: Above charcoal deposit (1815) feature 1812 was filled by a layer of yellowish clay, and the whole structure was sealed by rubble spread (1813). Photo looking north-west.



Plate 14: A sondage was hand excavated through dark subsoil layer (1819) revealing ditch (1821), which is visible in plan cutting an orangey clay (1822) deposit which may be natural. Photo looking north-west.



Plate 15: The sondage excavated through dark subsoil (1819). Note how this subsoil also overlies rubble deposit 1813 which is visible being cleaned by Worcestershire Archaeology staff.



Plate 16: The upper part of Ditch (2007) is visible in section and plan. This ditch, along with some of the other features in this area, was sealed by a dark subsoil, visible in section and the non-excavated base of the trench. Photo looking north-east.



Plate 17: Possible cremation pit (2204). Fragment of burnt bone and charcoal are visible. The pit appeared to be cut by Gully (2206) although the relationship was not clear. Photo looking north.

Appendix 1 Trench descriptions

Trench 1

Length: 50m

Width: 1.8m

Orientation: North-west to south-east

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation/notes
100	Topsoil	Layer	Friable mid greyish brown loamy silt	0.28	Topsoil
101	Subsoil	Layer	Compact light greyish brown silty clay	0.55	Frequent rooting
102	Layer	Layer	Compact dark blackish grey silty clay	0.24	Moderate ceramic frags, charcoal and degraded stone fragments. Dark earth.
103	Natural	Layer	Moderately Compact mid greyish orange sandy clay		Frequent gravels
104	Layer	Layer	Compact mid greyish orange silty clay	0.33	Ancient subsoil? Redeposited natural? Dirty layer but no obvious cultural activity.
105	Ditch	Fill	Moderately Compact mid orangey grey silty clay	0.52	Upper fill of ditch [107]. Animal bone and parts of a small metal chain, indicates cultural activity. Capped by (102).
106	Ditch	Fill	Compact dark orangey grey silty clay	0.30	Basal fill of ditch [107]. Similar to blue/grey natural at bottom of ditch, but did contain animal bone. Probably a natural build up of surrounding natural whilst ditch is open, trampled in with source of base.
107	Ditch	Cut		0.75	Not overly wide or deep so probably a small enclosure ditch. No dating but would fit in with surrounding Roman landscape. Animal bone and parts of small broken metal chain Capped by dark
108	Layer	Layer	Moderately Compact mid brownish grey silty clay		Layer of activity. Frequent charcoal and burnt lumps. May be a linear/pit.
109	Pit	Fill	Moderately Compact dark brownish grey silty clay		Not excavated so unsure of nature. Evidence of burning activity. Few animal bone frags but no
110	Pit	Cut			Cut of pit. Not excavated

111	Layer	Layer	Moderately Compact dark orangey grey silty clay		Layer of activity. May be part of a linear but not excavated. Finds indicate cultural activity.
112	Ditch	Fill	Moderately Compact mid brownish grey silty clay		Narrow enclosure ditch? Most likely two ditches coming together. No
113	Ditch	Cut			Cut of ditch not
114	Pit	Fill	Moderately Compact light brownish grey silty clay		No finds. Possible pit but not excavated so not sure. May be ditch terminus??
115	Pit	Cut			Cut of possible ditch but not excavated
116	Pit	Fill	Compact mid blueish grey silty clay	0.34	Fill of pit [117] possibly deliberately backfilled. Protruding from bulk so possibly a ditch terminus.
117	Pit	Cut		0.34	Fill of pit [117].
118	Gully	Fill	Moderately Compact dark brownish grey silty clay	0.28	Single fill of gully [119]. No finds. Unsure of origin.
119	Gully	Cut		0.28	Shallow, narrow gully. No finds. Close proximity to other pits and linears with limited finds.
120	Linear	Fill	Moderately Compact dark brownish grey silty clay		Wide linear/ditch. Unexcavated.
121	Linear	Cut			Cut of wide linear ditch. Unexcavated.
122	Pit	Fill	Moderately Compact mid greyish orange silty clay		Fill of possible pit or ditch terminus? Not excavated, no finds.
123	Pit	Cut			Cut of possible pit or ditch terminus? Not excavated.
124	Pit	Fill	Moderately Compact mid orangey grey silty clay		Fill of possible small pit. Protruding from trench edge. Not excavated so unsure.
125	Pit	Cut			Cut of possible small pit. Not excavated.
126	Pit	Fill	Moderately Compact mid orangey grey silty clay		Fill of possible pit. Not excavated. May be ditch terminus?
127	Pit	Cut			Cut of possible pit. Not excavated. May be ditch terminus?
128	Pit	Fill	Moderately Compact mid orangey grey silty clay		Fill of indiscrete feature protruding from trench. Not excavated.

