

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION OF LAND AT TRUMAN'S FARM, GOTHERINGTON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE



© Worcestershire County Council

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

Status:
Date: 30 March 2016
Richard Bradley
Author: rbradley1@worcestershire.gov.uk
Contributors: Derek Hurst and Rob Hedge
Illustrators: Carolyn Hunt and Richard Bradley
Project reference: P4678
Report reference: 2325
HER reference:

Contents

Summary

1

Report

1 Background	2
1.1 Reasons for the project	2
2 Aims	2
3 Methods	2
3.1 Personnel	2
3.2 Documentary research	2
3.3 Fieldwork strategy	3
3.4 Structural analysis	3
3.5 Artefact methodology, by Derek Hurst and Rob Hedge	3
3.5.1 Artefact recovery policy	3
3.5.2 Method of analysis	3
3.5.3 Discard policy	4
3.6 Environmental archaeology methodology	4
3.6.1 Sampling policy	4
3.7 Statement of confidence in the methods and results	4
4 The application site	4
4.1 Topography, geology and current land-use	4
4.2 Archaeological context	4
5 Structural analysis	5
5.1.1 Phase 1: Natural deposits	5
5.1.2 Phase 2: Medieval/post-medieval deposits	5
5.1.3 Phase 3: Modern deposits	6
5.2 Artefact analysis, by Derek Hurst and Rob Hedge	6
5.2.1 Artefactual evidence by period	7
5.2.2 Summary	8
5.2.3 Further analysis and discard	8
6 Synthesis	8
7 Significance	9
7.1 Nature of the archaeological interest in the site	9
7.2 Relative importance of the archaeological interest in the site	9
7.3 Physical extent of the archaeological interest in the site	9
8 Publication summary	9
9 Acknowledgements	10
10 Bibliography	10

Archaeological evaluation of land at Truman's Farm, Gotherington, Gloucestershire

Richard Bradley

With contributions by Derek Hurst and Rob Hedge

Summary

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken across approximately 4.4ha of land at Truman's Farm on the eastern edge of Gotherington, Gloucestershire (centred on NGR SO 97104 29638). It was undertaken on behalf of Lioncourt Strategic Land, with the site under consideration for residential development.

Sixteen trenches of varying length were excavated in a broad array across the site, which was known from a preceding heritage assessment and geophysical survey to have buried ridge and furrow agricultural remains of probable medieval date.

Across the trenches the archaeological remains observed confirmed that this site occupies an area of land previously used for mostly rural agricultural activity, with no indication of direct settlement due to the lack of features and the relative absence of cultural material remains from any period. The medieval and later pottery finds, found across the trenches, are likely to relate to this agriculture. The presence of a small amount of worked flint of a possible later Mesolithic/early Neolithic date is of interest, especially given the location of the site at the edge of an advantageous topographical position, suggesting that there may be a background scatter of prehistoric activity across the wider area.

Report

1 Background

1.1 Reasons for the project

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken across approximately 4.4ha of land at Truman's Farm on the eastern edge of Gotherington, Gloucestershire (centred on NGR SO 97104 29638). It was undertaken on behalf of Lioncourt Strategic Land, who is considering residential development on the site and for which a planning application will be submitted to Tewkesbury Borough Council.

The proposed development site is considered to include heritage assets and potential heritage assets, as identified in a heritage assessment for the site (Woodiwiss 2015). These comprise the buried remains of ridge and furrow cultivation, probably medieval in date, and a possible earthwork bank along the northern boundary. A recent geophysical survey has demonstrated the alignment of this former cultivation regime, as well as identifying a possible post-medieval field boundary in the south-east of the site (Stratascan 2016). In the wider area cropmarks, findspots and extant earthwork remains of Iron Age (GHER4441), Roman (GHER5781) and medieval date (GHER4443 and 4444) suggest that there is the potential for buried remains of similar origin to exist across the site area.

The project conforms to a brief prepared by Gloucestershire County Council, for which a project proposal (including detailed specification) was produced (WA 2016).

The project also conforms to the *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014a).

The event reference for this project has not yet been provided by the Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record.

2 Aims

The aims of this evaluation are:

- to determine, as far as is reasonably possible, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains likely to be threatened by the proposed development.

3 Methods

3.1 Personnel

The project was led by Richard Bradley (BA (hons.), MA; ACIfA), who joined Worcestershire Archaeology in 2008 and has been practicing archaeology since 2005, assisted by Nina O'Hare (BA (hons.)) and Jessica Wheeler (BA (hons.)). The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Tom Vaughan (BA (hons.); MA; ACIfA). Illustrations were prepared by Carolyn Hunt (BSc (hons.); PG Cert; MClfA) and Richard Bradley. Derek Hurst (BA (hons.); PG Dip) and Robert Hedge (MA Cantab) contributed the finds report.

3.2 Documentary research

Prior to the evaluation stage of this project, an archaeological desk-based assessment (DBA) forming part of a heritage assessment was undertaken on behalf of Lioncourt Strategic Land (Woodiwiss 2015). This provides the detailed background information for the project and is therefore only briefly summarised in this text.

The assessment consulted the Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record (GHER), with records of known archaeological sites and monuments obtained. Heritage assets were considered within 1km of the site in order to provide a broader understanding of the local context. In addition an extended search (2km area) was made to encompass the settings of scheduled ancient

monuments and listed buildings. Historic maps and published sources were also consulted at Gloucestershire Archives.

3.3 Fieldwork strategy

A detailed specification was prepared by Worcestershire Archaeology (WA 2016) and the fieldwork was undertaken between the 14 and 18 March 2016. The location of the evaluation trenches is indicated in Figure 1.

Sixteen trenches, each 30m by 1.80m, amounting to just over 860m², were excavated. This represents a sample of 2% across the site area of 4.4ha. The trenches were arranged in a broad grid array, but took into consideration the orientation and location of geophysical anomalies representing former cultivation and the relict field system. The specific location of these was restricted by the presence of a 66KV overhead electricity cable crossing the site, from which a minimum distance of 6m was maintained when excavating. Only one trench was moved from its intended location (Trench 13) and this change was minimal. Walkover observation of the southern field during the site work revealed an unmapped but large surface water drain pipe connected to the farmyard running through the proposed alignment of the trench, so this was avoided.

