

ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION
AT
LAND OFF CHELTENHAM ROAD,
EVESHAM, WORCESTERSHIRE

Jonathan Webster
With a contribution by Dennis Williams

Illustrations by Carolyn Hunt

9th December 2011
Revision 1

© Historic Environment and Archaeology Service,
Worcestershire County Council



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Historic Environment and Archaeology Service,
Worcestershire County Council,
Woodbury Building,
University of Worcester,
Henwick Grove,
Worcester WR2 6AJ

Project P3756
Report 1885
WSM 46068

Contents

Part 1 Project summary	1
Part 2 Detailed report	
1. Planning background	2
2. Aims	2
3. Methods	2
3.1 Documentary search.....	2
3.2 Fieldwork methodology.....	2
3.2.1 Fieldwork strategy.....	2
3.2.2 Structural analysis.....	3
3.3 Artefact methodology, by Dennis Williams.....	3
3.3.1 Artefact recovery policy.....	3
3.3.2 Method of analysis.....	3
3.4 Statement of confidence in the methods and results.....	3
4. Topographical and archaeological context	3
5. Results	4
5.1 Structural analysis.....	4
5.1.1 Phase 1: Natural deposits.....	4
5.1.2 Phase 2: Roman deposits.....	5
5.1.3 Phase 3: Modern deposits.....	5
5.1.4 Phase 4: Undated deposits.....	6
5.2 Artefact analysis, by Dennis Williams.....	6
6. Synthesis	6
7. Significance	7
7.1 Significance of a heritage asset with archaeological interest.....	7
7.2 Assessment of significance.....	7
7.3 Assessment of the impact of the proposal.....	7
8. Publication summary	7
9. Acknowledgements	8
10. Personnel	8
11. Bibliography	8

Archaeological Evaluation at land off Cheltenham Road, Evesham, Worcestershire

Jonathan Webster (project leader)

With a contribution by Dennis Williams

Part 1 Project summary

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at land off Cheltenham Road, Evesham, Worcestershire (NGR SP 0323 4194).

It was undertaken at the instruction of CgMs Consulting on behalf of the Minton Group in support of a planning application for residential development.

This report describes and assesses the significance of an heritage asset with archaeological interest potentially affected by the application. The impact of the application on the significance is assessed.

The investigation revealed a complex of ditches surviving in the northern part of the site only. These are thought to relate to features to the south and south-west of the site which are known through cropmarks. The ditches were recorded in plan although due to site constraints hand excavation was limited. However, artefacts recovered from the top of the ditches imply that they are Romano-British in date.

The southern half of the site contained no features of archaeological significance.

Part 2 Detailed report

1. **Planning background**

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at the land off Cheltenham Road, (centred on NGR SP 0323 4194), Evesham, Worcestershire (Fig 1), at the request of CgMs Consulting on behalf of their client The Minton Group. The client intends to construct a residential development for which this programme of works is a pre-application investigation ahead of submitting a planning application.

The development site is considered to include an heritage asset with archaeological interest, the significance of which may be affected by the proposed application, this heritage asset comprises a Romano-British enclosure and associated field systems (HER ref WSM 10125).

The project conforms to the *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IfA 2008) and the *Standards and guidelines for archaeological projects in Worcestershire* (HEAS 2010).

The project also conforms to a brief prepared by the service (HEAS 2011a) and for which a project proposal (including detailed specification) was produced (HEAS 2011b).

2. **Aims**

The aims of this archaeological evaluation are:

- to describe and assesses 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.

More specifically the following aims have been identified.

- To establish the presence, continuation and extent of the known Romano-British enclosure and associate field systems known to exist to the south and south west of the current site.

3. **Methods**

3.1 **Documentary search**

Prior to this phase of works a desk-based assessment was undertaken by MetroMOLA Central (Sherlock 2011), who undertook a search of all known historic and archaeological relationships that directly related to the area of investigation and the surrounding landscape.

3.2 **Fieldwork methodology**

3.2.1 **Fieldwork strategy**

A detailed specification has been prepared by the Service (HEAS 2011b).

Fieldwork was undertaken between the 21st and 25th November 2011. The site reference number and site code is WSM 46068.

Six trenches, measuring 50m in length by 1.80m in width amounting to just over 535m² in area, were excavated over the site area of 13370m², representing a sample of c.4%. The location of the trenches is shown in Figure 2. Trench 4 was placed to specifically investigate the continuation of the large ditch system recorded during previous investigations (HER ref WSM 10125) to the south of the current area of investigation.

