

ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
EVALUATION  
AT  
UPPER HOLLOWFIELDS FARM,  
HANBURY, WORCESTERSHIRE

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Illustrations by Emily Gough and Tom Rogers

Artefact Analysis – Dennis Williams

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Project 3286  
Report 1642  
WSM39894



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE







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# **Archaeological Evaluation at Upper Hollowfields Farm, Hanbury, Worcestershire**

**Emily Gough (project leader)**

## **Part 1 Project summary**

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Upper Hollowfields Farm, Hanbury, Worcestershire (NGR: SO 97113 61327). It was undertaken on behalf of Michael, Janette and Josephine Terry and was intended as a rapid research evaluation in support of the farm's ongoing management under Higher Level Stewardship. The project aimed to determine if any significant archaeological deposits, associated with an historic road, were present in parcels SO97611646 and SO97610351.

Three trenches were excavated across the two parcels. Archaeological deposits, believed to be associated with a post-medieval road, were uncovered in trenches 1 and 2 (parcel SO97611646). No features or deposits of archaeological significance were discovered in trench 3 (parcel SO97610351).



## Part 2 Detailed report

### 1. Background

#### 1.1 Reasons for the project

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Upper Hollowfields Farm (NGR: SO97113 61327), Hanbury, Worcestershire (figures 1 and 2) on behalf of Michael, Janette and Josephine Terry.

The project was intended as a rapid research evaluation in support of the farm's ongoing management under Higher Level Stewardship.

#### 1.2 Project parameters

The project conforms to the *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IFA 2001).

#### 1.3 Aims

The aim of the evaluation was to locate archaeological deposits and determine, if present, their extent, state of preservation, date, type, vulnerability and documentation. The purpose of this was to establish their significance, as this should enable recommendations for appropriate management under Higher Level Stewardship.

### 2. Methods

#### 2.1 Documentary search

Prior to the commencement of fieldwork a search was made of the Historic Environment Record (HER). In addition to the sources listed in the bibliography the following were also consulted:

##### *Cartographic sources*

- 1723 Dougharty Map of Hollow Field Farm
- 1812 Two Inch Surveyors Map, Tardibigge
- Transcription of the 1838 Hanbury Tithe and Awards
- 1<sup>st</sup> Edition OS Map (1:2500 County Series)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition OS map (1:2500 County Series)

##### *Aerial photographs*

- Get Mapping, Millennium Mapping Survey, 1:2500 Vertical Air Photographic Coverage of Worcestershire 1999
- Get Mapping, 1:2500 Vertical Air Photographic Coverage of Worcestershire 2005

## 2.2 **Fieldwork methodology**

### 2.2.1 **Fieldwork strategy**

Fieldwork was undertaken on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2008. The site reference number and site code is WSM39894.

Three 6 – 7 m x 0.8 m trenches were excavated at Upper Hollowfields Farm (figure 3). Trenches 1 and 2 were located to the northeast of the farmhouse (parcel SO97611646) at SO97193 61469 and SO97130 61379 respectively. Trench 3 was located to the north west of the farmhouse at SO97072 61448 (parcel SO97610351).

Deposits considered to be insignificant were removed using a mini digger under archaeological supervision. Subsequent excavation was undertaken by hand and clean surfaces were inspected. Deposits were recorded according to standard service practice (CAS 1995). On completion of excavation, trenches 2 and 3 were reinstated. Trench 1 has been temporarily left open for educational purposes. All hand retrieved finds were rapidly examined. An approximate date was calculated and used for determining the broad date of phases defined for the site.

### 2.2.2 **Method of analysis**

All hand retrieved finds were rapidly examined. They were identified 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.

## 2.3 **The methods in retrospect**

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

## 3. **Topographical and archaeological context**

Upper Hollowfields Farm is located to the west of Bradley Green, in the parish of Hanbury (NGR: SO97113 61327), within the historic boundaries of the former Royal Forest of Feckenham. The present farmhouse at Upper Hollowfields Farm is grade II listed and dates to the late 18<sup>th</sup> century.

The underlying geology is characterised by an area of lias clay, with poorly draining, base rich soils and a rolling lowland topography. The settlement pattern is one of farmsteads and clusters of wayside cottages associated with a moderate to high level of dispersal. The land use is primarily pastoral and the tree cover comprises relic patches of ancient woodland (WCC Landscape Character Assessment).

The 1812 Two Inch Surveyors Map of Tardibigge (figures 9 and 10), 1838 Hanbury Tithe (figure 5) and 1<sup>st</sup> Edition OS map (1885, figure 6) record a post medieval enclosed landscape, characterised by a small to medium scale field pattern. Comparison of the 1<sup>st</sup> Edition and modern OS maps suggests that the late 19<sup>th</sup> century field pattern survives relatively intact across the holding.

During the medieval period the landscape was dominated by a mosaic of agricultural land cleared directly from woodland, on a piecemeal basis (assarting), and areas of open field. Christopher Dyer's Hanbury Parish Survey (1979 – 1981) recorded extensive earthworks, associated with medieval occupation of the landscape, including evidence of open field cultivation and dispersed settlement. Three probable house platforms, possibly associated with



medieval settlement, were recorded to the west of Upper Hollowfields Farm (parcel SO96619142 (WSM11663). Extensive ridge and furrow earthworks were also recorded and survive as a modern landscape feature within parcels SO96605748, SO97610315 and SO96606366 (WSM11624, WSM11625 and WSM11630).

Dyer (1991) suggests that expansion was, to a certain extent, inhibited at Hanbury by the deliberate conservation of woods and pastures by the king, the bishop and other lords. The western border of Upper Hollowfields Farm is an significant former parkland boundary and deer leap, associated with the Deer Park at Mere Hall (WSM35277 and WSM35273). The parkland is believed to date from the 15<sup>th</sup> Century, though earlier origins are a possibility. The deer leap boundary is marked, on the 1<sup>st</sup> Edition OS map (1885) by seven boundary stones, two of which remain intact. The surviving stones are inscribed with the initials 'EB' for Edward Bearcroft. The Bearcrofts were residents of Mere Hall, a fine half-timber framed house with 14<sup>th</sup> century origins.

A History of the County of Worcestershire: volume 3 records a manor of Holeway. In 1086, the manor of Holeway belonged to the king, who had succeeded the Saxon lord Siward. Domesday Book gives a full account of the manor among the king's other property in Herefordshire. A royal park, a major intrusion on the landscape, was also established, and stretched across the centre of the parish.

In 1136 the manor of Holeway was granted to the abbey of Bordesley, at its foundation, by the Empress Maud. The 1838 Hanbury Tithe and Awards records that lands in the Hollow Field Division had always been tithe free. The name Holeway has disappeared but is now marked by Upper, Lower and Middle Hollowfields Farms.

The Hanbury Parish Survey (1979 – 1981) recorded a complex series of earthworks to the east of, what is today, Lower Hollowfields Farm (figure 8). The earthworks, interpreted, by Dyer, as being the site of Holeway Grange, appear to have been abandoned in circa 1400.

In 1291 the grange had three carucates of land and it is clear that the original endowment had been extended. The lands included large tracts of woodland and arable. Holeway Grange was first leased in 1323, probably as a single unit, but by 1400 it had been divided in two and each part had been separately leased.