Deposits considered not to be significant were removed under archaeological supervision, using a 360° tracked excavator, employing a toothless bucket (Plate 1). Subsequent excavation was undertaken by hand. Clean surfaces were inspected and selected deposits were excavated to retrieve artefactual material and environmental samples, as well as to determine their nature. Deposits were recorded according to standard Worcestershire Archaeology practice (WA 2012) and trench and feature locations were surveyed using a differential GPS, with an accuracy limit set at <0.04m. On completion of excavation, trenches were reinstated by replacing the excavated material.

3.4 Structural analysis

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

3.5 Artefact methodology, by Derek Hurst and Rob Hedge

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

3.5.1 Artefact 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.

The pottery and ceramic building material was examined under x20 magnification and referenced as appropriate by fabric type and form according to the fabric reference series maintained by Worcestershire Archaeology (Hurst and Rees 1992 and www.worcestershireceramics.org).

3.5.3 Discard policy

The following categories/types of material will be discarded after a period of 6 months following the submission of this report, unless there is a specific request to retain them (and subject to the collection policy of the relevant depository):

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

3.6 Environmental archaeology methodology

3.6.1 Sampling policy

Due to the nature of the archaeology revealed, no deposits were excavated that were considered suitable for the recovery of environmental evidence that would improve understanding of the past environment.

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 current land-use

The site is currently divided into three land parcels; the northern field is under arable cultivation and that to the south is pasture. The remaining area consists of the farm and its buildings, with attached paddock. The site is bounded to the north by Gretton Road, to the east by a field, to the south by an embankment for a heritage railway, and to the west by the rear of houses fronting Manor Lane. The ground surface slopes from around 75mAOD in the south gently down towards Gretton Road at 68mAOD, though in the south-west part of the site the slope is more marked. In the paddock area around the farm buildings, there are clearly visible extant ridge and furrow earthworks.

The solid geology is mapped as the Charmouth Mudstone Formation, though Quaternary Cheltenham Sand and Gravel exists just to the west of Manor Lane (BGS 2015). The soil type is defined as clayey with slowly permeable subsoils of the Evesham 2 Association in the northern part of the site (Ragg *et al* 1984, 190-192) and waterlogged clayey soils with fine loam over clay of the Denchworth Association in the southern part of the site (Ragg *et al* 1984, 156-159).

4.2 Archaeological context

The existing heritage assessment (Woodiwiss 2015) provides detailed information on the known heritage assets within the vicinity of the site. This did not identify any previous archaeological work on the site.

No designated heritage assets were identified within the site area, although there are two scheduled ancient monuments 1km or more from the site; Nottingham Hill Camp (GHER430) is an Iron Age to Romano-British hillfort, which also includes a Bronze Age round barrow cemetery, and Dixon Hill Camp (GHER427) is recorded as a hillfort and a medieval motte and bailey castle. There are also 23 listed buildings in nearby Gotherington, all of which are Grade II listed. Of those closest to the development site, Truman's Farmhouse (now Truman's Cottage (GHER15572) is a late 16th century timber-framed farmhouse, Willow Cottage (GHER15564) was a pair of 17th century timber-framed houses (now converted into one), and Dormer House (GHER15560) is a mid-18th century house with 19th century rear extensions.

With regard to undesignated heritage assets, there is evidence of ridge and furrow existing over the entire site area and rectilinear earthworks have been identified to the immediate west from

aerial photographs (GHER4443). The wider area also includes similar earthworks of probable medieval date that may demonstrate that the medieval settlement at Gotherington extended beyond the boundaries of the current village.

5 Structural analysis

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

5.1.1 Phase 1: Natural deposits

The natural substrate was identified in all sixteen of the trenches excavated, encountered at between 0.25-0.48m below the current ground surface. This comprised compact mid grey brown clay, which became more orange brown in the southern part of the site. In places, patches of underlying light orange blue clay were visible. This lower natural substrate was investigated in a number of machine sondages and found to contain large limestone pieces within the clay, around 0.50-0.64m below the ground surface.

In four trenches in the southern field (Trenches 11, 13, 14, 15), where the slope of the ground was steeper, a colluvial subsoil was identified (Plate 5). This material had probably slowly accreted from the slopes of Nottingham Hill, located to the south-east of the site. The deposit was 0.15-0.34m in depth and when removed was directly above the light orange blue clay lower natural substrate. From the upper interface of this deposit, but clearly within it rather than the subsoil above, a small amount of flint and medieval pottery was recovered.

In all trenches, the naturally accumulated deposits were overlain by a thin subsoil layer representing former cultivation. This was 0.05-0.25m in depth and comprised firm light brownish grey silty clay with occasional limestone brash, charcoal, ceramic building material and pottery.

5.1.2 Phase 2: Medieval/post-medieval deposits

A number of trenches across the site contained furrows relating to medieval and later agriculture, broadly corresponding with anomalies on the same alignments visible on the preceding geophysical survey (Stratascan 2016). With the exception of four furrows in Trench 3 (Plate 2) these were all orientated north-west to south-east, and appeared to have a slight curve as well as correlating between trenches in some cases (Figure 2). Pottery recovered from within the fills was dated to the medieval period, mainly the 13th to 14th centuries.

Two historic field boundaries were also identified, both clearly visible cutting through the subsoil. Due to waterlogging, only one was excavated, but no dating evidence was recovered. However, this ditch [1204], in Trench 12, is clearly visible as a boundary on Ordnance Survey mapping from 1884 to 1955, but not prior to this date. It was also noted on the geophysical survey and can be seen as a depression with differential plant growth on aerial photographs from 1945 to 1999. The ditch was 1.10m wide and 0.30m in depth and contained a light brownish grey silty clay fill similar to the subsoil (Plate 3). The unexcavated ditch in Trench 4 [404] is visible on earlier mapping from the 18th and 19th century and probably relates to enclosure of pre-existing open field systems (Woodiwiss 2015, figs 3 and 4). This defined the area of furrows that were on a different alignment to the majority of the site.