129	Pit	Cut		Cut of indiscrete feature, possibly pit. Protruding from edge of trench. Not excavated.
130	Posthole	Fill	Moderately Compact dark blackish grey silty clay	Fill; of possible post hole or discrete feature. Not excavated so may just be discrete deposits trodden into natural.
131	Posthole	Cut		Cut of possible posthole. Not excavated so could be discrete deposit trodden into natural.
132	Posthole	Fill	Moderately Compact dark blackish grey silty clay	Fill of possible posthole. Not excavated so could be discrete deposit trodden into natural.
133	Posthole	Cut		Cut of possible posthole. Not excavated so could be discrete deposit trodden into natural.
134	Posthole	Fill	Moderately Compact dark blackish grey silty clay	Fill of possible posthole. Not excavated so could be discrete deposit trodden into natural.
135	Posthole	Cut		Cut of possible posthole. Not excavated so could be discrete deposit trodden into natural.
136	Posthole	Fill	Moderately Compact dark blackish grey silty clay	Fill of possible posthole. Not excavated so could be discrete deposit trodden into natural.
137	Posthole	Cut		Cut of possible posthole. Not excavated so could be discrete deposit trodden into natural.
138	Stakehole	Fill	Moderately Compact dark blackish grey silty clay	Fill of possible posthole. Not excavated so could be discrete deposit trodden into natural.
139	Posthole	Cut		Cut of possible posthole. Not excavated so could be discrete deposit trodden into natural.
140	Posthole	Fill	Moderately Compact dark blackish grey silty clay	Fill of possible posthole. Not excavated so could be discrete deposit trodden into natural.
141	Posthole	Cut		Cut of possible posthole. Not excavated so could be discrete deposit trodden into natural.

142	Posthole	Fill	Moderately Compact dark blackish grey silty clay	Fill of possible posthole. Not excavated so could be discrete deposit trodden into natural.
143	Posthole	Cut		Cut of possible posthole. Not excavated so could be discrete deposit trodden into natural.
144	Posthole	Fill	Moderately Compact dark blackish grey silty clay	Fill of possible posthole. Not excavated so could be discrete deposit trodden into natural.
145	Posthole	Cut		Cut of possible posthole. Not excavated so could be discrete deposit trodden into natural.
146	Posthole	Fill	Moderately Compact dark blackish grey	Fill of possible posthole. Not excavated so could be discrete deposit trodden into natural.
147	Posthole	Cut		Cut of possible posthole. Not excavated so could be discrete deposit trodden into natural.
148	Posthole	Fill	Moderately Compact dark blackish grey silty clay	Fill of possible posthole. Not excavated so could be discrete deposit trodden into natural.
149	Posthole	Cut		Cut of possible posthole. Not excavated so could be discrete deposit trodden into natural.
150	Pit	Fill	Moderately Compact light greyish orange silty clay	Possible pit, protruding from trench edge. Could be a ditch terminus? Not excavated.
151	Pit	Cut		Cut of possible pit. Protruding from trench edge so may be a ditch terminus? Not excavated.

Trench 2

Length: 50m

Width: 1.8m

Orientation: North-east to south-west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation/notes
200	Topsoil	Layer	Friable mid greyish brown loamy silt	0.3	Topsoil
201	Subsoil	Layer	Compact light greyish brown silty clay	0.35	Subsoil
202	Subsoil	Layer	Compact mid yellowish brown silty clay		Frequent charcoal flecks.
203	Natural	Layer	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay	0.9	Natural
204	Ditch	Cut			Cut of ditch
205	Ditch	Fill	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay		Occasional charcoal flecks and burnt clay fragments. NE-SW ditch cutting or intercut by [206]. Some finds but not strongly cultural.
206	Ditch	Cut			NW-SE aligned ditch with strongly cultural fill resembling black earth layers found elsewhere onsite. Possibly post dates [204] to north but could be a different feature with same type of fill.
207	Ditch	Fill	Compact dark blackish grey silty clay		NW-SE aligned ditch with strongly cultural fill resembling black earth layers found elsewhere onsite. Possibly post dates [204] to north but could be a different feature with same type of fill. Contains burnt clay, pot, bone, stone and CBM.
208	Ditch	Cut			Cut of very large ditch with highly cultural fill. Cuts or is cut by [208]. Containing pot, bone and
209	Ditch	Fill	Compact dark brownish grey silty clay		Unexcavated. Same as (211). Fill of NW-SE linear ditch [208], burnt clay fragments and animal bone.
210	Ditch	Cut			

211	Ditch	Fill	Compact light blueish grey silty clay	Large SW-NE ditch with highly cultural fill, cuts or is cut by [208] to the east. [208] and [210] pairing reflect [216] and [218] to south, but much larger.
212	Linear	Cut		
213	Linear	Fill	Compact dark brownish grey silty clay	Unexcavated thin E-W linear, similar to [226] to south, but with more cultural material.
214	Pit	Cut		
215	Pit	Fill	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay	Unexcavated fill of circular pit with strong cultural indicators within. North of ditches [216] and [218] and to south of [212].
216	Linear	Cut		
217	Linear	Fill	Compact mid brownish grey silty clay	Unexcavated NW-SE linear, possibly intercut or cutting [218] to south. Strong cultural indicators but no finds.
218	Linear	Cut		
219	Linear	Fill	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay	Unexcavated W-E aligned linear with pottery and area of burnt clay at eastern end. May intercut, or be cut by, [216] to north beyond limit of
220	Pit	Cut		
221	Pit	Fill	Compact light greyish brown silty clay	Unexcavated fill of pit/ditch terminus [220], with concentrated patch of burnt clay. See (223).
222	Pit	Cut		
223	Pit	Fill	Compact light greyish brown silty clay	Unexcavated elongated pit or ditch terminus. Seam of burnt clay running down centre with concentration at eastern end - could represent in situ burning or deposit, although little charcoal observed. May continue to include pit [224], which contains smaller quantities of burnt clay. May also be associated with [220] to north. Alternatively all three could represent a pit cluster.
224	Pit	Cut		