The manor spawned a second grange to the north, at Knottenhill, in the early 13<sup>th</sup> century (Dyer, 1991, 22). A secular manor, for the hereditary keepers of the royal park, was established between the two granges, and was later known as Park Hall (Scheduled Ancient Monument 31948).

The manor of Holeway remained with the abbey of Bordesley until the Dissolution (1530s), when it was valued at the large sum of £50 1s. 8d. After being surrendered to the king in 1538, the manor was, in 1545, granted to Thomas Badger, Thomas Fowler and Robert Dyson (A History of the County of Worcester: volume 3, 1913, p. 372-380).

The 1731 – 2 Vernon Estate Map (Dougharty) records a close network of roads covering the parish, except the park, which was crossed by a single route in 1591 (Dyer, 1991, 22). The 1723 Dougharty Map of Hollow Field Farm, records a farm to the south of the present farmstead, on the boundary of two parcels (figure 8), one of which is recorded as 'The Back Ground' (parcels SO96609575 and SO96608749). The 1838 Tithe records 'The Back Ground' as 'Bag Ground including Half Brook'. Both the 1723 Dougharty Map and 1838 Tithe records 'Old House Ground' (parcel SO96605748) to the south west of 'The Back Ground/Bag Ground', suggesting pre 1723 settlement, at this location (figure 5).

A series of long distance Roman roads ran through Hanbury. The Roman Road between Droitwich and Alcester (WSM30583) ran west to east and was built, as a military road, in the first century AD. Later, in its existence, it served to transport salt. The second, a north south road, from Bromsgrove, crossed the Avon near Fladbury before ending in the Cotswolds (WSM30612). This route bypasses Droitwich, has probable pre-Roman origins, and is the routeway that potentially gave Holeway its name.

Both roads coincide with modern roads for part of their length, but can only be conjecturally traced along footpaths and hedge lines in the south and east of Hanbury. These important roads would have linked a network of minor tracks, which served the numerous local settlements .

## 4. Results

### 4.1 Structural analysis

A linear earthwork, believed to be associated with the raised agger of a road, was identified in the orchard to the north east of Upper Hollowfields Farm. The earthwork appears to extend beyond the boundaries of the farm, in a northeast direction.

Three 6 – 7 m x 0.8 m trenches were excavated. Trenches 1 and 2 were located to the northeast of the farmhouse, along the potential raised agger. Trench 3 was located to the north west of the farmhouse, along the conjectural line of the Roman Road (WSM30612), recorded by Margary, running from Bromsgrove to the South East (figure 3).

#### Trench co-ordinates

Trench No.	Western Co-ordinate	Eastern Co-ordinate
Trench 1	Western Co-ordinate - 397190.1/261469.1 (accuracy 1 m)	Eastern Co-ordinate - Unable to be recorded because of trees
Trench 2	Western Co-ordinate - 397127.1/ 261380.7 (accuracy 0.6 m)	Eastern Co-ordinate - 397132.4/ 261378.4 (accuracy 0.6 m)
Trench 3	North eastern Co-ordinate - 397076.5/261448.6 (accuracy 0.6m)	South western Co-ordinate - 397069.9/261445.4 (accuracy 0.6m)

#### Trench 1 (figure 4)

Post-medieval deposits comprised a metallised surface consisting of well sorted small to medium sub rounded stones, forming a cobbled layer, set into a matrix of mid yellowish brown, moderately compact, coarse sandy clay with occasional small to medium fragments of brick, occasional flecks of charcoal and occasional fragments of 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery [1004]. This lay on a cambered ridge traceable as an earthwork 2.7 metres wide.

Overlying this surface was a layer of compact, cohesive, light yellowish brown, silty clay with frequent small to medium fragments of charcoal, moderate small to medium fragments of Ceramic Building Material, moderate small sub rounded stones, 1 post medieval brick fragment, 8 post medieval slag/cinder fragments, 3 post medieval tile fragments (possibly roof tile), 1 iron object and 1 post medieval brick/tile fragment [1003]. Layer 1003 was overlaid with by light yellowish brown, compact, sandy clay loam with abundant ash and charcoal fragments, frequent small to medium sub rounded stones, moderate brick and tile and occasional fragments of slag. This ashy lenses followed the camber of the earthwork.

Two linear features were identified cutting layer 1004. Cut 1005, located to the east of Trench 1, was 0.4 metres in width, with a very dark brown (possibly a result of charcoal staining), very friable, compact, coarse sandy fill with frequent flecks of charcoal, abundant, moderately sorted small, medium and large sub rounded stones and occasional large fragments of brick [1006]. This feature was not excavated and consequently the profile of the cut is unknown.

Cut 1007, located to the west of Trench 1, was 0.28 metres in width, with a very dark grey (possibly a result of charcoal staining), coarse, friable, sandy fill, with frequent flecks of charcoal and poorly sorted, abundant small to medium sub rounded stones [1008].

The metallated surface 1004 overlay a compact, mid yellow brown, silty clay, heavily stained by charcoal and with moderate rooting, frequent flecks of degraded stone, Ceramic Building Material and charcoal and occasional sub rounded stones [1009].

### **Trench 2 (figure 4)**

Post-medieval deposits comprised what appeared to be a degraded metallated surface consisting of frequent unsorted small to medium sub rounded stones set into a matrix of mid yellow brown, compact, silty brown clay with a slight grittiness, frequent smears of charcoal, 1 post medieval brick fragment, 1 post medieval tile fragment, 2 sherds of 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> century stone china, 2 sherds of 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century black glazed (all surfaces) red ware, 1 fragment of coal and 1 fragment of post-medieval floor tile. [2003].

Overlying this surface was a medium brown, friable, soft silty clay loam with light rooting that was interpreted as buried plough soil, possibly a consequence of the WWII Dig for Victory campaign [2002].

Layer 2003 overlaid a mid yellow brown, compact silty clay, heavily stained by charcoal and with moderate rooting, frequent flecks of degraded stone, considered to have been displaced from layer 2003, Ceramic Building Material and charcoal, occasional sub rounded stones and 2 sherds of 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century, black glazed (internal surfaces), red ware [2006].

A linear feature, a probable French Drain, was identified cutting 2006. This feature cut 2006 on a south west, north east orientation, measured 0.36 – 0.6 metres in width and was edged with blue lias stone, on its western side. The cut was partially excavated, had irregular, near vertical sides and was filled with a mid yellow brown, loose silty clay, with moderate charcoal staining, frequent flecks of degraded Ceramic Building Material, occasional large red brick fragments and frequent small to medium sub rounded stones [2005].

### **Trench 3**

Excavation of Trench 3 revealed no deposits of an archaeological nature. 2 fragments of post medieval tile (floor/roof) and 2 fragments of post medieval brick were recorded within the subsoil [3002].

## **5. Synthesis**

Archaeological evaluation of the raised agger, identified in the orchard, to the north east of Upper Hollowfields Farm, has demonstrated that a metallated surface survives and confirms its identification as a road. Artefacts recovered from within the surface suggest an 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century date for the metallated surface and two red ware sherds unearthed from (layer 2006) suggests a possible 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century date. A footpath is recorded at this location on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition OS map (1: 2500 County Series, 1904) but the size and engineering of the surface, suggests that the road may originally have been more than just a footpath. The 1838 Hanbury Tithe and Awards records parcel SO97611646 as ‘Orchard Meadow, including road’ and the discovery of two probable wheel ruts (1005 and 1007), cut into the surface, indicates that vehicles and not just foot traffic regularly used the route.