In the paddock field at the southern end of the site area, extant earthworks were also identified to be part of the former agricultural field system. These comprised ridge and furrow on the same north-west to south-east alignment as that in the other fields and its extent was defined by a waterlogged linear depression on its southern edge [1607]. This feature was observed in Trench 16 and presently appeared to form a soakaway or drainage channel, probably once being a field boundary ditch that has lost its original purpose (Plate 4). Trench 16 also investigated the edge of a north to south aligned hollow at the edge of a plateau than ran southwards from this (Fig 2). A 0.70m wide near vertical cut containing re-deposited natural and frequent angular limestone pieces was found along the same alignment [1605]. Although undated, this is probably a drain positioned in the base of a field boundary. The field defined by these features is marked as a square land

parcel visible on earlier mapping from the 18th and 19th century (Woodiwiss 2015, figs 3 and 4; numbered as parcel '46' and '92' respectively). This field was largely removed by the construction of the railway bounding the site, which opened in 1904-6.

5.1.3 Phase 3: Modern deposits

Numerous land drains were encountered across the site, likely to be of 19th and 20th century date. All deposits and features were sealed by a moderately compact mid greyish brown silty clay topsoil, 0.22-0.34m in depth. This had been subject to modern ploughing and incorporated a number of imported, mixed artefacts of prehistoric to modern date.

5.2 Artefact analysis, by Derek Hurst and Rob Hedge

The artefactual assemblage recovered is summarised in Tables 1–3.

The assemblage included material from only two stratified contexts and could be dated from the Mesolithic period onwards (see Table 1). Using pottery as an index of artefact condition, this was generally poor with the majority of sherds displaying high levels of abrasion, and the average sherd size (10g) being average.

period	material class	material subtype	object specific type	count	weight(g)
Mesolithic to Early Bronze Age	stone	flint	flake	1	3.3
Mesolithic to Early Bronze Age	stone	flint	scraper	1	5.7
Mesolithic/early Neolithic	stone	flint	flake core	2	14.3
medieval	ceramic		pot	17	158
late medieval	ceramic		pot	2	26
late med/early post-med	ceramic		brick/tile	1	1
late med/early post-med	ceramic		roof tile(flat)	2	51
post-medieval	ceramic		field drain	2	102
post-medieval	ceramic		pot	1	15
post-medieval	metal	iron	horseshoe	1	256
undated	stone	coal		1	1
totals				31	633.3

Table 1: Quantification of the assemblage

5.2.1 Artefactual evidence by period

Prehistoric

Four pieces of struck flint were recovered (Table 2; Plate 6). Three were residual within topsoil deposits in Trenches 2, 9 and 12; the remaining piece was within colluvial deposit (1102).

Type	Context	Description	Count	Weight (g)
débitage	200	Flake	1	3.3
	900	Flake core	1	10.2
	1102	Flake core	1	4.1
tools	1200	Micro-scraper	1	5.7
		Totals	4	23.3

Table 2: Prehistoric worked flint

The single flake (200) was soft-hammer struck from a prepared platform, with a hinge termination, on good quality mid brown-grey flint. Both the scraper (1200) and the smaller flake core (1102) were of coarser mottled brown-grey flint of moderate quality. The larger flake core (900) was of light beige-grey patinated flint, and was the only piece to exhibit substantial post-depositional damage, probably incurred as a result of agricultural activity.

Typologically, the two flake cores resemble Mesolithic or early Neolithic examples in form and size, with a maximum diameter of 21mm and 25mm. The scraper, fashioned on a chunk 22mm in diameter, resembles Mesolithic micro-scrapers, although the similarities between these and Early Bronze Age thumbnail scrapers mean that the latter date cannot be ruled out.

context	material class	material subtype	object specific type	count	weight(g)	start date	end date
101	ceramic		pot	1	16	1400	1650
200	stone	flint	flake	1	3.3	-10,000	-1500
211	ceramic		field drain	2	102	1600	1900
300	ceramic		pot	1	13	1200	1400
301	ceramic		pot	1	4	1200	1550
307	ceramic		pot	2	3	1200	1400
307	ceramic		pot	1	10	1400	1650
500	ceramic		pot	1	15	1700	1800
505	ceramic		roof tile(flat)	2	51	1200	1800
900	stone	flint	flake core	1	10.2	-10,000	-3000
900	ceramic		pot	1	12	1200	1400
1102	stone	flint	flake core	1	4.1	-10,000	-3000
1102	stone	coal		1	1	-	-
1102	ceramic		pot	3	27	1200	1400
1102	ceramic		pot	1	10	1300	1550
1102	ceramic		brick/tile	1	1	1200	1800
1200	stone	flint	Micro-scraper	1	5.7	-10,000	-1500
1302	ceramic		pot	5	31	1200	1400
1302	ceramic		pot	2	4	1200	1400
1500	metal	iron	horseshoe	1	256	-	-
1601	ceramic		pot	1	54	1300	1550

Table 3: Context dating based on artefacts

Medieval and later

In general the other artefacts were fairly ordinary and indicated domestic activity in the neighbourhood, with material reaching the site largely through manuring from the medieval period onwards. There was a strong Malvernian (Worcestershire) component to the pottery assemblage.

The only sherd of any special interest was a Malvernian cooking pot decorated with an applied vertical strip to the outside which is relatively rare (an incidence of 0.5% has been observed at Worcester, where dated to 14th century; Bryant 2004, 298–99). This seems to occur on particularly large cooking pots and so may well have had a practical purpose of strengthening such vessels.

5.2.2 Summary

Prehistoric

The presence of struck flint of possible Mesolithic or early Neolithic date, although residual, is of interest in the light of other recent discoveries of lithic material of comparable date in the vicinity of Nottingham Hill, including during investigations at Woodmancote (Bradley 2014; Lovett 2015) and Gretton (Bradley 2015). Given the relative scarcity of recorded Mesolithic finds within this area until recently, the presence of worked flint adds to an expanding picture of earlier prehistoric activity on and around Nottingham Hill.

Medieval and later

There was a definite 13th-14th century presence demonstrated through the artefacts, including within the remnants of ridge and furrow cultivation, thereby indicating arable farming at least during this period. Thereafter there seems to have been only occasional later activity disturbing the ground, and this would be compatible with conversion to pasture in the post-medieval period prior to modern cultivation.

5.2.3 Further analysis and discard

No further work on the artefacts is considered necessary, but, although largely residual, the prehistoric flint is considered important evidence of an emerging picture of early prehistoric activity in the area, and should be retained. The medieval pottery from the site is worth retaining as representing a rare assemblage from this part of the county, especially as some of the fabrics were not recognised to specific types.