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 planned. Due to constraints of access to the site, investigation of features was limited to minimal hand excavation and no complete sections profiles were exposed. On completion of excavation, trenches were reinstated by replacing the excavated material.

3.2.2 **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.

3.3 **Artefact methodology, by Dennis Williams**

3.3.1 **Artefact recovery policy**

The artefact recovery policy conformed to standard Service practice (CAS 1995; appendix 2). Due to the limited hand excavation undertaken the majority of finds recovered from the top of archaeological contexts, and while it is believed that these finds were secure in their location, it is also possible that they may be later intrusive objects.

3.3.2 **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.

Pottery fabrics are referenced to the fabric reference series maintained by the Service (Hurst 1994).

3.4 **Statement of confidence in the methods and results**

Despite the constraints of excavation, described above, it is considered that a good overview of the archaeological potential of the site was achieved through exposure and planning of the features and setting these in the context of the known archaeological landscape.

4. **Topographical and archaeological context**

The area of investigation is situated 2.9km to the south of the centre of Evesham (Figure 1) to the immediate west of Cheltenham Road (The A4184). The site is bounded to the south by fields and to the west by a building complex. The north of the site is limited by greenhouses and an associated farm.

The site is flat and lies at roughly 33m AOD (Above Ordinance Datum) within a farmed lowland agricultural landscape on the floodplain between the Rivers Avon and Isbourne, The Avon roughly 1.6km to the north while the River Isbourne lies 425m to the west of the site.

The soils are noted as permeable, well drained calcareous loams of the Bradley series (Ragg *et al* 1986) they overlie a polymict deposit of Pleistocene date which comprises a combination of gravels, sand and clays formed by a combination of solifluction and/or hillwash and soil creep. This in turn is sealed the lower blue Lias clays from the mid Jurassic period (BGS 1974 and 1989).

While little is known about the pre-Roman landscape of this area due to a distinct lack of known archaeological sites or finds, the Romano-British landscape appears to have been fairly intense. The site lies adjacent to the probable course of the Roman road that lead into the Roman settlement at Evesham (Dalwood 1996) and as such the known cropmarks recorded from aerial photography are believed to relate to outlying satellite activity radiating away from the main settlement. These satellite sites sat within the lee of the main trade arteries that comprised the road and river routes allowing produce to be quickly distributed.

Worked Prehistoric flints have been found within the parish, but the earliest material in relation to the site comprised a number of Iron Age/Romano-British brooches recorded roughly 500m to the southeast of the site (WSM 21408).

To the east of the current area of investigation a concentration of cropmark evidence (WSM 4051) is known from field walking and metal detecting to have produced 3rd and 4th century pottery and coins, the scatters of which extend to the north beyond the known cropmark evidence suggesting that the settlement noted may in fact be larger than can be currently seen. Further Romano-British material was also recovered during fieldwalking at Four Pools Industrial estate to the northeast (WSM 29924) and an evaluation in Davies Road (WSM 11257).

The current A4184 as mentioned above is thought to follow the route of the earlier main Roman road, and while at present this is conjecture, further evidence and mention within an Anglo-Saxon charter (WSM 3381) certainly shows that it is present in the immediate Post-Roman phase.

The area has been subjected to a number of archaeological investigations over the years and these have revealed a landscape that was at its most intense through the Romano-British period. Approximately 200m to the south of the site cropmarks were investigated and revealed a series of parallel ditch features containing 3rd and 4th century pottery (Miller and Mann 2002).

In recent history the land to the immediate west of the site became a farm in the 18th century and it is during this period that the current boundaries of the site were created. Little then occurred until the late 1980s and early 1990s when the current complex of buildings to the immediate west of the site were constructed.

5. **Results**

5.1 **Structural analysis**

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

5.1.1 **Phase 1: Natural deposits**

The natural substrate was noted on average at 0.3m BPGL (below present ground level) and comprised a combination of fine gravels, silts and sands with occasional manganese lenses. The upper interface of the geology was partially disturbed by plough action and plough scars were noted in three of the trenches, and was most pronounced in Trench 6 in the northeast corner of the site.

No discrete natural features were noted and as such it would appear that at no time was the area wooded.

5.1.2 **Phase 2: Roman deposits**

Due to the nature of the investigation it is not intended to describe in detail, but rather to provide a general overview of the features revealed.