Roads and trackways require continuous maintenance and repair. General deterioration and damage caused by traffic and weathering can be temporarily repaired through patching or more permanently repaired by adding a new layer of road on top of the old one. As a result dating a road can be problematic because older surfaces have often been buried beneath later ones. Direct dating can often only be established if datable evidence, associated with a layer of the road, is unearthed. Fills 1006 and 1008 were interpreted as a last phase of repairs to patch a

degrading road surface and it is possible, therefore, that the road and even the surface itself may have earlier origins.

Comparison of the 1<sup>st</sup> Edition (1885) and 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition (1904) OS maps suggests that this routeway may originally have been the main drive leading from the farmhouse to Hollowfields Road. The 1<sup>st</sup> Edition OS map records a routeway running through the orchard from the house to Hollowfields Road and a second routeway leading from the yard, again to Hollowfields Road. By 1904 a new, more direct route, is marked running from the house to the road in a more direct, westerly direction. The routeway running through the orchard is recorded as a footpath.

The excavated road potentially dates to the 18<sup>th</sup> century and may have been constructed around the same time as the extant farmhouse and farm buildings. In the period 1750 – 1880, and in particular during the ‘High Farming’ years of the 1840s to 1870s, many farmsteads matured into their present form and huge numbers of buildings were erected. This was associated with the continued reorganisation and enlargement of holdings and the final phase of enclosure.

During the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, many new, local, economic roads were constructed. At the same time existing roads underwent much improvement and were made flatter and smoother to accommodate the changing technology of vehicles in which people travelled.

The 1723 Dougharty Map records ‘Hollow Field Farm’ to the south of the extant farmhouse. The Dougharty map and 1838 Hanbury Tithe record ‘Old House Ground’ to the south west of Hollow Field Farm. This suggests three phases of occupation during the 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> century and reveals that the farmstead shifted slightly to the north during this period.

The place-name ‘holeway/holloway’ implies the existence of a holloway running for a considerable distance. This routeway is considered to be the north - south, pre Roman road, running from Bromsgrove to the Cotswolds (WSM30612).

The Worcestershire Historic Environment Record also records a holloway, leading up to Parkhall Moat, the site of the Manor of Park Hall (SAM31948, WSM03075).

*‘Sharp dogleg in modern road, one angle continued by a holloway long since abandoned, leading directly to Park Hall moat’* (Worcestershire County Council Historic Environment Record)

It is possible therefore that the road excavated in the orchard of Upper Hollowfields Farm was associated with an earlier routeway that linked settlement, associated with the Manor of Holeway and the Manor of Park Hall.

Many rural tracks are of great antiquity and were utilised over a long period of time. Therefore it could be postulated that the excavated routeway may even have been part of a pre medieval network of local routes, associated with the two major roads running through the parish.

The pre Roman and Romano British landscape would have been littered with tracks and routeways linking areas of settlement. These earliest tracks may have required little in the way of engineering, but they would have followed a convenient course across the landscape. Hindle (1993) suggests that this minor road system has generally been forgotten or ignored and Hoskins (1955) argues that we have been too long bemused by the great military roads of the Romans and have not given enough thought and research to local ‘economic’ roads. Raised aggers were a feature of Roman roads, though the extent to which this technology was utilised on smaller, local roads is unknown. Raised aggers were also a feature of post medieval roads in those areas prone to flooding.

A 6 – 7 m x 0.8 m trench was excavated along the postulated course of the Roman Road, within parcel SO97610351, but no evidence of a road was unearthed. However, considering the conjectural nature of the record, the small size of the trench and the cultivation history of the parcel, this is unsurprising.

## 5.1 **Research frameworks**

In order to ascertain whether earlier phases of the road are present, further evaluation is required. A second period of excavation should optimally seek to determine whether earlier phases of the road survive and in what form. This would confirm or not the presence of Medieval, Roman or earlier deposits. Further understanding of settlement in the area could also improve understanding of the medieval and pre-medieval landscape.

## 6. **Significance**

The evaluation established that a well-preserved metalled road survives in the orchard to the north east of Upper Hollowfields Farm. The excavated road potentially dates to the 18<sup>th</sup> century and may have been constructed around the same time as the extant farmhouse and farm buildings.

There is good reason to suggest that the route was part of a wider network of trackways linking settlements associated with the Manor of Holeway and the Manor of Park Hall. Further investigation is required to investigate possible Medieval or earlier layers.

## 7. **Future management recommendations**

Protect the earthwork agger by maintaining a stable grass sward and by seeking to prevent, burrows, bare patches, scrub growth, poaching and erosion and ground disturbance on or near the feature.

Orchard restoration poses a moderate risk. Avoid planting on the earthwork by directly replacing dead and dying trees.

## 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 evaluation was undertaken on behalf of Michael, Janette and Josephine Terry at Upper Hollowfields Farm, Hanbury, Worcestershire (NGR SO 97113 61327). The project was intended as a rapid research evaluation in support of the farm's ongoing management under Higher Level Stewardship and aimed to determine if any significant archaeological deposits, associated with an historic road, were present in parcels SO97611646 and SO97610351.*

*A linear earthwork, believed to be associated with the raised agger of a road, was identified in the orchard to the north east of Upper Hollowfields Farm.*

*Three 6 – 7 m x 0.8 m trenches were excavated. Trenches 1 and 2 were located to the northeast of the farmhouse, along the potential raised agger. Trench 3 was located to the north west of the farmhouse, along the conjectural line of a Roman Road.*

*Archaeological deposits, believed to be associated with a post medieval road, were uncovered in trenches 1 and 2. No features or deposits of archaeological significance were discovered in trench 3.*

*The size and engineering of the surface, as well as the presence of wheel ruts in Trench 1, suggests that, during the post medieval period, the road was used by vehicle as well as foot traffic.*

*The road potentially dates to the 18<sup>th</sup> century and may have been constructed around the same time as the extant farmhouse and farm buildings.*

*The route may have been part of an earlier network of trackways linking settlements associated with the Manor of Holeway and the Manor of Park Hall. Further investigation is required to investigate possible medieval or earlier layers.*

## 9. **Acknowledgements**

The Service would like to thank the Terry Family for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project. We would also like to thank Rob Gill for his time and the generous loan of his mini digger.

## 10. **Personnel**

The fieldwork and report preparation was led by Emily Gough. The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Adam Mindykowski. Fieldwork was undertaken by Emily Gough and Adam Mindykowski. Illustration was undertaken by Emily Gough and Tom Rogers. Artefact Analysis was undertaken by Dennis Williams.