6 Synthesis

There were a limited number of agricultural features and deposits identified across the site area, all of which appeared to be medieval and later in date. This evidence for a medieval and post-medieval agricultural landscape, formerly an open field regime of land management, is representative of the expected potential for the site, as outlined in the heritage assessment (Woodiwiss 2015).

There was no clear evidence of settlement on the site within any of the sixteen excavated trenches and it is unlikely to have been present. Generally, there was a relative absence of cultural remains from any period. The furrows (as well as the extant ridge and furrow earthworks) and the associated field boundary ditches correlate well with historic mapping and the earlier geophysical survey to demonstrate the layout of the former field system. Much of the artefactual material recovered is likely to be resultant from general discard and manuring upon these fields surrounding the settlement at Gotherington, mainly in the medieval period. Perhaps of more interest was a small selection of finds recovered from the upper interface of the colluvial subsoil in a number of trenches in the southern field, including prehistoric flint and medieval pottery. This type of evidence has been noted in colluvial accretions probably coming from the slopes of Nottingham Hill on a number of nearby sites (e.g. Bradley 2014; 2015; Lovett 2015). Whilst the primary origin cannot be conclusively established, the flint, both from the colluvium as well as within the modern ploughsoil, was technologically characteristic of possible Mesolithic or early Neolithic date. This makes an important contribution to the growing corpus of finds of this type that support previous evidence for a focus of earlier prehistoric activity on and around Nottingham Hill.

The combination of documentary analysis, geophysical survey and trial trenching has demonstrated that the archaeological activity represented on this site is characteristic of an undeveloped agricultural landscape from at least the medieval period onwards.

7 Significance

7.1 Nature of the archaeological interest in the site

The archaeological features on this site are representative of agricultural activity from the medieval period onwards and are therefore of low archaeological interest. This was demonstrated by parallel furrows defined by a series of field boundaries. The pottery dating associated with the ridge and furrow provides a probable *tpq* date for the adoption of this method of cultivation, and though not unusual it does provide firm evidence for dating this activity to some extent. The subsoil and topsoil deposits contained sherds of medieval and post-medieval pottery, entirely consistent with their agricultural origin.

The presence of worked flint of a possible later Mesolithic/early Neolithic date is of interest, especially given the location of the site at the edge of an advantageous topographical position.

7.2 Relative importance of the archaeological interest in the site

The furrows and boundary ditches are notable at a local level for improving understanding of medieval and later agricultural activity in the immediate surrounds of Gotherington. Though the broad dating of ridge and furrow cultivation is well known, acquiring more precise dating is of interest.

Although finds of earlier prehistoric flint are relatively uncommon in this area, recent discoveries suggest that with more investigations, the picture is changing (e.g. Bradley 2014, 2015; Lovett 2015). The possibility that the environs of Nottingham Hill may be a focus for Mesolithic or early Neolithic activity is worthy of note.

7.3 Physical extent of the archaeological interest in the site

The medieval and later agricultural remains have been seen to extend across the majority of the site area (Figure 2). It is possible that the scatter of medieval and later artefactual material, the most relevant finds for dating the ridge and furrow, extends across the application site and were directly associated with the remnants of cultivation. The majority of the prehistoric flint is residual within ploughsoil, although one piece was recovered from colluvial deposit (1102), mirroring the presence of flint of comparable date in colluvium at the site of Yew Tree Farm, Woodmancote, located around 1.7km to the south (Bradley 2014, Lovett 2015). This is suggestive of a background scatter of prehistoric activity in the local area.

8 Publication summary

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

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken across approximately 4.4ha of land at Truman's Farm on the eastern edge of Gotherington, Gloucestershire (centred on NGR SO 97104 29638). It was undertaken on behalf of Lioncourt Strategic Land, with the site under consideration for residential development.

Sixteen trenches of varying length were excavated in a broad array across the site, which was known from a preceding heritage assessment and geophysical survey to have buried ridge and furrow agricultural remains of probable medieval date.

Across the trenches the archaeological remains observed confirmed that this site occupies an area of land previously used for mostly rural agricultural activity, with no indication of direct settlement due to the lack of features and the relative absence of cultural material remains from any period. The medieval and later pottery finds, found across the trenches, are likely to relate to this agriculture. The presence of a small amount of worked flint of a possible later Mesolithic/early Neolithic date is of interest, especially given the location of the site at the edge of an advantageous

topographical position, suggesting that there may be a background scatter of prehistoric activity across the wider area.

9 Acknowledgements

Worcestershire Archaeology would like to thank the following for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project: Vicky Bilton and Jordan Langdon-Bates (Lioncourt Strategic Land), and Charles Parry (Gloucestershire County Council planning archaeologist).

10 Bibliography

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

BGS 2015 *Geology of Britain Viewer*, <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>, British Geological Survey, accessed 18 November 2015

Bradley, R, 2014 *Archaeological Evaluation at Yew Tree Farm, Bushcombe Lane, Woodmancote, Gloucestershire*, Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service, Worcestershire Archaeology, report **2136**, revision 2, dated 17 October 2014

Bradley, R, 2015 *Archaeological evaluation at land to the rear of Church Row, Gretton, Gloucestershire*, Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service, Worcestershire Archaeology, report **2276**, dated 24 November 2015

Bryant, V, 2004 *Medieval and early post-medieval pottery in H Dalwood and R Edwards, Excavations at Deansway, Worcester, 1988-89: Romano-British small town to late medieval city*. CBA Res Rep, **139**, 281–339

CifA 2014a *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, <http://www.archaeologists.net/codes/ifa>

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

Gloucestershire County Council 2015 *Brief for an Archaeological Field Evaluation*

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

Lovett, P, 2015 *Archaeological Investigations at Yew Tree Farm, Bushcombe Lane, Woodmancote, Gloucestershire*, Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service, Worcestershire Archaeology, report **2217**, dated 1 May 2015

Ragg, J M, Beard, G R, George, H, Heaven, F W, Hollis, J M, Jones, R J A, Palmer, R C, Reeve, M J, Robson, J D, and Whitfield, W A D, 1984 *Soils and their use in midland and western England*, Soil Survey of England and Wales, **12**

Soil Survey of England and Wales, 1983 *Midland and Western England*, sheet 3, scale 1:250,000 + Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales (A brief explanation of the constituent soil associations)