All of the features noted were discovered in the northern half of the site, despite the focus of the main known Roman activity occurring to the south and southwest of the current area of investigation. These were large linear features that are thought to represent boundary ditches for either an enclosure or field system.

Trench 4 in the northwest corner of the site contained four ditches that are thought to be Romano-British in date, however dateable material was only recovered from three of these and as such the remaining one is described below in the undated phase 4. The two ditches that had dateable material within them [403] and [405] appeared to comprise either two separate ditches or two phases of the same linear feature. The first ditch [403] was orientated roughly north/south and measured 0.84m in width by at least 1.80m in length, although it should be noted that the east of the ditch had been truncated by the later ditch [405]. The first ditch [403] was U-shaped in profile and filled with a single fill 404 that suggested that it had gradually silted up over an indeterminate period of time without cleaning of the ditch taking place. The ditch is thought to have either represented an independent ditch (Possibly a field boundary) that was later truncated by the larger linear [405], or an earlier phase of linear feature [405] which in the window available appeared to be orientated on a slightly different angle.

Linear feature [405] appears to be a large ditch 2.46m in width that had at least one fill 406 which contained Romano-British material. This ditch was partially sectioned and is known to be at least 1m in depth and have a roughly U-shaped profile.

To the east of this was a large ditch [408] that measured 4.45m in width and was orientated northwest/southeast. The fill contained a single silt-rich fill that appeared to be the results of a natural infilling. It is thought that this ditch may be curving towards the east and is noted again in Trench 5 [507]. Here the linear was noted as being 6.70m wide although it should be noted that it was thought that this width may represent two parallel ditches. To the north of this was a second linear feature [504] orientated east/west that measured 5.70m in width. Of interest was the northern extent of this linear contained a band of burnt sand and charcoal 505, 0.37m in width that is thought at present to represent a secondary fill that underlay the main clean and sterile fill 503. This fill contained a small quantity of animal bone on its surface as well as a fragment of pottery and was characteristic of a general dump of domestic waste. This large linear was noted in the western end of Trench 6 [604] where it changed orientation towards the southeast.

Cut [604] was only partially revealed in the very end of Trench 6 and it was at least 1.94m in width, with a single clean silt rich fill 603 was similar in nature to 503 mentioned above.

5.1.3 **Phase 3: Modern deposits**

A series of ceramic drains were noted to crisscross the site in a north/south and northeast/southwest orientation with the drains dipping to the west and north. These were generally placed in a vertical sided cut ditch that averaged from 0.35m to 1.24m in width and varied from 0.3m BPGL down to 0.97m.

At the eastern end of Trench 6 the first 4.21m of the trench was infilled with modern demolition and debris [612] including CBM, plastics and metal that are thought to have been

a former building that had been demolished into itself. This is likely to have occurred during the development of the site at the end of the 1980s and through the first half of the 1990s.

The above was sealed by roughly 0.30m of plough soil in all of the trenches, this was humeric and loose in nature and highly mixed due to plant rooting. As mentioned above this plough action in places had partially truncated the natural substrate and plough scars were present in several trenches.

5.1.4 **Phase 4: Undated deposits**

It is believed that most, if not all, of the following features are Romano-British in date due to their similarity with the dated features described above. At the western end of Trench 4 was noted a north/south aligned linear [410] that measured 2.15m in width and contained a single silt rich fill 409 which appears to have been the result of natural infilling as opposed to a deliberate backfill.

Trench 6 contained at least four separate linear features, all of which at present do not have any dating evidence, the fills were all very similar comprising silt rich sediments that would appear to have been the result of low energy silting. No excavation of these ditches took place but at present it is thought that they represent two large parallel ditches [608] and [610] orientated north/south, these measured 7.30m in width. To the immediate west of linear [610] was the corner to either an enclosure or field boundary [606] this corner was noted to being a sharp right angle made from a ditch 1.73m in width.

5.2 **Artefact analysis, by Dennis Williams**

The finds assemblage from this site was limited and unremarkable. Context 404 yielded a single abraded body sherd of Roman pottery. This was identified as Severn Valley ware (fabric 12), which was produced throughout the 1st-4th century period.

A copper alloy disc, almost certainly a coin, was found in context 404 but this could not be identified as it was severely corroded. The remaining finds from this context comprised a roof tile fragment (probably post-medieval), three small fragments of undiagnostic brick/tile, and a piece of slag from iron smelting. The slag was porous and of low density, and therefore likely to be either post-medieval or modern.