225	Pit	Fill	Compact light greyish brown silty clay	Unexcavated, contains smears of burnt clay and may be associated with, or part of, [222]. See(223).
226	Linear	Cut		
227	Linear	Fill	Compact dark greyish brown silty clay	Unexcavated narrow linear feature running E-W, very similar in plan and size to [212] approximately 13m to north - may be related.
228	Linear	Cut		NE-SW linear
229	Linear	Fill	Compact mid greyish Brown silty clay	Fill of NE-SW ditch cutting or intercut by 206, or 206 is a recut. Substantially sized, fill not strongly cultural but some finds
230	Linear	Cut		
231	Linear	Fill	Compact light greyish brown silty clay	Unexcavated ephemeral linear. Alternatively, may represent interface between second cultural sub-soil and natural.
232	Pit	Cut		
233	Pit	Fill	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay	Unexcavated pit feature of substantial size compared to others on site.
234	Layer	Layer	Compact light orangey grey silty clay	Thought to be natural but is dirty so may be a layer of re-deposited natural, or representing the second subsoil to natural interface

Trench 3

Length: 50m

Width: 1.8m

Orientation: North-west to south-east

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation/notes
300	Topsoil	Layer	Friable mid greyish brown silt loam	0.25	
301	Subsoil	Layer	Friable mid yellowish grey sandy clay	0.23	Upper subsoil.
302	Subsoil	Layer	Compact light orangey orange sandy clay	0.27	Lower subsoil. Incl. rare charcoal flecks.
303	Natural	Layer	Compact mid orangey grey clay		Not sure of relationship with features/ cultural layers without excavation.
304	Ditch	Cut			Unexcavated Ditch cut.
305	Ditch	Fill	Moderately Compact dark yellowish grey sandy clay		Fill of unexcavated ditch. Small snail shells and charcoal flecks on surface. No dating.
306	Layer	Layer	Loose mid greyish red silty clay		Unexcavated layer of burn clay/ ceramic material. Possibly seen on geophysics. No finds/ dating.
307	Layer	Layer	Loose dark blackish grey silty clay		Layer of burning, unexcavated. Lots of charcoal and burnt clay. No dating, possibly seen in geophysics.
308	Layer	Layer	Moderately Compact mid blackish grey silty clay		Layer of activity at SE end of trench. Areas of burnt clay/ charcoal mixed with clay. No dating.

Trench 4

Length: 50m

Width: 1.8m

Orientation: North-east to south-west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation/notes
400	Topsoil	Layer	Friable mid greyish brown silt loam	0.40	
401	Subsoil	Layer	Compact light greyish brown silty clay	0.50	
402	Natural	Layer	Compact mid blueish grey silty clay		Mudstone and gravels
403	Pit	Cut			Unexcavated cut of pit/ terminus.
404	Pit	Fill	Compact mid orangey brown silty clay		Fill of unexcavated pit/ terminus. No finds/ dating.
405	Furrow	Cut			Cut of possible furrow. Unexcavated.
406	Furrow	Fill	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay		Unexcavated fill of furrow. No finds/ dating. Likely medieval.
407	Pit	Cut			Unexcavated pit cut. Associated with linear [409].
408	Pit	Fill	Compact mid greyish brown sandy silty clay		Unexcavated fill of pit. Could be a tree throw. Contained charcoal but no other finds/ dating.
409	Linear	Cut			Cut of unexcavated linear. Closely associated with [407] pit.
410	Linear	Fill	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay		Unexcavated fill of linear. Contains charcoal flecks but no other finds/ dating.
411	Linear	Cut			Cut of unexcavated linear. . Good chance it is associated with small pit/ post hole [412].
412	Linear	Fill	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay		Unexcavated fill of linear. No finds/ dating
413	Posthole	Cut			Unexcavated post hole/ small pit cut. Possibly associated with linear
414	Posthole	Fill	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay		Fill of unexcavated posthole/ small pit. No finds/ dating but some charcoal.
415	Pit	Cut			Cut of unexcavated pit/ terminus. Similar to [423].

416	Pit	Fill	Compact dark greenish brown silty clay		Fill of unexcavated Pit/ terminus. Contained charcoal but no finds/ dating.
417	Linear	Cut		0.20	Shallow linear feature, looks like a furrow but on a different alignment from those in the field.
418	Linear	Fill	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay		Fill of linear. Contained on piece of undated pottery.
419	Linear	Cut			Shallow linear feature - actually probably part of [417] so probably needs to be VOID.
420	Linear	Fill	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay		Possible original ditch extent of re-cutting of linear [417]. Contained charcoal flecks but no finds/ dating. Not
421	Ditch	Cut			Unexcavated possible linear cut.
422	Ditch	Fill	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay		Fill of possible ditch feature. Unexcavated. No finds/ dating.
423	Ditch	Cut			Unexcavated possible ditch cut.
424	Ditch	Fill	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay		Fill of possible ditch. Contained charcoal but no finds/ dating.

Trench 5

Length: 50m

Width: 1.8m

Orientation: North-east to south-west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation/notes
500	Topsoil	Layer	Friable dark greyish brown clay silt	0.60	
501	Subsoil	Layer	Moderately Compact mid greyish brown silty clay	0.70	
502	Natural	Layer	Compact orangey grey silty clay		Occasional yellow mottling and sandy patches.