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

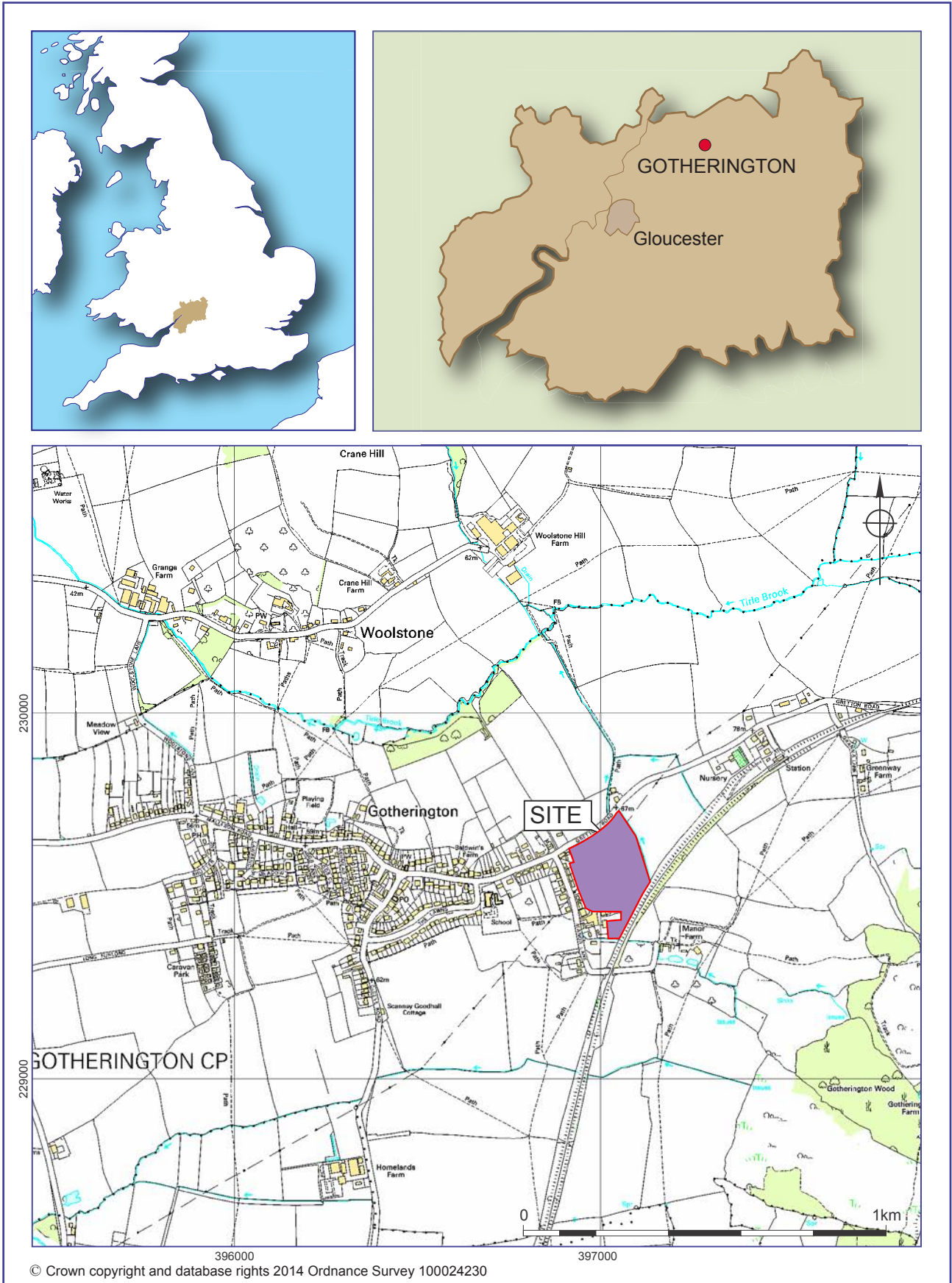
Stratascan 2016 *Geophysical Survey Report, Gotherington, Gloucestershire. Report for Worcestershire County Council*, Stratascan, ref. **J9385**

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

WA 2016 *Proposal for an archaeological evaluation at Truman's Farm, Gothington, Gloucestershire*, Worcestershire Archaeology, Worcestershire County Council, unpublished document dated 19 January 2016, **P4678**

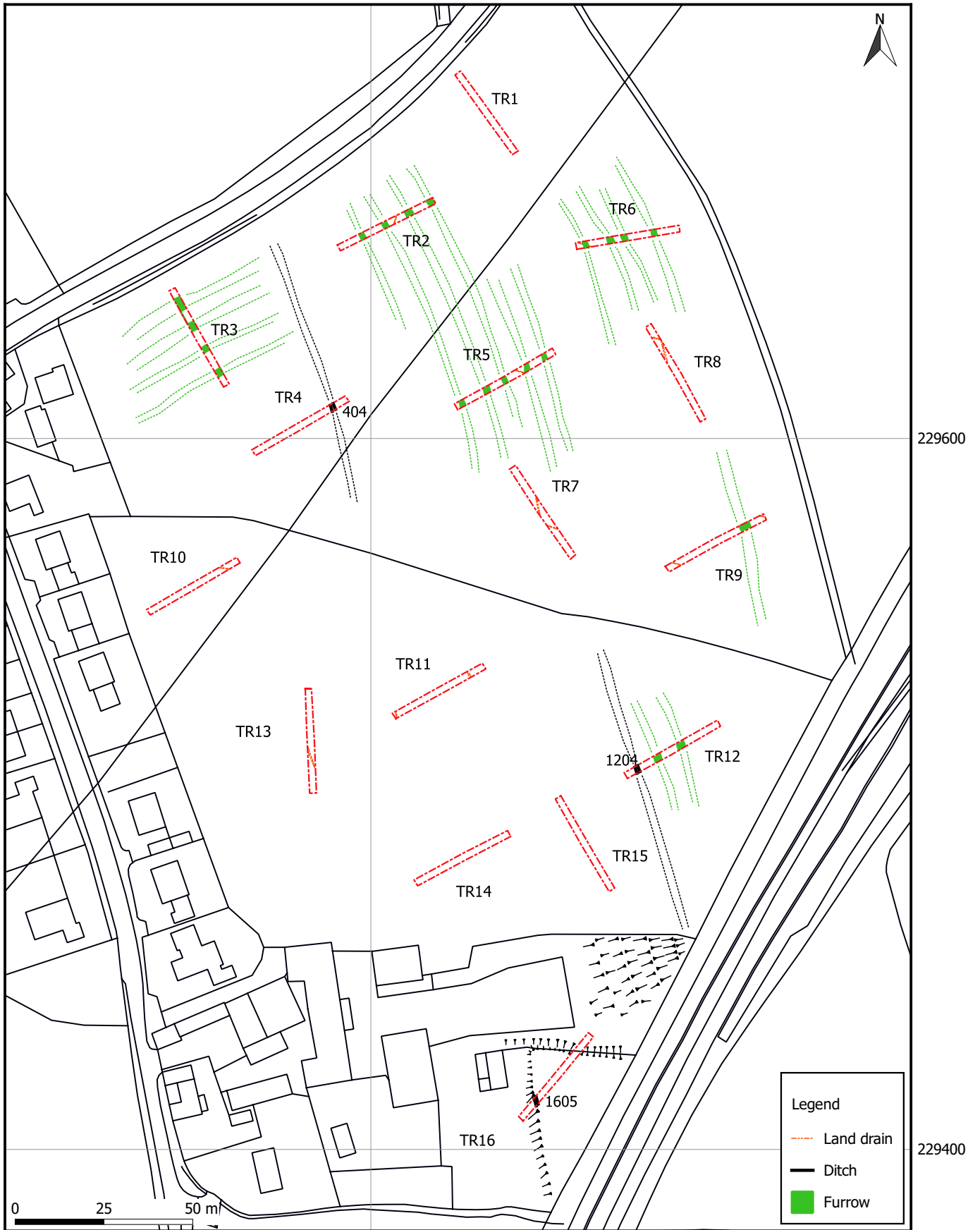
Woodiwiss, S, 2015 *Heritage Assessment for land at Truman's Farm, Gothington, Gloucestershire*, Worcestershire Archaeology, Worcestershire County Council, unpublished document dated 19 January 2016, **P4678**