A body sherd of brown-glazed, red ware pottery (fabric 78), of 17th-18th century date was found in context 406, which also produced an oyster shell, and small single pieces of degraded bone, broken flint (with no sign of deliberate working), and corroded brass strip.

6. **Synthesis**

It is clear that the north half of the site contains a Romano-British ditch system that forms an enclosure within the wider Romano-British landscape, most probably dating to the 3rd and 4th Centuries.

It is clear that the site was in use for a relatively long time as several of the ditches appear to have been truncated by later phases after they had silted up but beyond this we are not able to interpret the site phasing and morphology. Certainly the apparent conflicting relationship between linear features [606] and [608] would suggest that the landscape was changed at least once with a new system being placed over the previous with no attempt at retaining former boundaries.

The lack of archaeology in the southern half of the site is interesting especially as the known area of cropmarks lie to the south of the current site. The clean nature of the underlying natural substrate is such that any features present would have been spotted.

7. Significance

7.1 Significance of a heritage asset with archaeological interest

The aim of an archaeological evaluation is to provide the client and the planning authority (and its advisors) with sufficient information to assess the significance of a heritage asset with archaeological interest, in line with *Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment* (DCLG 2010: Policy HE6). More detailed guidance on assessing the significance of site with archaeological interest is set out in the *Historic Environment Planning Practice Guide*, which advises that an on-site evaluation should establish the nature, importance and extent of the archaeological interest in order to provide sufficient evidence for confident prediction of the impact of the proposal (DCLG/DCMS/EH 2010: Section 5, Development Management).

7.2 Assessment of significance

The on-site evaluation has provided new evidence on a site with archaeological interest. As a result, an assessment of the significance of this site can be made in terms of the nature, importance and extent of the archaeological interest.

Nature of the archaeological interest in the site

It is clear that the northern half of the site contains a complex multi-phased enclosure system that is of probable Roman date. However, due to the limited nature of intrusive investigations and the small quantity of dateable finds, it is not possible to provide an accurate date range for all of the archaeological features.

Relative importance of the archaeological interest in the site

This complex of ditches lies within a larger landscape of planned enclosure and field systems, the majority of which are believed to date between the Iron Age and Romano-British periods. Iron Age and Romano-British enclosure sites of this type typify the archaeology of this period in the region, however the majority are only known through cropmark evidence and few have been subject to any level of excavation (Hurst 2004; Hancock 2007, 91-100; Morton and Holbrook 2007, 101-111). As such any intrusive archaeological studies that can help further refine our understanding of site morphology, function and date will help provide a larger overview to other similar sites within the county and surrounding region.

7.3 Assessment of the impact of the proposal

The on-site evaluation, and the information provided by the Client, allows an assessment to be made of the potential impact of the proposed development on the archaeological interest in the site.

The majority of archaeological features noted during the evaluation were revealed at around 0.30m BPGL, as such any future development that includes intrusive works is likely to impact on the underlying archaeology.

8. Publication summary

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

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at land off Cheltenham Road, Evesham, Worcestershire (NGR SP 0323 4194).

It was undertaken at the instruction of CgMs Consulting on behalf of the Minton Group in support of a planning application for residential development.

This report on an archaeological evaluation describes and assesses the significance of an heritage asset with archaeological interest potentially affected by the application. The impact of the application on the significance is assessed.

The investigation revealed a complex of ditches surviving in the northern part of the site only. These are thought to relate to features to the south and south-west of the site which are known through cropmarks. The ditches on site were recorded in plan although due to site constraints hand excavation was limited. However, artefacts recovered from the top of the ditches imply that they are Romano-British in date.

The southern half of the site contained no features of archaeological significance.

9. **Acknowledgements**

The Service would like to thank the following for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project, Cathy Patrick, CgMs Consulting, Mike Glyde, Worcestershire County Council.

10. **Personnel**

The fieldwork and report preparation was led by Jonathan Webster. The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Tom Rogers. Fieldwork was undertaken by Jonathan Webster assisted by Christopher Gibbs, finds analysis by Dennis Williams and illustration by Carolyn Hunt.