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Worcestershire County Council Landscape Character Assessment

## Appendix 1 Trench descriptions

### Trench 1

Site area: The Orchard

Maximum dimensions: Length: 6.8 m Width: 0.95 m Depth: 0.3 m

Orientation: East - West

### Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description
1000	Machine Cut	
1001	Grass Mat/Topsoil	Soft, friable, loose, mid brown, silty clay loam. Abundant roots. Degraded small stones and CBM.
1002	Layer	Ashy lens following the camber of the road. Firm, compacted, light yellowish brown, sandy clay loam. Abundant ash and charcoal fragments. Frequent small and medium sub rounded stones. Moderate brick and tile fragments. Occasional small fragments of slag.
1003	Layer	Compact, cohesive, light yellowish brown, silty clay. Frequent small to medium fragments of charcoal. Moderate small to medium fragments of CBM. Moderate small sub rounded stones. One iron object and fragments of tile. Interpreted as an upper degraded layer of the road.
1004	Layer	Moderately compact, cohesive, coarse, mid yellowish brown, sandy clay. Abundant, well-sorted small and medium sub rounded stones forming a cobbled layer. Occasional small to medium fragments of brick. Occasional flecks of charcoal. Moderately clean.
1005	Cut	Possible wheel rut at the eastern end of trench. 0.4 metres in width (consistent). Base – unknown. Sides – unknown.
1006	Fill	Compact, very dark greyish brown, coarse, sandy fill. Dark colour is most likely a result of staining from charcoal. Very friable. Frequent charcoal flecks. Abundant, poorly sorted small, medium and large, sub rounded stones. Occasional large brick fragment.
1007	Cut	Possible wheel rut at the western end of trench. 0.28 metres in width. Base – unknown. Sides – unknown.
1008	Fill	Compact, very dark greyish brown, coarse, sandy fill. Dark colour is most likely a result of staining from charcoal. Very friable. Frequent charcoal flecks. Abundant, unsorted, small and medium sub rounded stones.
1009	Layer	Compact, mid yellow brown, silty clay. Heavily stained by charcoal. Moderate rooting. Frequent flecks of degraded stone, CBM and charcoal. Occasional sub rounded stones.

**Trench 2**

Site area: The Orchard

Maximum dimensions: Length: 6.5 m Width: 0.8 m Depth: 0.3 – 0.5 m

Orientation: East - West

**Main deposit description**

Context	Classification	Description
2000	Machine Cut	
2001	Grass Mat/Topsoil	Soft, silty, medium brown clay loam. Friable. Abundant roots. Degraded small stones and CBM.
2002	Buried Plough Soil	Soft, silty medium brown clay loam. Friable. Light rooting.
2003	Layer	Compact, mid yellow brown, silty clay. Slight grittiness (10% sand). Frequent smears of charcoal. Frequent unsorted small and medium sub rounded stones. 19 <sup>th</sup> century brick and tile.
2004	Cut	Irregular, vertically sided cut. Base – unknown. The western edge of the cut, lined with blue lias. 0.36 m in width.
2005	Fill	Loose, mid yellow brown, silty clay. Moderate charcoal staining. Frequent flecks of degraded CBM. Occasional large red brick fragments. Frequent small and medium sub rounded stone.
2006	Layer	Compact, mid yellow brown, silty clay. Heavily stained by charcoal. Moderate rooting. Frequent flecks of degraded stone, CBM and charcoal. Occasional sub rounded stones and post medieval ceramic. Stones displaced from the road on the surface of the layer.

**Trench 3**

Site area: The Meadow

Maximum dimensions: Length: 7.8 m Width: 0.5 m Depth: 0.25 – 0.6 m

Orientation: North east – South west

**Main deposit description**

Context	Classification	Description
3000	Machine Cut	
3001	Grass Mat	Softly compacted, dark yellowish brown silty clay loam. Abundant roots. Occasional medium, sub-rounded stones.
3002	Topsoil	Moderately compacted dark yellowish brown silty clay loam. Occasional roots. Occasional medium sub rounded stones. Two fragments of probable post medieval floor/roof tile and two fragments of probable post medieval brick/tile.





## **Appendix 2 Technical information**

### **The archive**

The archive consists of:

- 59 Digital photographs
- 1 Levels record sheets AS19
- 3 Trench record sheets AS41
- 1 Scale drawings
- 1 Box of finds

The project archive is intended to be placed at:

Worcestershire County Museum

Hartlebury Castle

Hartlebury

Near Kidderminster

Worcestershire DY11 7XZ

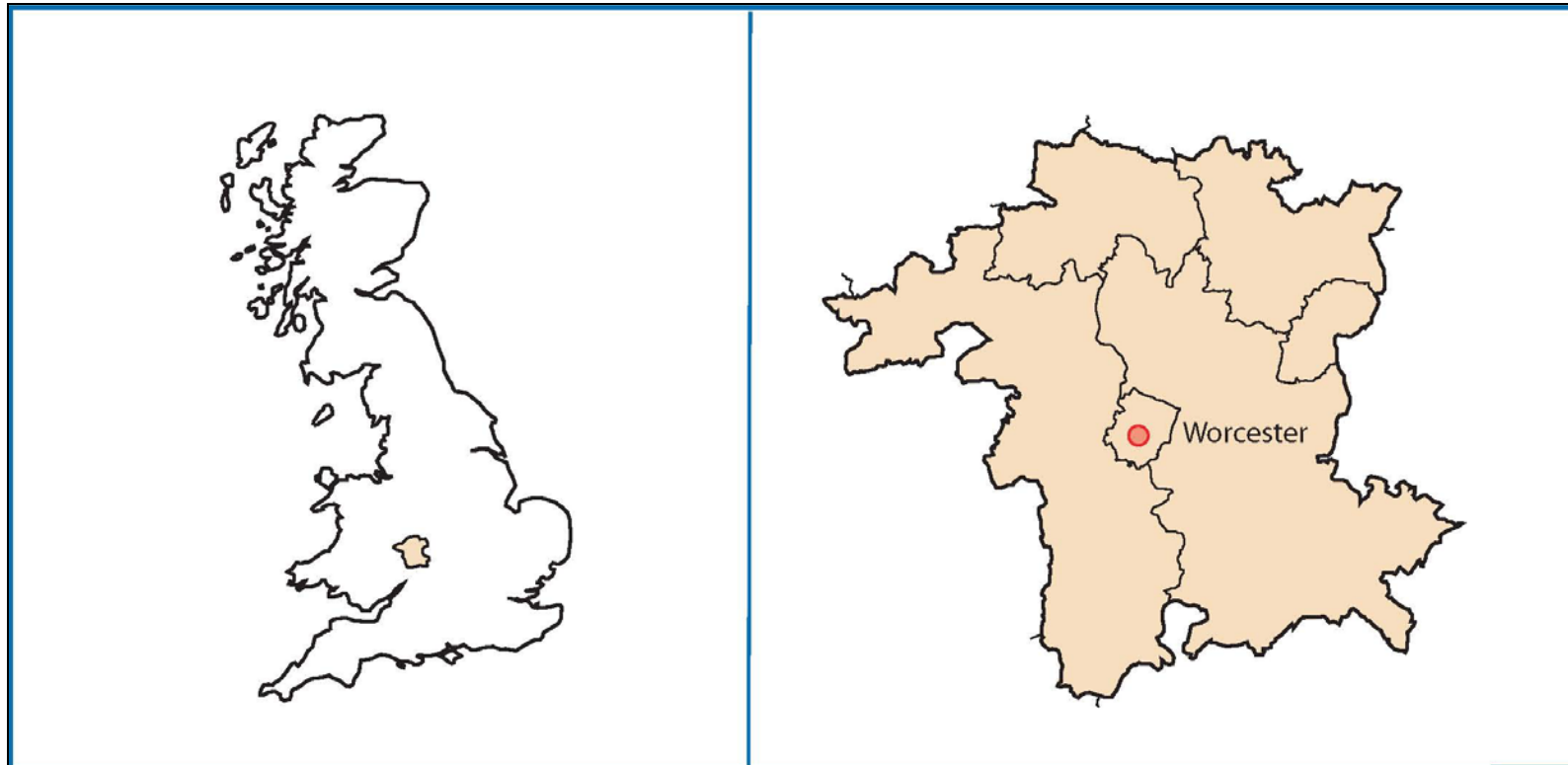
Tel: (01299) 250416

## **Summary of data for Worcestershire HER**

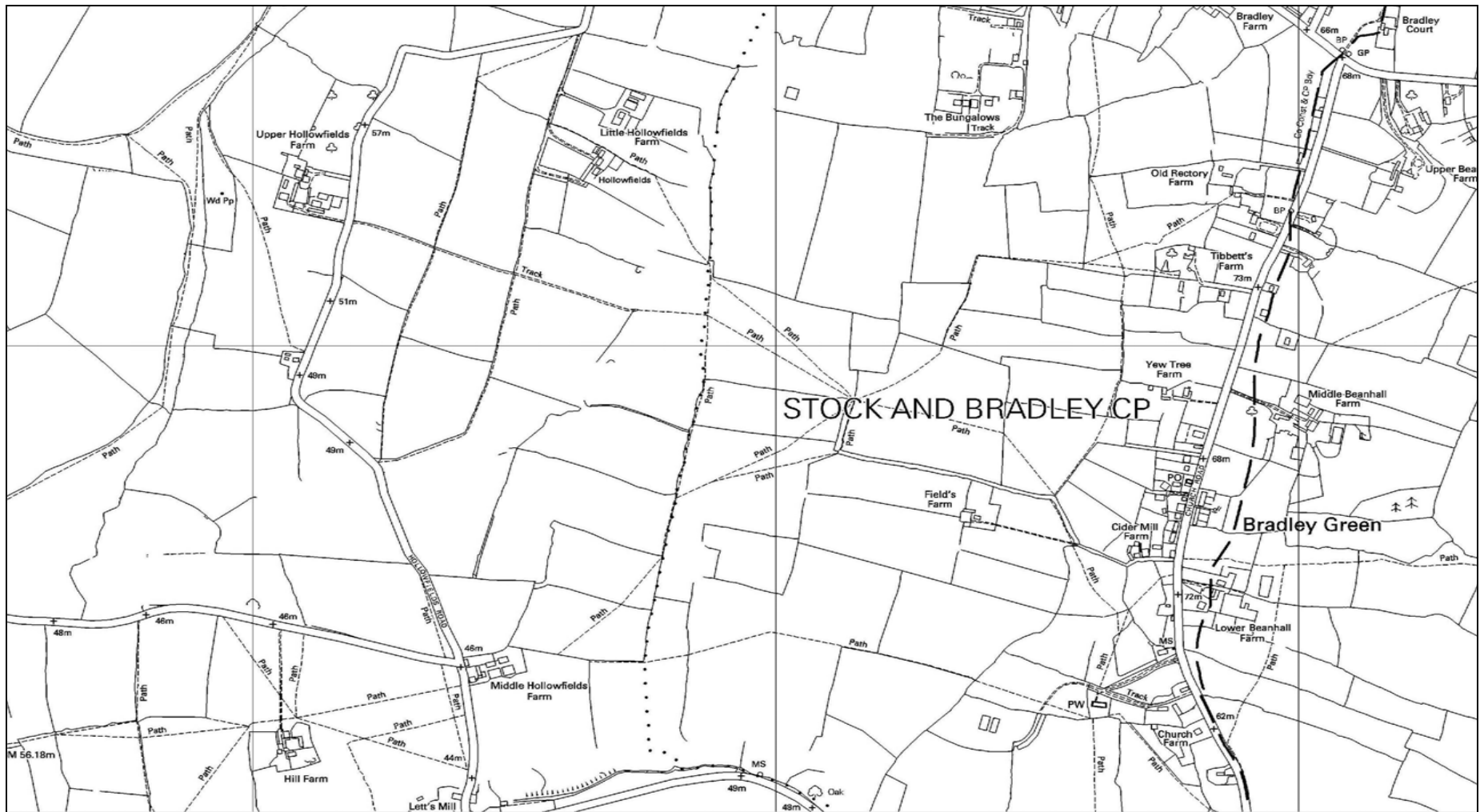
An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Upper Hollowfields Farm, Hanbury, Worcestershire (NGR: SO 97113 61327). The evaluation was intended as a rapid research evaluation in support of the farms ongoing management under Higher Level Stewardship.

Three trenches were excavated. Trenches 1 and 2 were located in the orchard to the north east of the farmstead; trench 3 was located in the meadow to the north west of the farmstead. Archaeological deposits, believed to be associated with a post medieval road surface, were uncovered in trenches 1 and 2. No features or deposits of archaeological significance were discovered in trench 3.