Figures



Location of the site

Figure 1



© Crown copyright and database rights 2016 Ordnance Survey 100024230

Trenches with features highlighted

Figure 2

Plates



Plate 1: General view of the northern field with trenches being opened (no scales)



Plate 2: Trench 3 facing north-west, with parallel furrows visible (2x 1m scales)



Plate 3: Ditch 1204 in Trench 12, cutting through subsoil (0.5m scale)



Plate 4: Trench 16 showing water-filled depression 1607, former field boundary (2x 1m scales)



Plate 5: Colluvial subsoil deposit in Trench 11 (0.5m and 1m scales)

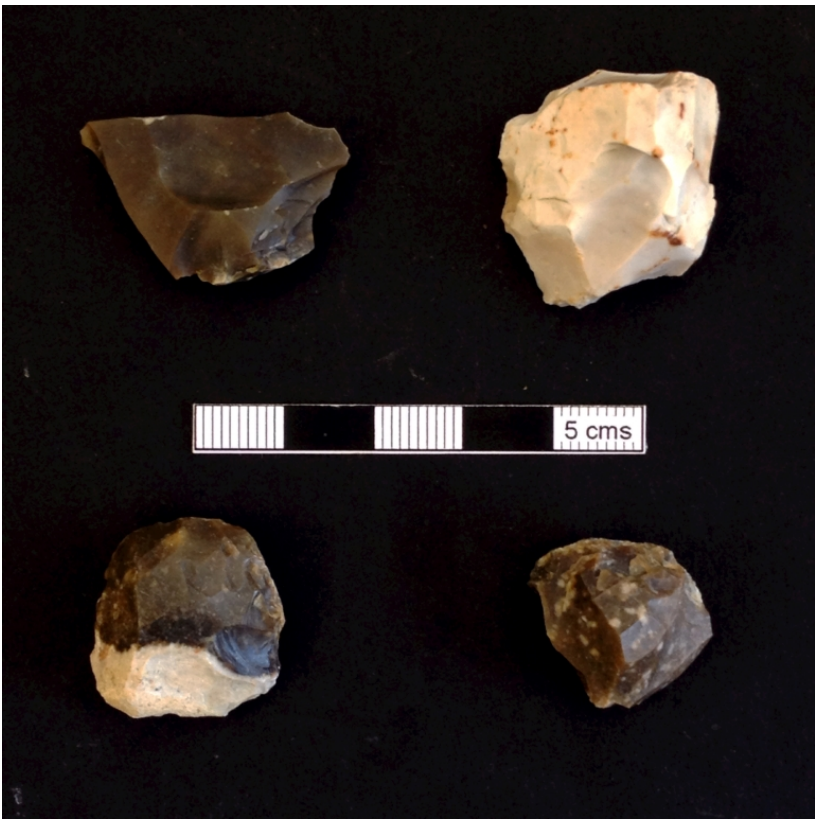


Plate 6: Worked flint recovered from various trenches (5cm scale)

Appendix 1 Trench descriptions

Trench 1

Length: 30m

Width: 1.80m

Orientation: North-west to south-east

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
100	Layer	Layer	Moderately Compact mid brownish grey silty clay	0.22m	Topsoil
101	Layer	Layer	Compact light greyish brown silty clay	0.10m	Subsoil
102	Natural	Layer	Compact mid orangey brown clay	0.16m +	Natural

Trench 2

Length: 30m

Width: 1.80m

Orientation: North-east to south-west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
200	Layer	Layer	Moderately Compact mid brownish grey silty clay	0.22m	Topsoil
201	Layer	Layer	Compact light greyish brown silty clay	0.12m	Subsoil
202	Natural	Layer	Compact mid orangey brown clay	0.14m +	Natural
203	Furrow	Fill	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay		Fill of furrow 204. Rare CBM and pottery sherds, very similar to subsoil 201.
204	Furrow	Cut			Cut of furrow at western end of trench.
205	Furrow	Fill			Fill of furrow 206. Same as 203.
206	Furrow	Cut			Cut of furrow between 204 and 208.
207	Field drain	Fill			Fill of land drain.
208	Field drain	Cut			Cut of land drain between furrows 206 and 210.
209	Furrow	Fill			Fill of furrow 210. Same as 203.
210	Furrow	Cut			Cut of furrow between 208 and 212.
211	Furrow	Fill			Fill of furrow 212. Same as 203.
212	Furrow	Cut			Cut of furrow at eastern end of trench.