11. **Bibliography**

British Geological Survey (BGS). 1974 *Geology of the country around Stratford-upon-Avon and Evesham. Memoir of the Geological Survey of Great Britain Sheet 200 (England and Wales).*

British Geological Survey (BGS). 1989 *Geology of the country around Tewkesbury. Memoir of the British Geological Survey, Sheet 216 (England and Wales).*

CAS, 1995 (as amended) *Manual of Service practice: fieldwork recording manual*, County Archaeological Service, Hereford and Worcester County Council, internal report **399**

Dalwood, H, 1996 *Archaeological Assessment of Evesham and Bengeworth, Hereford and Worcester*, Hereford and Worcester County Council, internal report **945**

DCLG 2010 *Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the historic environment*, Department for Communities and Local Government

DCLG/DCMS/EH 2010 *PPS5 Planning for the historic environment: historic environment planning practice guide*. Department for Communities and Local Government/Department for Culture, Media and Sport/English Heritage

Hancocks, A, 2007 *Later prehistory: Middle and Late Bronze Age to Iron Age*, in Jackson and Dalwood 2007, 82-100

HEAS 2010 *Standards and guidelines for archaeological projects in Worcestershire*, Planning Advisory Section, Historic Environment and Archaeology Service, Worcestershire County Council unpublished report 604, revised December 2010

HEAS 2011a *Brief for an archaeological evaluation at Cheltenham Road, Evesham, Worcestershire*, Planning Advisory Section, Historic Environment and Archaeology Service, Worcestershire County Council unpublished document dated 17th August 2011

HEAS 2011b *Proposal for an archaeological evaluation at Cheltenham Road, Evesham, Worcestershire*, Historic Environment and Archaeology Service, Worcestershire County Council, unpublished document dated 26th August 2011, **P3756**

Hurst, D, 2004 *Middle Bronze Age to Iron Age: a research assessment*, West Midlands Regional Research Framework (Publication draft)

Hurst, J D, 1994 (as amended) *Pottery fabrics. A multi-period series for the County of Hereford and Worcester*, County Archaeological Service, Hereford and Worcester County Council, internal report **445**

IfA 2008 *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation*, Institute for Archaeologists

Jackson, R, and Dalwood, H, 2007 *Archaeology and aggregates in Worcestershire: a resource assessment and research agenda*, Historic Environment and Archaeology Service, Worcestershire County Council and Cotswold Archaeology, HEAS internal report, **1477** (available online at www.worcestershire.gov.uk/home/wccindex/wcc-arch/wcc-archaeology-aggregates.htm)

Miller, D, and Mann, A, 2002 *An Archaeological Evaluation at Cheltenham Road, Evesham, Worcestershire*, Historic Environment and Archaeology Service, Worcestershire County Council, internal report **WR 9325**

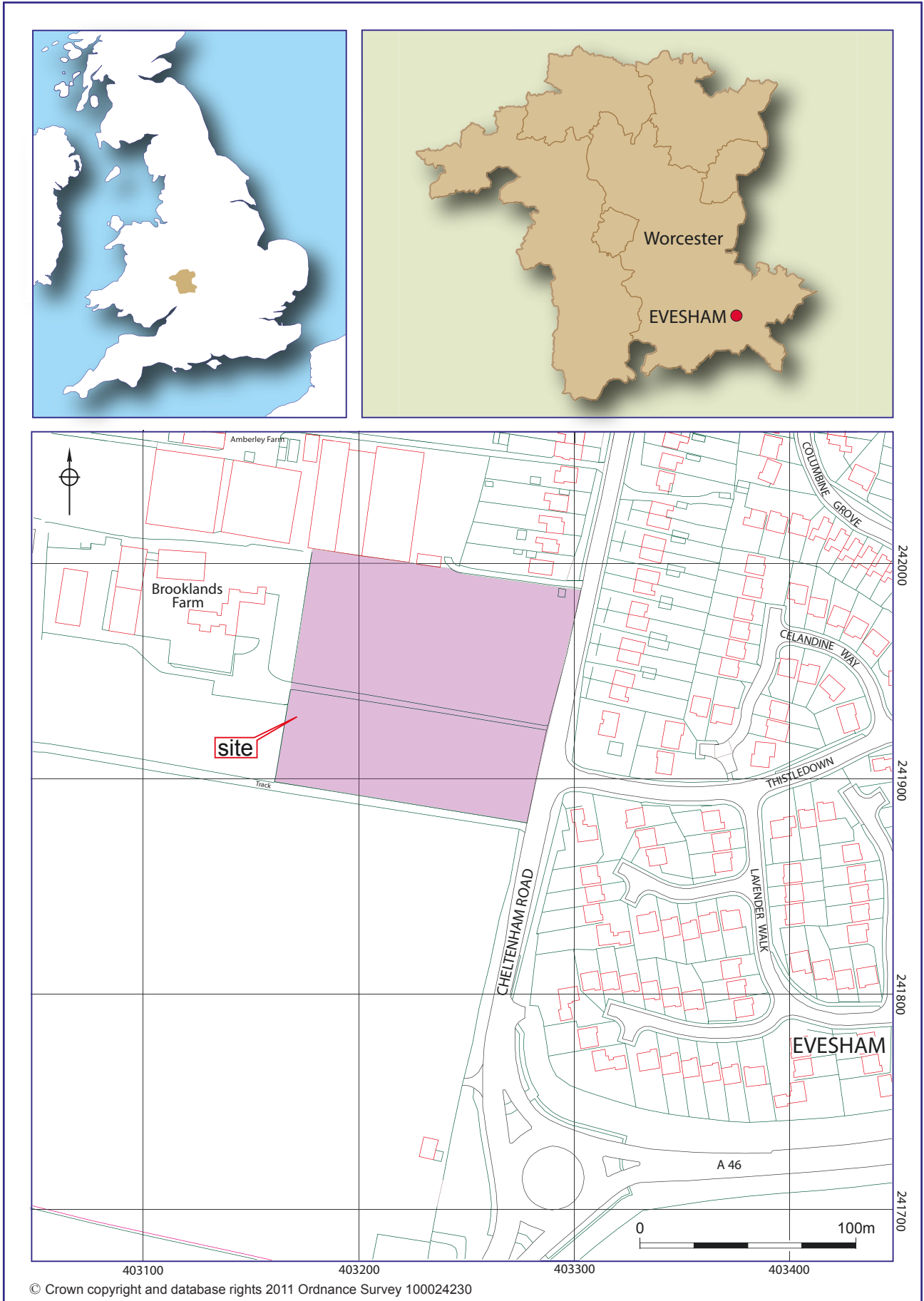
Morton, R, and Holbrook, N, 2007 *Later pre-Roman Iron Age to sub-Roman period*, in Jackson and Dalwood 2007, 101-111