Trench 6

Length: 50m

Width: 1.8m

Orientation: North-west to south-east

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation/notes
600	Topsoil	Layer	Friable dark greyish brown clay silt	0.50	
601	Subsoil	Layer	Moderately Compact mid greyish brown silty clay	0.30	
602	Natural	Layer	Compact light blueish grey silty clay		Frequent sand and gravel bands.
603	Furrow	Cut			
604	Furrow	Fill			

Trench 7

Length: 50m

Width: 1.8m

Orientation: North-east to south-west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation/notes
700	Topsoil	Layer	Friable dark greyish brown clay silt	0.20	
701	Subsoil	Layer	Moderately Compact mid greyish brown silty clay	0.30	
702	Natural	Layer	Compact mid blueish grey clay	0.20+	Mudstone with occasional patches of orangey brown silty-sandy clay.

Trench 8

Length: 50m

Width: 1.8m

Orientation: North-west to south-east

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation/notes
800	Topsoil	Layer	Friable dark greyish brown clay silt	0.20	
801	Subsoil	Layer	Moderately compact light yellowish brown sandy clay	0.25	
802	Natural	Layer	light brownish yellow clay silt	0.05+	Occasional irregular patches of limestone

Trench 9

Length: 50m

Width: 1.8m

Orientation: North-east to south-west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation/notes
900	Topsoil	Layer	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt	0.40	Pure sand to SE of trench. Occasional gravel bands.
901	Subsidence	Layer	Moderately compact light yellowish brown sandy clay	0.30	
902	Natural	Layer	Moderately compact mid brownish orange sandy clay		

Trench 10

Length: 50m

Width: 1.8m

Orientation: North-west to south-east

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation/notes
1000	Topsoil	Layer	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt	0.15	
1001	Subsoil	Layer	Moderately compact mid orangey brown silty clay	0.33	
1002	Natural	Layer	Firm mid blueish grey clay	0.12+	the southern end (for 14m) is the same as (802)
1003	Gully	Fill	Moderately compact mid greyish brown sandy silt		Does not look archaeologically significant
1004	Gully	Cut			unexcavated gully cut. Possible field drain. Unclear relationship with furrow

Trench 11

Length: 50m

Width: 1.8m

Orientation: North-east to south-west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation/notes
1100	Topsoil	Layer	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt	0.15	
1101	Subsoil	Layer	Moderately compact mid greyish brown silty clay	0.30	
1102	Natural	Layer	Compact mid blueish grey clay	0.13+	

Trench 12

Length: 50m

Width: 1.8m

Orientation: North to south

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation/notes
1200	Topsoil	Layer	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt	0.20	
1201	subsoil	Layer	Moderately compact mid greyish brown silty clay	0.25	
1202	Natural	Layer	Compact mid blueish grey clay	0.08+	

Trench 13

Length: 50m

Width: 1.8m

Orientation: East to west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation/notes
1300	Topsoil	Layer	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt	0.20	
1301	Subsoil	Layer	Moderately compact mid greyish brown silty clay	0.30	
1302	Natural	Layer	Compact mid blueish grey clay	0.08	From eastern end (20m) it is the same as (802)
1303	Linear	Fill	Moderately compact light greyish brown sandy clay		Small slot excavated, seen in drawing no.7
1304	Linear	Cut			Cut of possible linear, shallow gully more likely after trial slot.

Trench 14

Length: 50m

Width: 1.8m

Orientation: North to south

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation/notes
1400	Topsoil	Layer	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt	0.25	
1401	Subsoil	Layer	Moderately compact mid orange brown silty clay	0.35	
1402	Natural	Layer	Compact light brownish yellow sandy clay silt	0.15+	At northern end (12m) is the same as (702)

Trench 15

Length: 50m

Width: 1.8m

Orientation: North-west to south-east

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation/notes
1500	Topsoil	Layer	Friable mid greyish brown silty loam	0.30	
1501	Subsoil	Layer	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay	0.40	
1502	Layer	Layer	Moderately compact dark blackish brown silty clay	0.40	Dark earth. Runs from the SE end of the trench until approx. 4m from the NW end. Some rubble present in the middle.
1503	Subsoil	Layer	Compact mid yellowish brown silty clay	0.10	Possible ancient subsoil, as seen in other trenches. Seen in patches throughout the trench. Sits underneath (1502) in
1504	Natural	Layer	Compact mid greyish brown clay		
1505	Pit	Cut			Unexcavated cut of possible pit of terminus. Goes under trench edge
1506	Pit	Fill	Compact mid greyish yellow silty clay		Unexcavated fill of possible pit of terminus. Contained very fragmented pot but not yet
1507	Linear	Cut			Unexcavated cut of large linear, with Roman ceramics in surface fill
1508	Linear	Fill	Compact mid brownish grey silty clay		Fill of large linear. Roman ceramic and CBM in unexcavated surface gives date
1509	Linear	Cut			Unexcavated cut of suspected linear feature
1510	Linear	Fill	Firm dark greyish yellow silty clay		Unexcavated fill of 1509. No finds.
1511	Linear	Cut			Unexcavated linear aligned N-S.
1512	Linear	Fill	Compact dark brownish grey silty clay		Fill of suspected linear 1511. Abundant charcoal flecks and frags, and pottery (?Roman).
1513	Linear	Cut			Unexcavated. Huge linear N-S Potentially a road. 4.8m by 1.8m visible.