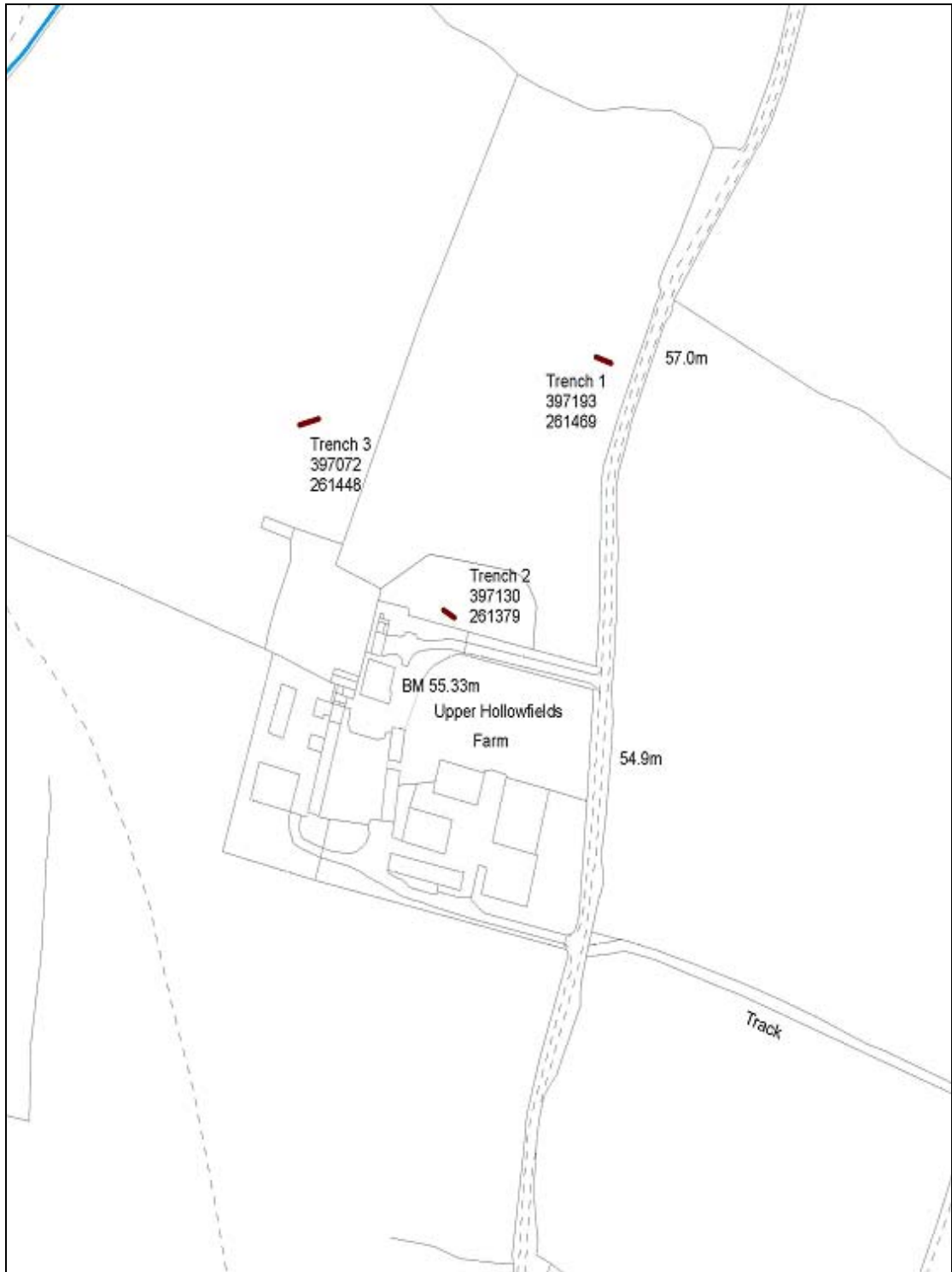
*Figures*



*Figure 1: Map showing the county of Worcestershire*

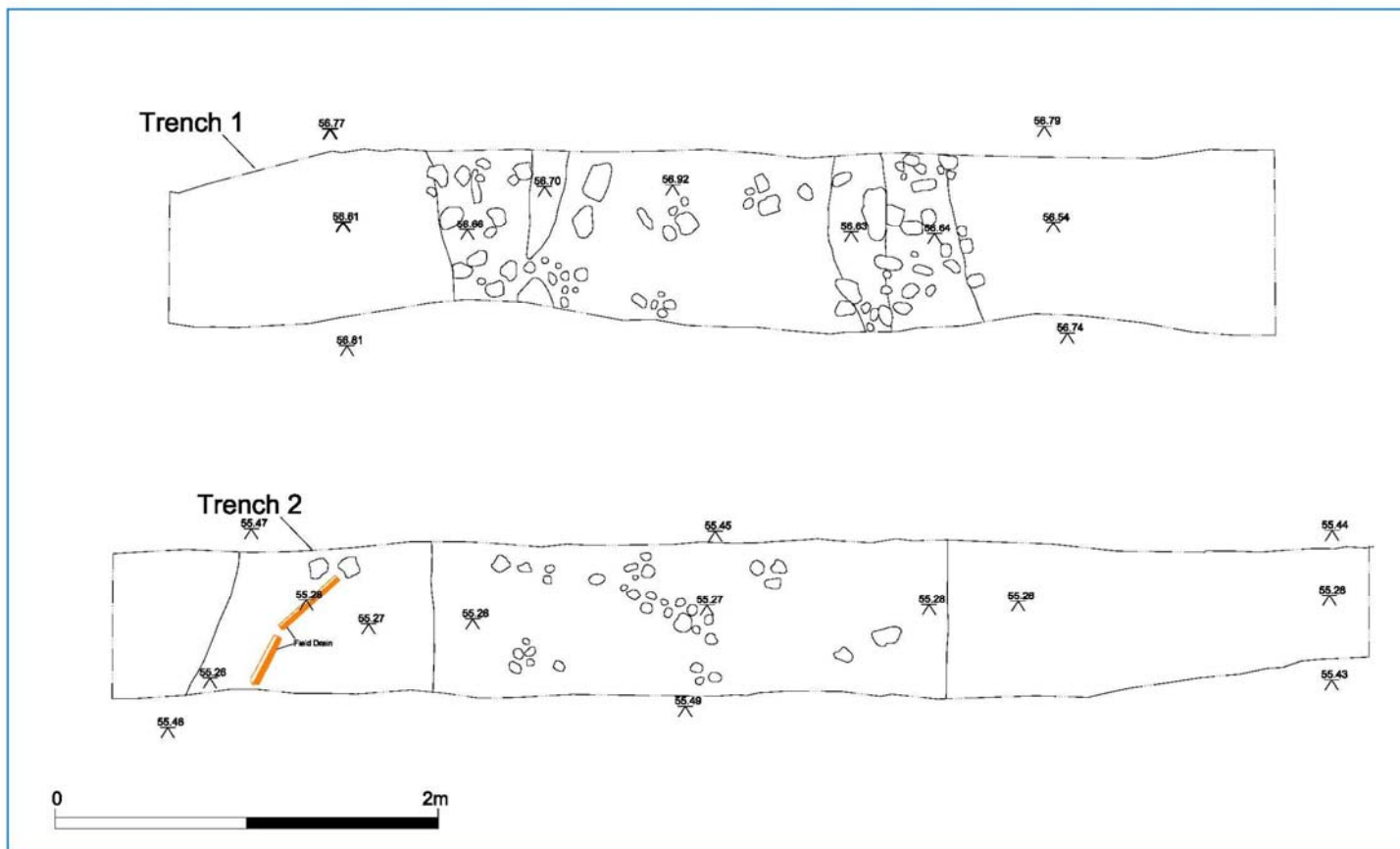


*Figure 2: 1:10000 OS Map showing Upper Hollowfields Farm in relation to Bradley Green, Hanbury  
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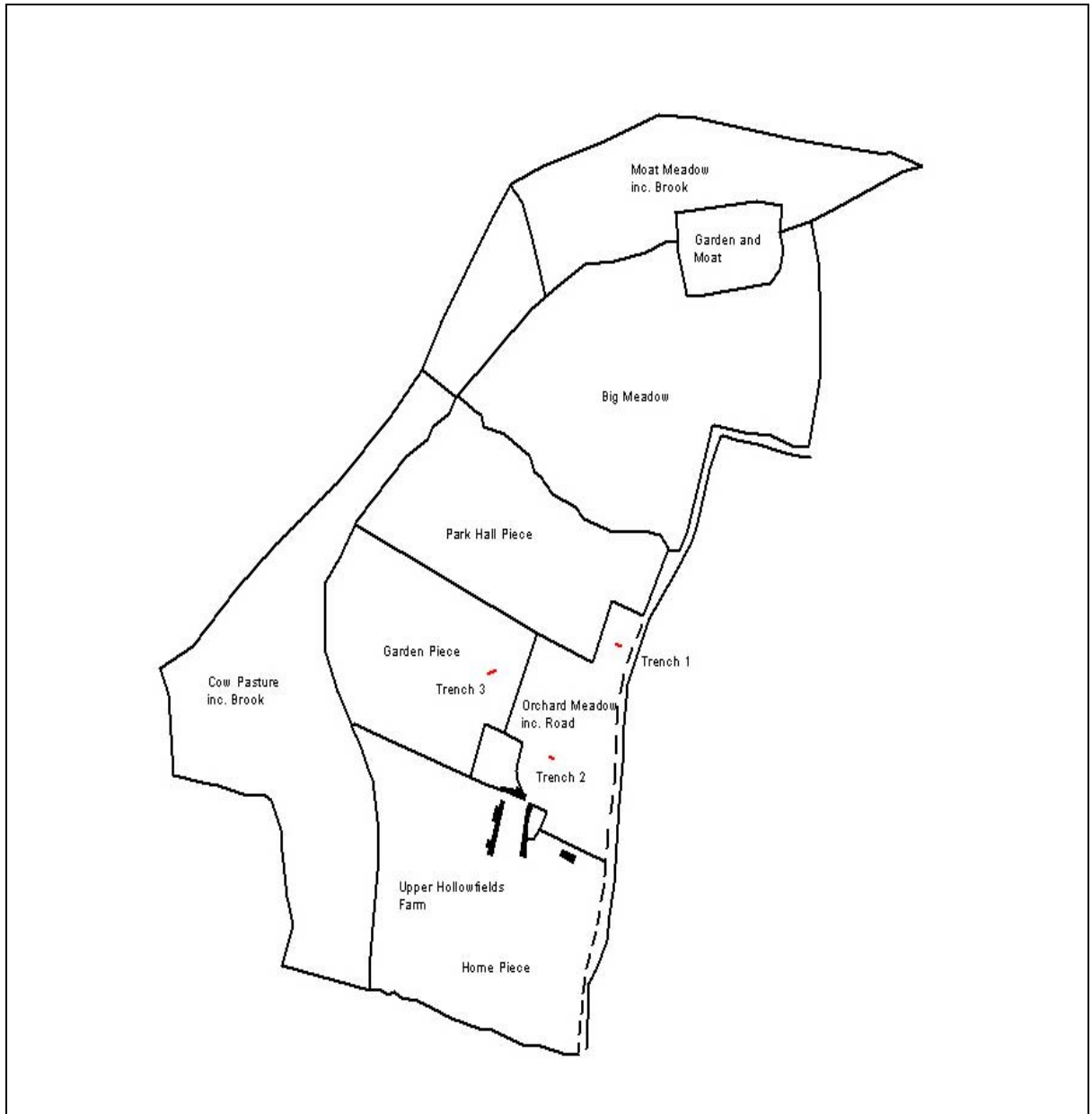


**Figure 3: Map showing location of evaluation trenches at Upper Hollowfields Farm (Scale 1:2000)  
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Figure 4: Plan of Trenches 1 and 2