Trench 3

Length: 30m

Width: 1.80m

Orientation: North-west to south-east

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
300	Topsoil	Layer	Moderately Compact mid greyish brown silty clay	0.24m	Topsoil
301	Layer	Layer	Compact light greyish brown silty clay	0.22m	Subsoil
302	Natural	Layer	Compact mid orangey brown clay	0.14m +	Natural
303	Furrow	Fill	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay		Fill of furrow 304. Very similar to subsoil 301. Contains rare pottery and CBM fragments.
304	Furrow	Cut			Cut of furrow at southern end of trench.
305	Furrow	Fill			Fill of furrow 306. Same as 303.
306	Furrow	Cut			Cut of furrow immediately north of 304.
307	Furrow	Fill			Fill of furrow 308. Same as 303.
308	Furrow	Cut			Cut of furrow between 306 and 310.
309	Furrow	Fill			Fill of furrow 310. Same as 303.
310	Furrow	Cut			Cut of furrow at north end of trench.
311	Field drain	Fill			Fill of land drain 312. Same as 309 but with abundant sub-angular stones.
312	Field drain	Cut			Cut of land drain that cuts through middle of furrow 309 running in same orientation.

Trench 4

Length: 30m

Width: 1.80m

Orientation: North-east to south-west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
400	Layer	Layer	Moderately Compact mid greyish brown silty clay	0.31m	Topsoil
401	Layer	Layer	Compact light greyish brown silty clay	0.08m	Subsoil
402	Natural	Layer	Compact mid orangey brown clay		Natural
403	Ditch	Fill	Moderately Compact mid greyish brown silty clay		Fill of land boundary 404. Unexcavated due to waterlogging.
404	Ditch	Cut			Cut of land boundary at eastern end of trench. Cuts through subsoil 401.

Trench 5

Length: 30m

Width: 1.80m

Orientation: North-east to south-west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
500	Layer	Layer	Moderately Compact mid greyish brown silty clay	0.24m	Topsoil
501	Layer	Layer	Compact light greyish brown silty clay	0.10m	Subsoil
502	Natural	Layer	Compact mid orangey brown clay	0.11m +	Natural
503	Furrow	Fill	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay		Fill of furrow 504. Contains occasional sub-angular pebbles of Cotswold stone and cultural material. Similar to subsoil 501.
504	Furrow	Cut			Cut of furrow at western end of trench.
505	Furrow	Fill			Fill of furrow 506. Same as 503.
506	Furrow	Cut			Cut of furrow between furrows 504 and 508.
507	Furrow	Fill			Fill of furrow 508. Same as 503.
508	Furrow	Cut			Cut of furrow between furrow 506 and land drain 510.
509	Field drain	Fill			Fill of land drain 510. Predominantly sub-angular pebbles of Cotswold stone (2-5cm) with little soil.
510	Field drain	Cut			Cut of land drain between furrows 508 and 512.
511	Furrow	Fill			Fill of furrow 512. Same as 503.
512	Furrow	Cut			Cut of furrow between land drain 510 and furrow 514.
513	Furrow	Fill			Fill of furrow 514. Same as 503.
514	Furrow	Cut			Cut of furrow at eastern end of trench.

Trench 6

Length: 30m

Width: 1.80m

Orientation: East to west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
600	Layer	Layer	Moderately Compact mid brownish grey silty clay	0.34m	Topsoil
601	Layer	Layer	Compact light greyish brown silty clay	0.14m	Subsoil
602	Natural	Layer	Compact mid orangey brown clay	0.12m +	Natural
603	Furrow	Fill	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay		Fill of furrow 604. Occasional sub-angular pebbles and rare cultural material. Same as 203/303 etc.
604	Furrow	Cut			Cut of furrow at west end of trench.
605	Field drain	Fill			Fill of land drain 606. Predominantly sub-angular Cotswold stone pebbles (2-5cm) with little soil. Same as 509.
606	Field drain	Cut			Cut of land drain. Truncates furrow 604.
607	Furrow	Fill			Fill of furrow 608. Same as 603.
608	Furrow	Cut			Cut of furrow between furrows 604 and 610.
609	Furrow	Fill			Fill of furrow 609. Same as 603.
610	Furrow	Cut			Cut of furrow between furrows 608 and 612.
611	Furrow	Fill			Fill of furrow 612. Same as 603.
612	Furrow	Cut			Cut of furrow at eastern end of trench.

Trench 7

Length: 30m

Width: 1.80m

Orientation: North-west to south-east

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
700	Layer	Layer	Moderately Compact mid brownish grey silty clay	0.30m	Topsoil
701	Layer	Layer	Compact light greyish brown silty clay	0.13m	Subsoil
702	Natural	Layer	Compact mid orangey brown clay	0.13m +	Natural
703	Field drain	Fill	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay		Fill of land drain. Contains ceramic pipe.
704	Field drain	Cut			Cut of land drain at northern end of trench running north-south.
705	Field drain	Fill			Fill of land drain 706. Predominantly sub-angular pebbles (2-5cm) of Cotswold stone with little soil. Same as 509 and 605.
706	Field drain	Cut			Cut of land drain at southern end of trench, running in a northwest-southeast orientation.

Trench 8

Length: 30m

Width: 1.80m

Orientation: North-west to south-east

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
800	Layer	Layer	Moderately Compact mid brownish grey silty clay	0.25m	Topsoil
801	Layer	Layer	Compact light greyish brown silty clay	0.15m	Subsoil
802	Natural	Layer	Compact mid orangey brown clay	0.17m +	Natural
803	Field drain	Fill			Fill of land drain 804. Predominantly sub-angular pebbles (2-5cm) of Cotswold stone with little soil. Same as 509, 605 and 705.
804	Field drain	Cut			Cut of land drain at northern end of trench, running WNW-ESE.
805	Field drain	Fill	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay		Fill of land drain 806. Contains a ceramic drain pipe.
806	Field drain	Cut			Cut of land drain to south of 804. Running in a north-south orientation.