Sherlock, H. 2011 *Land at Cheltenham Road, Evesham, Worcestershire NGR 403210 241950, An historic environment assessment*, MetroMOLA Central, Museum of London Archaeology, unpublished document dated 20th May 2011

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)*

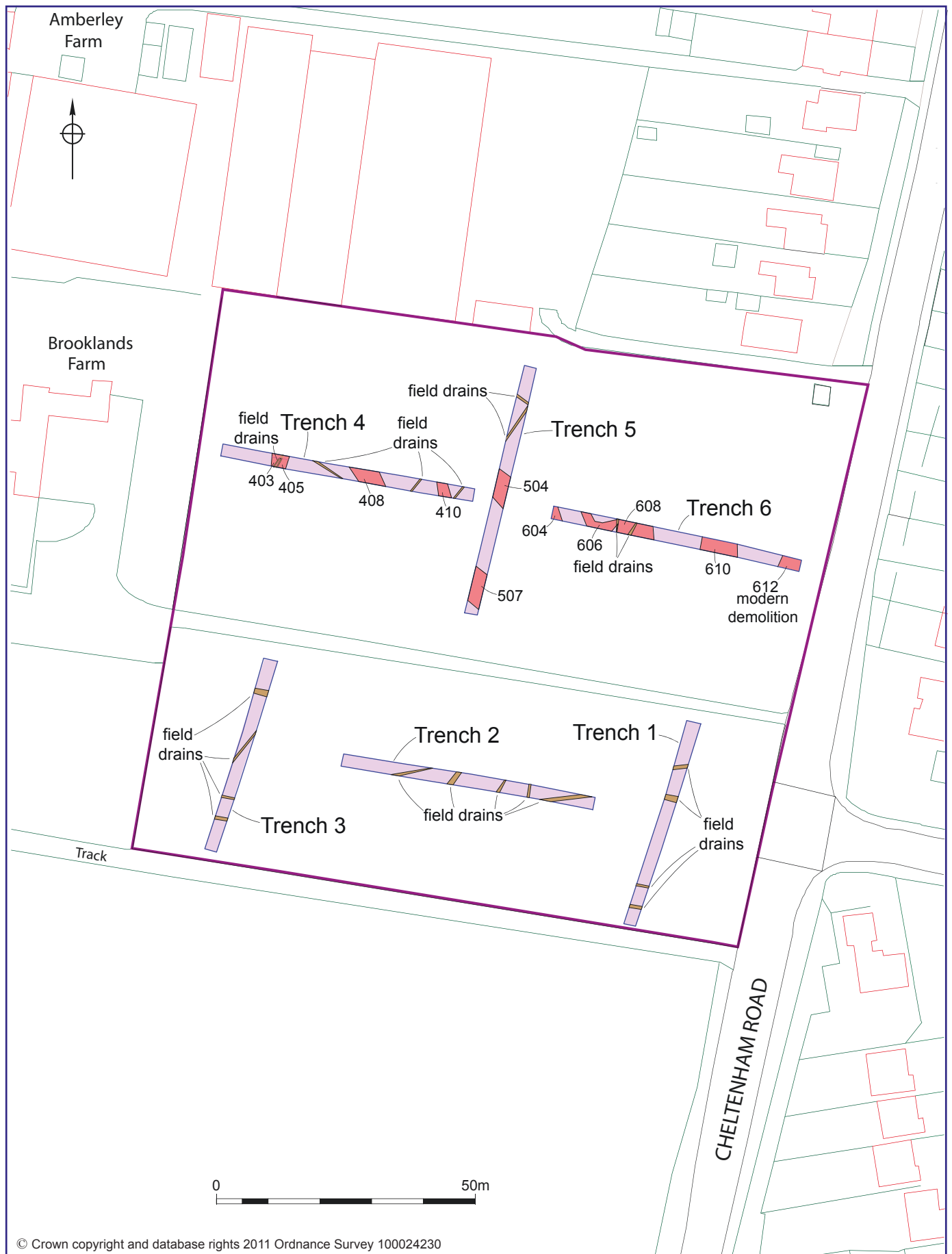
Ragg, J M, Beard, G R, George, H, Heaven, F W, Hollis, J M, Jones, R J A, Palmer, R C, Reeve, M J, Robson, J D, and Whitfield, W A D, 1984 *Soils and their use in midland and western England*, Soil Survey of England and Wales, **12**