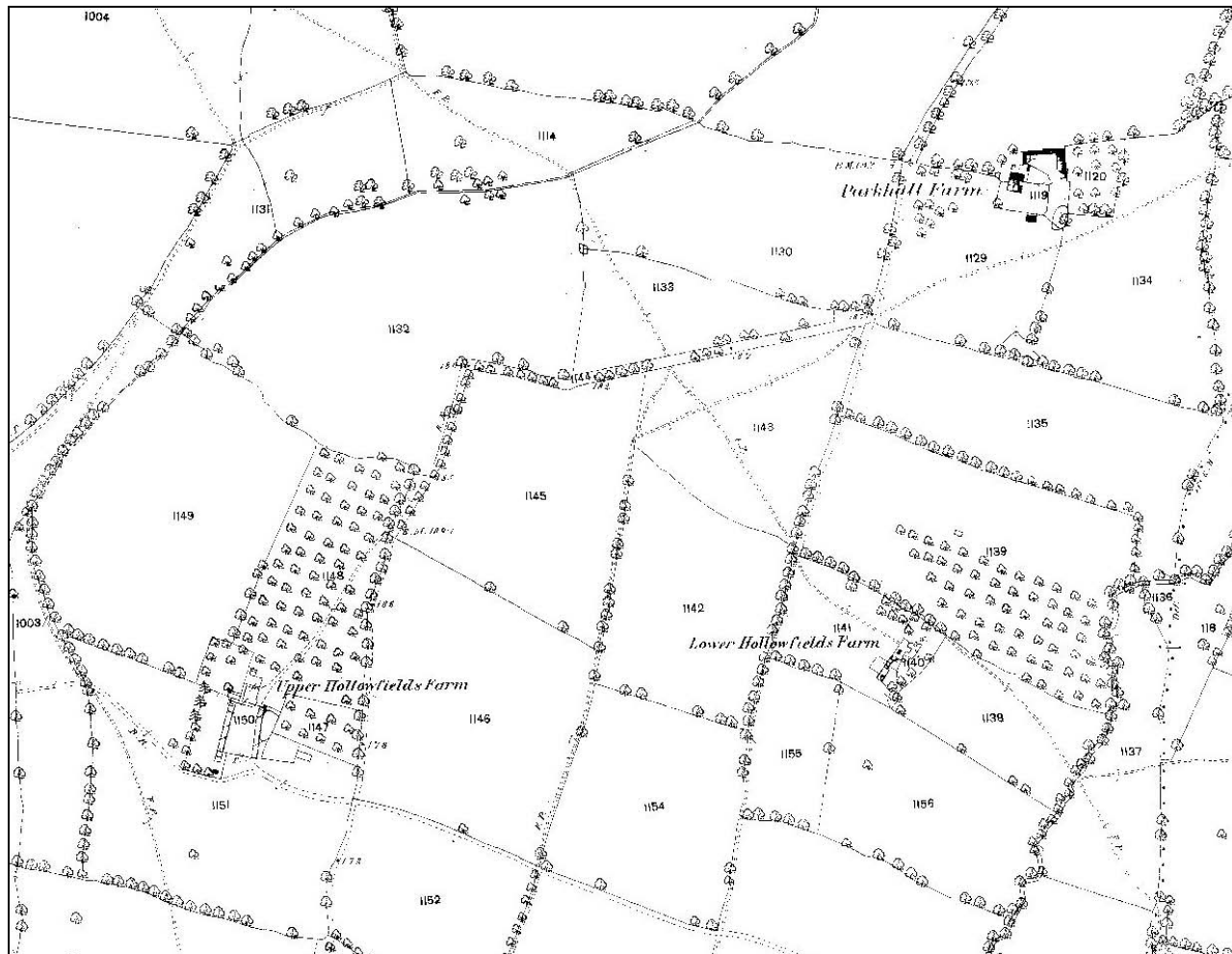


Plans of Trenches 1 and 2



*Figure 5: Transcription of the 1838 Hanbury Tithe*





*Figure 6: 1<sup>st</sup> Edition OS map, 1:2500 County Series, 1885  
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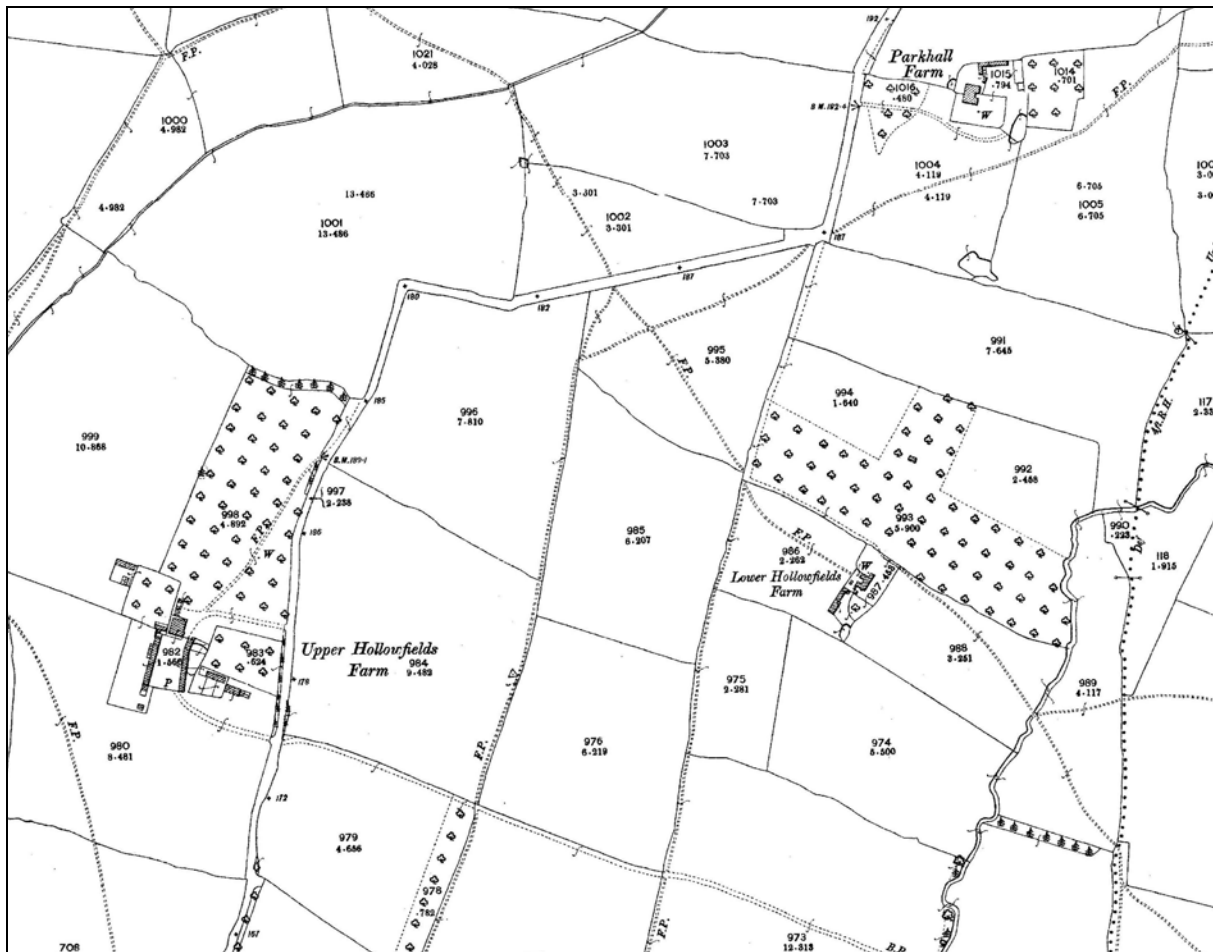
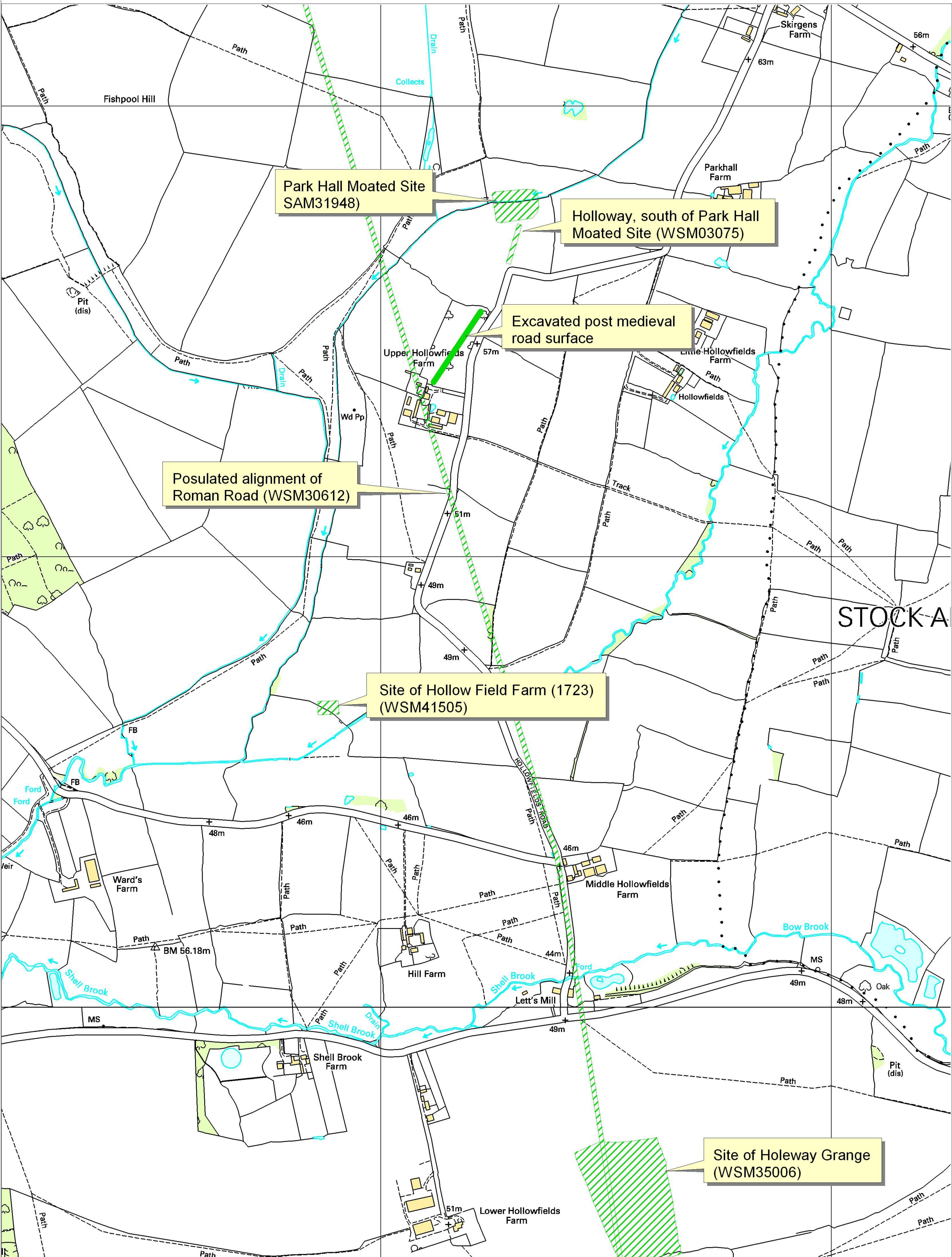


Figure 7: 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition OS map, 1:2500 County Series, 1904  
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*Figure 9: 1813 Two Inch Surveyors Map*



Figure 10: Hollow Fields, 1813 Two Inch Surveyors Map

*Plates*



*Plate 1: Machine Excavation, Trench 1*



*Plate 2: Cleaning, Trench 1*



*Plate 3: Road surface and eastern wheel rut, Trench 1 (facing north west)*



*Plate 4: Trench 1 (facing east)*



*Plate 5: Degraded road surface, Trench 2 (facing north)*



*Plate 6: Trench 2 (facing east)*





*Plate 7: Trench 3 (facing north west)*



*Plate 8: General site shot*