1514	Linear	Fill	Compact dark blueish grey silty clay		Abundant charcoal frags. Large sub-angular stone, burnt stone, pot, CBM. Possibly Roman.
1515	Ditch	Cut			Unexcavated ditch. Associated with 1513?
1516	Ditch	Fill	Compact dark brownish grey silty clay		Fill of ditch [1515]. Unexcavated.
1517	Unknown	Cut			Ephemeral triangular (where visible). Unexcavated.
1518	Unknown	Fill	Compact mid greyish yellow silty clay		Fill of [1517]. Frequent charcoal frags and flecks, Degraded pot.
1519	Pit	Cut			Unexcavated pit.
1520	Pit	Fill	Compact mid greyish yellow silty clay		Fill of [1519]. Contained charcoal.
1521	Linear	Cut			Unexcavated linear.
1522	Linear	Fill	Compact mid greyish yellow silty clay		Fill of linear [1521]. Contained pot and bone.
1523	Linear	Cut			Unexcavated N-S linear.
1524	Linear	Fill	Compact dark blueish grey silty clay		Unexcavated fill of linear [1523]. Contained frequent charcoal flecks, and frags, and pot (Roman?).
1525	Layer	Layer	Compact dark blueish grey silty clay		Abundant charcoal flecks and frags, pot and animal bone.
1526	Layer	Layer	Compact mid blueish grey silty clay		Unexcavated highly cultural layer. Contains large sub-angular rocks, animal bone, pot, charcoal, CBM. Black earth.
1527	Linear	Cut			Linear seen in section. Also in Tr17. Seen on geophysics.
1528	Linear	Fill			Possible linear seen in section. Also in TR17. Fill difficult to distinguish from (1501).
1529	Layer	Layer	Moderately Compact mid blueish grey silty clay		Dark-earth. Waterlogged and containing charcoal flecks, animal bone, pot and pebbles.
1530	Ditch	Cut		0.54	Ditch cut truncated by [1536]. Partially
1531	Ditch	Fill	Compact light greyish yellow silty clay		Fill of ditch [1530]. Moderate pebbles and charcoal flecks. Occasional pot.

1532	Ditch	Cut		0.96+	Possible enclosure ditch. Partially excavated.
1533	Ditch	Fill	Compact mid brownish yellow silty clay		Possible weathering of ditch edge. No finds.
1534	Ditch	Fill	Moderately Compact mid blueish grey silty clay		?Anaerobic. Occasional animal bone and pot. Frequent charcoal and pebbles.
1535	Ditch	Fill	Moderately Compact mid yellowish grey silty clay	0.54	Some blue mottling. Frequent pebbles, charcoal flecks. Occasional animal bone and pot.
1536	Linear	Cut			Less anaerobic than 1532. Possible enclosure ditch.
1537	Ditch	Fill	Moderately Compact mid yellowish grey silty clay		Frequent pebbles, occasional charcoal.
1538	Ditch	Fill	Moderately Compact dark brownish yellow silty clay	0.36	Frequent animal bone, pot and charcoal. Moderate pebbles.
1539	Ditch	Fill	Moderately Compact mid brownish yellow silty clay	0.32	Moderate charcoal, pebbles. Occasional animal bone, pot.
1540	Ditch	Cut		0.39	Shallow ditch. Contains burnt fill (1541). Sharp corners. Concave sides. NE-SW.
1541	Ditch	Fill	Moderately Compact dark blackish grey silty clay		Frequent charcoal flecks and frags, pebbles. Moderate animal bone. Occasional cobbles. Domestic waste.

Trench 16

Length: 50m

Width: 1.8m

Orientation: North-west to south-east

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation/notes
1600	Topsoil	Layer	Friable mid greyish brown silt loam		Occasional ceramic. Top soil.
1601	Subsoil	Layer	Compact dark blueish grey silty clay		Occasional degraded stone frags.
1602	Layer	Layer	Compact dark blueish grey silty clay		Abundant charcoal flecks and flakes, pottery frags and animal bone. Dark earth.
1603	Layer	Layer	Compact light greyish brown silty clay	0.40	Ancient sub-soil. Pot (?Roman) and degraded stone fragments.
1604	Natural	Layer	Compact light yellowish orange sandy clay		Frequent limestone fragments and grey mottling." Natural".
1605	Ditch	Cut			Unexcavated linear feature, possible ditch.
1606	Ditch	Fill	Compact mid yellowish grey silty clay		Unexcavated fill of ditch. Contained animal bone and charcoal.
1607	Ditch	Cut			Unexcavated ditch. >2,1m wide x 1.8m long.
1608	Ditch	Fill	Compact dark blackish grey silty clay		Un excavated ditch fill. Frequent pot, animal bone, charcoal and pebbles. (?Roman).
1609	Ditch	Cut			Unexcavated linear feature (ditch). Circa 1.6m wide x >2.6m long.
1610	Ditch	Fill	Compact dark blackish grey silty clay		Frequent pot, animal bone charcoal and pebbles. Fill of ditch.
1611	Ditch	Cut			1.1m x 1.9m N-S aligned ditch.
1612	Ditch	Fill	Compact mid greyish blue silty clay		Fill of unexcavated ditch [1611]. Pot, CBM. Abundant charcoal. (?Roman).
1613	Ditch	Cut			1.7m x 1.9m N-S aligned ditch. Possibly recut of 1603.