Trench 9

Length: 30m

Width: 1.80m

Orientation: North-east to south-west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
900	Layer	Layer	Moderately Compact mid brownish grey silty clay	0.23m	Topsoil
901	Layer	Layer	Compact light greyish brown silty clay	0.09m	Subsoil
902	Natural	Layer	Compact mid orangey brown clay	0.08m +	Natural
903	Field drain	Fill			Fill of land drain 904. Predominantly sub-angular pebbles (2-5cm) with little soil. Same as 509, 605, 705 etc.
904	Field drain	Cut			Cut of land drain at western end of trench
905	Furrow	Fill	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay		Fill of furrow 906. Contains rare sub-angular pebbles and cultural material. Same as 303 etc.
906	Furrow	Cut			Cut of furrow at eastern end of trench. Immediately west of land drain 908.
907	Field drain	Fill			Fill of land drain 908. Same as 903.
908	Field drain	Cut			Cut of land drain at eastern end of trench running WNW-ESE across trench corner.

Trench 10

Length: 30m

Width: 1.80m

Orientation: North-east to south-west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
1000	Layer	Layer	Moderately Compact mid greyish brown silty clay	0.30m	Topsoil
1001	Layer	Layer	Compact light brownish grey silty clay	0.15m	Subsoil
1002	Natural	Layer	Compact mid greyish yellow silty clay		Natural
1003	Field drain	Fill			Fill of land drain 1004. Contains ceramic pipe and backfilled with re-deposited natural (1002) and abundant packing of sub-angular mudstone.
1004	Field drain	Cut			Cut of land drain. Runs NW-SE.

Trench 11

Length: 30m

Width: 1.80m

Orientation: North-east to south-west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
1100	Layer	Layer	Moderately Compact mid brownish grey silty clay	0.25m	Topsoil
1101	Layer	Layer	Compact light greyish brown silty clay	0.10m	Subsoil
1102	Natural	Layer	Compact light orangey brown silty clay	0.21m	Colluvial Subsoil
1103	Natural	Layer	Compact mid orangey brown clay	0.24m +	Natural
1104	Field drain	Fill	Compact mid brownish grey silty clay		Fill of land drain 1105. Contains a ceramic pipe.
1105	Field drain	Cut			Cut of land drain at eastern end of trench. Runs NNW-SSE.
1106	Field drain	Fill			Fill of land drain 1107. Same as 1104.
1107	Field drain	Cut			Cut of land drain at western end of trench running NNW-SSE.

Trench 12

Length: 30m

Width: 1.80m

Orientation: North-east to south-west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
1200	Layer	Layer	Moderately Compact mid brownish grey silty clay	0.20m	Topsoil
1201	Layer	Layer	Compact light greyish brown silty clay	0.05m	Subsoil
1202	Natural	Layer	Compact mid orangey brown clay	0.13m +	Natural
1203	Ditch	Fill	Compact light brownish grey silty clay	0.32m	Fill of ditch 1204. Contains occasional sub-angular pebbles and stones. Mottled on eastern side with patches of natural 1202.
1204	Ditch	Cut		0.32m	Cut of ditch at western end of trench - East side of cut steeply sloping, west side appears very gradual although boundary between 1202 and 1203 is diffuse and unclear. Irregular base. Ditch runs NNW-SSE.
1205	Furrow	Fill	Compact light greyish brown silty clay		Fill of furrow 1206. Contains sub-angular pebbles.
1206	Furrow	Cut			Cut of furrow between ditch 1204 and furrow
1207	Furrow	Fill			Fill of furrow 1208. Same as 1205.
1208	Furrow	Cut			Cut of furrow at eastern end of trench.

Trench 13

Length: 30m Width: 1.80m Orientation: North to south

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
1300	Layer	Layer	Moderately Compact mid brownish grey silty clay	0.25m	Topsoil
1301	Layer	Layer	Compact light greyish brown silty clay	0.05m	Subsoil
1302	Natural	Layer	Compact light orangey brown silty clay	0.34m	Colluvial subsoil
1303	Natural	Layer	Compact mid orangey brown clay	0.19m +	Natural
1304	Field drain	Fill	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay		Fill of land drain 1305. Some bluish grey mottling, suggesting long term water movement
1305	Field drain	Cut			Cut of land drain in middle of trench, running NW-SE.

Trench 14

Length: 30m Width: 1.90m Orientation: North-east to south-west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
1400	Layer	Layer	Moderately Compact mid greyish brown silty clay	0.24m	Topsoil
1401	Layer	Layer	Compact light greyish yellow silty clay	0.11m	Subsoil
1402	Natural	Layer	Compact light orangey brown silty clay	0.15m	Upper clay natural, probably colluvial in origin
1403	Natural	Layer	Compact mid orangey brown clay	0.20m +	Lower clay natural

Trench 15

Length: 30m

Width: 1.85m

Orientation: North-west to south-east

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
1500	Layer	Layer	Moderately Compact mid greyish brown silty clay	0.30m	Topsoil layer - modern pasture but clearly been ploughed in the past.
1501	Layer	Layer	Firm light brownish grey silty clay	0.10m	Subsoil
1502	Natural	Layer	Firm light yellowish brown clay	0.22m	Upper natural clay substrate. Possibly colluvial but no finds to indicate an origin.
1503	Natural	Layer	Compact light orangey blue clay	0.35m +	Lower clay natural

Trench 16

Length: 30m

Width: 1.80m

Orientation: North-east to south-west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
1600	Layer	Layer	Moderately Compact mid greyish brown silty clay	0.25m	Topsoil
1601	Layer	Layer	Compact light yellowish brown silty clay	0.25m	Subsoil
1602	Modern Layer	Layer	Compact mid brownish grey silty clay	0.44m	Made ground deposit - possibly 19th century. Possibly a supporting embankment.
1603	Natural	Layer	Compact mid orangey brown clay		Natural
1604	Ditch	Fill	Compact mid yellowish blue silty clay	0.34m	Clay fill of ditch 1605. Contained occasional charcoal flecks and frequent angular and sub-angular limestone pebbles.
1605	Ditch	Cut		0.34m	Cut of ditch. Near vertical U-shaped cut, base not reached due to water logging. Assumed drainage ditch installed before the railway embankment.
1606	Palaeo	Fill			Fill of old channel/ditch Natural clays
1607	Palaeo	Cut			Cut of channel/ditch. Not visible in section.

Appendix 2 Technical information

The archive (site reference: P4678)

The archive consists of:

- 2 Field progress reports AS2
- 2 Photographic records AS3
- 144 Digital photographs
- 1 Drawing number catalogues AS4
- 3 Scale drawings
- 16 Trench record sheets AS41
- 1 Small box of finds
- 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