Figures



Location of the site

Figure 1



Trench location plan

Figure 2

Plates



Plate 1. Trench 4 looking east.



Plate 2. Trench 5 looking south.



Plate 3. Trench 6 looking west



Plate 4. General view of site from northeast corner looking southwest

Appendix 1 Trench descriptions

Trench 1

Maximum dimensions: Length: 41m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.40-0.50m

Orientation: Northeast/southwest

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
100	Ploughsoil	Dark yellowish brown, loose sandy silts with frequent rooting throughout. Occasional charcoal flecks throughout.	0.00-0.30m
101	Natural substrate	Combination of light greyish yellow sand and gravels, sterile with occasional manganese lenses	0.30-0.50m+
[102]	Cut of modern drain	East/west aligned land drain with almost vertical sides and flat base. 0.69m in width.	0.00-0.55m
103	Fill of [102]	Light yellowish brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks throughout. No finds recovered from fill but ceramic drain at base suggests a 20 th century construction	0.00-0.55m

Trench 2

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.40m

Orientation: Northwest/southeast

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
200	Ploughsoil	Dark yellowish brown, loose sandy silts with frequent rooting throughout. Occasional charcoal flecks throughout.	0.00-0.15m
201	Relict ploughsoil	Semi compact light yellowish brown sandy silts with occasional grit and pebbles throughout.	0.15-0.25m
202	Natural Substrate	Combination of light greyish yellow sand and gravels, sterile with occasional manganese lenses	0.25-0.40m+

Trench 3

Maximum dimensions: Length: 40m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.41m

Orientation: Northeast/southwest

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
301	Ploughsoil	Dark yellowish brown, loose sandy silts with frequent rooting throughout. Occasional charcoal flecks throughout.	0.00-0.27m
302	Natural	Combination of light greyish yellow sand and gravels, sterile with occasional	0.27-0.41m+

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
	substrate	manganese lenses	
303	Fill of [304]	Light yellowish brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks throughout. No finds recovered from fill but ceramic drain at base suggests a 20 th century construction	0.00-0.71m
[304]	Cut for modern drain	East/west aligned land drain with almost vertical sides and flat base. 0.69m in width and 0.25m in depth.	0.00-0.71m