1614	Ditch	Fill	Compact mid blackish blue silty clay	Fill of ditch 1613. Occasional large sub-angular stones. Abundant charcoal frags. Pot (?Roman), CBM, animal bone.
1615	Ditch	Cut		Terminus of NW-SE ditch. Unexcavated. >1.9m long x 0.6m wide.
1616	Ditch	Fill	Compact mid yellowish grey silty clay	Fill of unexcavated ditch 1615. Frequent charcoal flecks and frags and animal bone.
1617	Gully	Cut		Unexcavated gully > 3m long x 0.5m wide. Some relationship with 1611 and 1603.
1618	Gully	Fill	Compact mid greyish yellow silty clay	Unexcavated fill of ephemeral gully 1617. frequent charcoal flecks and decorated black pottery (?Roman).

Trench 17

Length: 50m

Width: 1.8m

Orientation: North-west to south-east

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation/notes
1700	Topsoil	Layer	Friable mid greyish brown silty loam	0.26	Topsoil
1701	Subsoil	Layer	Compact mid brownish grey silty clay	0.38	Subsoil
1702	Natural	Layer	Firm mid greyish orange	0.20+	Natural
1703	Layer	Layer	Moderately compact dark blackish grey silty clay	0.30	Dark earth. As elsewhere on site; contained ceramic frags of roman date. Runs from SE end of trench up until approx. 6m from the NW end.
1704	Subsoil	Layer	Compact mid yellowish brown silty clay		Possible secondary subsoil seen at various locations in the trench plan - or it possibly should just be viewed as similar layers of Roman activity.
1705	Linear	Cut			Cut of unexcavated linear/gully
1706	Linear	Cut			Cut of unexcavated linear/ditch
1707	Linear	Fill	Compact mid yellowish grey silty clay		Fill of unexcavated linear. Ceramic frags within, not yet dated
1708	Linear	Fill	Compact dark blackish brown silty clay		Fill of unexcavated linear. Ceramic frags within, not yet dated
1709	Linear	Fill	Compact mid yellowish grey silty clay		Unexcavated fill of linear. Contained charcoal flecks and ceramic frags - not yet dated.
1710	Linear	Cut			Unexcavated cut of linear/possible gully. Not dated yet.
1711	Linear	Fill	Compact dark yellowish grey silty clay		Fill of unexcavated linear. Contained ceramic frags not yet dated
1712	Linear	Cut			Cut of unexcavated and undated linear.
1713	Linear	Fill	Compact mid brownish grey silty clay		Fill of unexcavated linear. Ceramic within - not yet dated

1714	Linear	Cut		Cut of unexcavated linear. Ceramic from surface appears to be of RB date though not yet confirmed
1715	Rubble spread	Fill	Moderately compact whiteish yellow rubble	Spread of rubble that appears to be within possible subsoil (1704) . Possible remnants of a wall, though initial sondage doesn't show any evidence of coursing. Lots of RB pot and some animal bone within this fill.
1716	Posthole	Fill	Compact dark brownish grey silty clay	Unexcavated fill of possible posthole. No
1717	Posthole	Cut		Cut of unexcavated possible posthole
1718	Unknown	Structure	Loose red and yellow rubble	Possible structural remains of undetermined feature. Takes on a 'squareness' and is neatly flanked on 2 sides by deposit (1719). Not likely a wall and no obvious evidence of fired stone/ brick. RB pot found in association, not properly excavated. Red and yellow boulders, max. 22x15cm and 10cm deep.
1719	Layer	Layer	Compact mid greysish yellow sandy clay	Layer of material flanking the structure 1718 on 2 sides. Very distinct and deliberate deposit and related to this structure. Not properly excavated.
1720	Construction Cut	Cut		Construction cut for structure 1718 which also contains layer (1719). Cannot determine the extend of this cut, this is merely presuming its presence.
1721	Linear	Fill	Compact mid brownish grey silt clay	Unexcavated fill of linear. RB ceramic frags on surface.
1722	Linear	Cut		Unexcavated cut of linear, RB date.
1723	Linear	Fill	Compact mid yellowish grey silty clay	Fill of unexcavated linear. RB ceramic frags.
1724	Linear	Cut		Unexcavated cut of linear, RB date.
1725	Ditch	Fill	Compact dark blackish grey silty clay	Unexcavated fill of ditch. RB ceramic on surface
1726	Ditch	Cut		Unexcavated cut of ditch. RB date.

1727	Pit	Fill	Friable mid blackish grey ceramic		A ceramic vessel within pit cut [1728]. Most likely of RB date. Clearly deliberately deposited within the pit. Full vessel lifted by very fragmented.
1728	Pit	Cut			Pit cut to contain vessel (1727)
1729	Linear	Fill			
1730	Linear	Cut		0.45	Linear cut- NE facing, Possibly seen in section. Likely from the large black linear seen in geophysics

Trench 18

Length: 50m

Width: 1.8m

Orientation: East to west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation/notes
1800	Topsoil	Layer	Friable mid greyish brown silty loam	0.31	
1801	Subsoil	Layer	Compact light orangey brown silty clay	0.50	RB ceramic frags within. Shallower towards west end of trench.
1802	Natural?	Layer	Compact mid greyish yellow silty clay	0.40	No finds/ dating. A layer beneath (1801) and above natural. No specific evidence of cultural activity so likely a band of natural. See section 1.
1803	Natural	Layer	Firm mid greyish yellow clay		
1804	Subsoil	Layer	Compact mid yellowish grey silty clay	0.40	Layer sealing ditch [1808] and overlays (1809)
1805	Ditch	Fill	Compact dark greyish yellow silty clay	0.26	Fill of excavated ditch. No finds/ dating
1806	Ditch	Fill	Compact mid greyish orange silty clay	0.40	Fill of excavated ditch. No finds/ dating
1807	Ditch	Fill	Compact mid orangey grey silty clay	0.57	Fill of unexcavated ditch. Contains charcoal flecks and RB pot.
1808	Ditch	Cut		0.92	Excavated ditch cut. RB pot and bone in context (1807) which gives it a date. Most likely a rural enclosure ditch as not
1809	Layer	Layer	Moderately compact dark greyish black silty clay	0.50+	Dark earth layer. Same as seen elsewhere with RB ceramic and organic remains. Spread of approx. 18m across trench.
1810	VOID	VOID			Was interpreted as a cut containing (1809). Now VOID.
1811	Construction Cut	Cut			Construction cut for wall [1812]. Not fully

1812	Wall	Structure	light whiteish Yellow Limestone boulders	0.50+	Limestone boulder wall in construction cut [18110. Not fully excavated to relationship with other walls 1817 and 1816 is unclear. After it has been used/abandoned layers (1814) and (1815) have been deposited at the base of the wall and then rubble spread (1813) onto of it. These fill contain RB pot and thus give the wall at least a Roman date.
1813	Rubble spread	Fill	Loose light whiteish yellow Limestone boulders	0.25	Rubble spread sitting on top of structures 1812, 1816, 1817.
1814	Carbonized layer	Layer	Moderately compact black grain	0.04	Layer of carbonized grain
1815	Burnt Feature	Layer	Moderately compact dark blackish grey charcoal		Layer of charcoal and carbonised grain at base of structures 1812, 1817. Not fully excavated.
1816	Wall	Structure	light whiteish yellow Limestone boulders	0.10	Possible limestone wall running under trench section.
1817	Wall	Structure	light whiteish yellow Limestone boulder	0.53+	Possible was parallel to wall 1812 coming out of trench section. Coursing not properly established
1818	Wall	Fill	Moderately Compact mid greyish orange sandy clay	0.27	Deposit in-between structures 1817 and 1812. Likely a deliberate dumping of material on top of (1815), representing early stage of the end of the life of the structures? Not fully excavated. No finds.
1819	Layer	Layer	Firm dark greyish black clay silt	0.28	Buried soil. 0.5m wide sondage dug through this deposit at W end. Probably not midden as there were few finds - some pot and flint though.
1820	Ditch	Fill	Firm dark grey clay silt		Fill of [1821]. Probably a ditch which is visible on the geophysics in this location. Not excavated.
1821	Ditch	Cut			Cut of probable ditch. Not excavated. Visible in plan below layer (1818).
1822	Layer	Layer	Compact mid orangey yellow silty clay		Layer below (1819), cut by ditch [1821] May be natural but appears very high in trench and yielded a couple of finds when cleaned. Could be redeposited natural.

Trench 19

Length: 50m

Width: 1.8m

Orientation: North-east to south-west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation/notes
1900	Topsoil	Layer	Friable mid greyish brown silty clay loam	0.28	Topsoil
1901	Subsoil	Layer	Compact mid yellowish brown silty clay	0.39	Subsoil
1902	Subsoil	Layer	Compact dark yellowish brown silty clay	0.31	Ancient Subsoil? Moderate to frequent pottery, charcoal, animal bone and pebbles.
1903	Natural	Layer	yellow clay	0.98	Natural
1904	Ditch	Cut			Ditch cut
1905	Ditch	Fill	Compact dark brownish grey silty clay		Fill of ditch [1904], at south end of Tr 19 which can also be seen on geophysics. Some animal bone in fil. No pottery, but
1906	Ditch	Cut			Possible ditch or pit. Not excavated.
1907	Ditch	Fill	Compact dark greyish brown silty clay		Fill of ditch or pit. Showed up as a blob on geophysics. Cannot be properly interpreted without excavation.
1908	Ditch	Cut			Cut of ditch in centre of trench 19. Difficult to define and interpret without excavating, due to ancient subsoil (1902) surrounding it.
1909	Ditch	Fill	Compact dark greyish black silty clay		Dark fill of ditch [1908] in centre of trench 19. Difficult to define and interpret without excavating due to ancient subsoil (1902) surrounding it. Pottery and bone in fill.
1910	Ditch	Cut			Cut of possible ditch. Cannot truly determine form or function. May just be a layer.
1911	Ditch	Fill	Compact mid greyish yellow silty clay		Fill of possible ditch [1910]. Cultural finds within and dateable to Roman. Cannot truly determine form or function though. May just be layer.
1912	Pit	Cut			Possible pit within ancient subsoil. Not excavated.

1913	Pit	Fill	Moderately Compact mid brownish grey silty clay	Possible pit within ancient subsoil. No finds/dating though not excavated. May just be a random blob of material.
1914	Gully	Cut		Cut of possible gully or maybe small ditch at N end of Tr 19. May possible be the same as Gully [1819] and fill (1919). Unexcavated.
1915	Gully	Fill	Compact mid yellowish brown silty clay	Fill of possible gully or small ditch at N end of Tr 19. May possibly be same as gully [1918] and fill (1919). No finds - unexcavated.
1916	Ditch	Cut		Cut of possible ditch. Cannot be sure of function without excavating.
1917	Ditch	Fill	Compact dark blackish grey silty clay	Fill of possible ditch. Pot and bone give a known date and likely cultural origin. Cannot be sure of form and function without excavation. Does show up on geophysics as a linear.
1918	Gully	Cut		Possible gully at N end of Tr 19. May possibly be same as gully [1914] and fill (1915). Relationship with ditch [1916] cannot be determined as not excavated.
1919	Gully	Fill	Compact mid yellowish brown silty clay	Possible gully at N end of Tr 19. May possible be same as gully [1914] and fill [1915]. Relationship with ditch [1916] cannot be determined as not excavated. No finds.