Trench 4

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.30-0.41m

Orientation: Northwest/southeast

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
400	Ploughsoil	Dark yellowish brown, loose sandy silts with frequent rooting throughout. Occasional charcoal flecks throughout.	0.00-0.15m
401	Relict ploughsoil	Semi compact light yellowish brown sandy silts with occasional grit and pebbles throughout.	0.15-0.30m
402	Natural substrate	Combination of light greyish yellow sand and gravels, sterile with occasional manganese lenses	0.30-0.50m+
[403]	Cut of linear	Northeast/southwest aligned ditch with a Moderately steep U shaped profile and flat base. 0.84m in width.	0.30-0.68m
404	Fill of [403]	Light yellowish brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks throughout.	0.30-0.68m
[405]	Cut of linear	Northeast/southwest aligned ditch with a moderately steep U shaped profile. The base of this feature was not reached. 2.46m in width.	0.30-0.70m+
406	Fill of [405]	Light yellowish grey sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks throughout.	0.30-0.70m+
407	Fill of [408]	Light yellowish brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks throughout.	0.30m+
[408]	Cut of linear	Feature not excavated and only seen in plan. Orientated north-nor-west/south-south-east. 4.45m in width.	0.30m+
409	Fill of [410]	Light greyish yellow silty sand with occasional charcoal flecks throughout.	0.30m+
[410]	Cut of linear	North/south orientated linear that was not excavate and as such only seen in plan. 2.15m in width.	0.30m+

Trench 5

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.30-0.40m

Orientation: Northeast/southwest

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
501	Ploughsoil	Dark yellowish brown, loose sandy silts with frequent rooting throughout. Occasional charcoal flecks throughout.	0.00-0.30m
502	Natural substrate	Combination of light greyish yellow sand and gravels, sterile with occasional manganese lenses	0.30-0.40m+
503	Fill of [504]	Light yellowish grey sandy silts with occasional charcoal flecks throughout	0.30-0.62m+
[504]	Cut of ditch	East/west aligned linear that fully excavated. Where excavated the ditch is moderately steep and U shaped in profile. The base of the feature was not reached 5.70m in width	0.30m-0.62m+
505	Fill of [504]	Dark greyish blue, silty sands with extremely frequent charcoal flecks throughout.	0.30-0.53m
506	Fill of [507]	Light yellowish brown sandy silts with occasional charcoal flecks	0.30m+
[507]	Cut of linear	East/west aligned linear that was not excavated and as such only seen in plan. 6.70m in width	0.30m+

Trench 6

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.30-0.40m

Orientation: Northwest/southeast

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
601	Ploughsoil	Dark yellowish brown, loose sandy silts with frequent rooting throughout. Occasional charcoal flecks throughout.	0.00-0.30m
602	Natural substrate	Combination of light greyish yellow sand and gravels, sterile with occasional manganese lenses	0.30-0.34m+
603	Fill of [604]	Light yellowish brown sandy silts with occasional charcoal flecks throughout	0.30m+
[604]	Cut of linear	North/south aligned linear that was not excavated and as such only seen in plan. 1.94m in width	0.30m+
605	Fill of [606]	Light yellowish grey silty sands with no visible inclusions seen	0.30m+
[606]	Cut of linear	Corner of a field system or an enclosure that was not excavated and only seen in plan. Orientated north/south before turning 90° to east/west. 1.73m in width	0.30m+
607	Fill of [608]	Light yellowish brown sandy silts with occasional charcoal flecks throughout.	0.30m+
[608]	Cut of linear	Large north/south aligned linear that was only seen in plan and not excavated. 7.30m in width	0.30m+
609	Fill of linear	Light yellowish brown sandy silts with occasional charcoal flecks throughout	0.30m+

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
[610]	Cut of linear	Large north/south aligned linear that was not excavated, as such it was only seen in plan. 7.30m in width	0.30m+
611	Fill of [612]	Light orange grey silty sands mixed with modern demolition including CBM, concrete, bricks and refuse.	0.30-0.45m+
[612]	Cut of modern feature	Vertical sided cut that appears to be a former cellar or building base that has been demolished at some point in relatively recent history.	0.30-0.45m+

Appendix 2 Technical information

The archive (site code: WSM 46068)

The archive consists of:

- 3 Field progress reports AS2
- 1 Photographic records AS3
- 44 Digital photographs
- 1 Recorded finds records AS13
- 6 Trench record sheets AS41
- 1 Copy of this report (bound hard copy)

The project archive is intended to be placed at:

Worcestershire County Museum
Museums Worcestershire
Hartlebury Castle
Hartlebury
Near Kidderminster
Worcestershire DY11 7XZ
Tel Hartlebury (01299) 250416