Trench 20

Length: 50m

Width: 1.8m

Orientation: North-west to south-east

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation/notes
2000	Topsoil	Layer	Friable mid greyish brown clay loam	0.29	Topsoil
2001	Subsoil	Layer	Compact mid yellowish brown silty clay	0.70	Subsoil
2002	Natural	Layer	Compact light orangey yellow clay	0.18	Natural
2003	Layer	Layer		0.60	Dark earth at west end of trench.
2004	Subsoil	Layer		0.68	Ancient subsoil containing Roman pottery.
2005	Ditch	Cut			Probably linear ditch of gully in trench 20. Appears to cut ancient subsoil (2004). Unexcavated.
2006	Ditch	Fill	Compact dark yellowish grey silty clay		Fill of probable ditch [2005]. Fill contains animal bone and Roman pottery. Unexcavated.
2007	Linear	Cut			N-S linear. Approx 0.2m excavated to determine its relationship with (2003) dark earth layer and (2004) ancient subsoil.
2008	Linear	Fill	Compact mid greyish black silty clay	0.22	Strongly cultural fill of linear [2007]. (2003) dark earth layer which it resembles seals it, so may represent a dump of material as the ditch went

Trench 21

Length: 50m

Width: 1.8m

Orientation: North to south

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation/notes
2100	Topsoil	Layer	Friable mid greyish brown silt loam	0.28	Topsoil
2101	Subsoil	Layer	Compact light yellowish brown silty clay	0.40	Subsoil
2102	Subsoil	Layer	Compact mid brownish grey silty clay	0.27	Lower subsoil.
2103	Layer	Layer	Firm mid brownish grey silty clay	0.95	Rare charcoal flecks. Degraded ceramic within.

Trench 22

Length: 50m

Width: 1.8m

Orientation: North-west to south-east

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation/notes
2200	Topsoil	Layer	mid greyish brown clay silt	0.25	Topsoil
2201	Subsoil	Layer	light brownish grey silty	0.90	Subsoil
2202	Natural	Layer	mid brownish orange sandy clay	0.05	Natural
2203	Cremation	Fill	mid greyish brown silty clay		Fill of cremation [2204]. Frequent flecks of charcoal, burnt bone fragments and ceramic material/burnt clay. 3x pot
2204	Cremation	Cut			Cut of possible cremation pit.
2205	Ditch	Fill	mid orangey grey sandy clay		Fill of [2206]. No finds of inclusions.
2206	Ditch	Cut			Cut of small ditch/ large gully.
2207	Ditch	Fill			Same as 2205. No visible difference and no relationship established
2208	Ditch	Cut			
2209	Gully	Fill	mid orangey grey sandy clay		
2210	Gully	Cut			

Trench 23

Length: 50m

Width: 1.8m

Orientation: North-west to south-east

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation/notes
2300	Topsoil	Layer	mid greyish brown clay silt	0.20	Topsoil
2301	Subsoil	Layer	light brownish grey silty	0.60	Subsoil
2302	Natural	Layer	mid brownish orange sandy clay		Natural

Trench 24

Length: 50m

Width: 1.8m

Orientation: North-west to south-east

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation/notes
2400	Topsoil	Layer	mid greyish brown clay silt	0.30	Topsoil
2401	Subsoil	Layer	light brownish grey silty	0.40	Subsoil
2402	Natural	Layer	mid brownish orange sandy clay	0.15	Natural

Trench 25

Length: 50m

Width: 1.8m

Orientation: North-east to south-west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation/notes
2500	Topsoil	Layer	mid greyish brown clay silt	0.30	Topsoil
2501	Subsoil	Layer	light brownish grey silty	0.30	Subsoil
2502	Natural	Layer	mid brownish orange sandy clay	0.25	Natural. Same as 2302 but there is also a band of irregular blue grey clay mudstone which matches up with the geophysics anomaly in the north half of this trench.

Trench 26

Length: 50m

Width: 1.8m

Orientation: North-east to south-west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation/notes
2600	Topsoil	Layer	mid greyish brown clay silt	0.20	Topsoil
2601	Subsoil	Layer	light brownish grey silty	0.50	Subsoil
2602	Natural	Layer	mid brownish orange sandy clay		Natural

Appendix 2 Technical information

The archive (site code: P4687)

The archive consists of:

137	Context records AS1
4	Photographic records AS3
384	Digital photographs
1	Drawing number catalogues AS4
9	Permatrace scale drawings A34
2	Context number catalogues AS5
5	Sample records AS17
1	Sample number catalogues AS18
26	Trench record sheets AS41
1	Box of finds, and environmental flots and sorted residue remains
1	CD-Rom/DVDs
1	Copy of this report (bound hard copy)

The project archive is intended to be placed at:

Cheltenham Art Gallery & Museum
Clarence Street
Cheltenham
GL50 3JT
Tel: 01242 237431
