

Archaeological Investigations at Maudslay Park, Great Alne, Warwickshire



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Archaeological Investigations at Maudslay Park, Great Alne, Warwickshire

Andrew Walsh

With contributions by Laura Griffin and Elizabeth Pearson

Summary

Archaeological investigations were undertaken at Maudslay Park, Great Alne, Warwickshire (NGR SP 12183 59631). They were undertaken on behalf of Cathy Patrick of CgMs Consulting, whose client is developing the site as a retirement village. A programme of archaeological investigation was agreed with the Planning Archaeologist for Warwickshire County Council in relation to ground remediation works at The Meadow, an area of open ground adjacent to the development. The investigations consisted of an archaeological watching brief on a series of geotechnical test pits, an archaeological evaluation and, following the discovery of archaeological features, an excavation.

The investigations revealed elements of a landscape dating to the medieval period. No evidence of any significant settlement features was identified. The excavated features relate to the agricultural landscape or to features which lay on the periphery of the settlement of Great Alne. A number of truncated east to west aligned ditches were identified in one of the excavation areas and it is possible that these may represent medieval plot boundaries. A small assemblage of pottery suggests they may have been in use in the 12th to 13th centuries indicating the features identified during the works were only in use for a relatively short period of time. Later medieval and post-medieval furrows, which were identified across the entire site, cut these features. The environmental evidence from the site was limited with only small quantities of charcoal and charred plant remains surviving.

Report

1 Background

1.1 Reasons for the project

Archaeological investigations were undertaken at Maudslay Park, Great Alne, Warwickshire (NGR SP 12183, 59631; Figure 1). They were commissioned by Cathy Patrick of CgMs Consulting, whose client is developing a retirement village. A programme of archaeological investigation was agreed with the Planning Archaeologist for Warwickshire County Council in relation to ground remediation works at The Meadow, an area of open ground adjacent to the development.

A desk based assessment of the site (CgMs 2009) identified a potential within the site for the survival of archaeological deposits of Roman and Medieval date.

The project conforms to the generality of briefs for Warwickshire County Council. Written schemes of investigation were produced for the evaluation (WA 2015a) and excavation (WA2015b), and were approved by Anna Stocks, Planning Archaeologist for Warwickshire County Council (the Curator).

The project conforms to the *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014a); *Standard and guidance: Archaeological excavation* (ClfA 2014b) and the *Standard and guidance: Archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2014c). The unique reference for this project, given by Worcestershire Archaeology is P4726.

2 Aims

The aims of the evaluation were to:

- locate archaeological deposits and determine, if present, their extent, state of preservation, date, type, vulnerability and documentation.

The aims of the excavation were to:

- sample and record archaeological features
- sample and record the archaeological resource within the agreed areas to achieve a better understanding of the site and compile a lasting record of that resource.

3 Methods

3.1 Personnel

The project was led by Timothy Cornah (BA MSc), who joined Worcestershire Archaeology in 2006 and has been practicing archaeology since 2004, assisted by Nina O'Hare (BA), Pete Lovett (BA), James Spry (BA MA), Andrew Walsh (BSc MSc ACIfA FSA Scot), Jesse Wheeler (BA) and Jamie Wilkins (BA). Graham Arnold (BA MSc) monitored the geotechnical test pits. Illustrations were prepared by Carolyn Hunt (BSc PG Cert MCIfA), Laura Griffin (BA PG Cert ACIfA) contributed the finds report and Elizabeth Pearson (MSc ACIfA) contributed the environmental report. The report was produced by Andrew Walsh and the project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Tom Rogers (BA MSc).

3.2 Documentary research

An archaeological desk-based assessment was undertaken by CgMs Consulting (CgMs 2009).

3.3 Fieldwork strategy

Large areas of the site had been subject to significant levelling and landscaping operations during the 20th century. The archaeological works were focused on the south western part of an area of the site known as The Meadow where these operations had not taken place and there was

potential for archaeological features to survive. A watching brief was carried out in November 2015 on geotechnical pits excavated across this area and archaeological features were identified.

Subsequently a Written Scheme of Investigation was prepared by Worcestershire Archaeology (WA 2015a) for the evaluation of the site and approved by the Curator. (WA 2015b). The evaluation comprised the excavation of eighteen trenches between 15m and 34m long on a grid array. Two areas of archaeological interest were identified in the south-west and central north parts of the site. Following on-site consultation between CgMs Consulting and the Curator a Written Scheme of Investigation was prepared and approved. The two areas of archaeological interest were opened out into two areas covering approximately 2300m² and the exposed features were excavated. The fieldwork was undertaken between 11 November and 10 December 2015. The site reference number and site code is P4726.

In all phases of work deposits considered not to be significant were removed using a mechanical excavator, employing a toothless bucket and under archaeological supervision. Subsequent excavation was undertaken by hand. Clean surfaces were inspected and selected deposits were excavated to retrieve artefactual material and environmental samples, as well as to determine their nature. Deposits were recorded according to standard Worcestershire Archaeology practice (WA 2012). On completion of the evaluation, trenches without any significant archaeology were reinstated by replacing the excavated material. Trenches with archaeological potential were extended to form part of the two excavation areas.

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 Laura Griffin

3.5.1 Artefact recovery policy

The artefact recovery policy conformed to standard Service practice (WA 2012, appendix 4).

3.5.2 Method of analysis

All hand-retrieved pottery of medieval date was examined. Sherds were identified, quantified and dated to period. A *terminus post quem* (*tpq*) was produced for each stratified context. All information was recorded on pro forma Microsoft Access 2007 database.

The pottery was examined under x20 magnification and, where possible referenced as appropriate by fabric type and form to the Warwickshire medieval and post-medieval pottery type series (Soden and Ratkai 1998).

3.6 Environmental archaeology methodology by Elizabeth Pearson

3.6.1 Environmental and sampling policy

The environmental project conforms to relevant sections of the *Standard and guidance: Archaeological excavation* (ClfA 2014b) and *Environmental Archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation* (EH 2011).

Samples were taken according to standard Worcestershire Archaeology practice (WA 2012). A total of 15 samples (each of up to 40 litres) were taken from the site. Six samples were processed for assessment from contexts which appeared from field records to be most likely to contain environmental and artefactual remains.

3.6.2 Processing and analysis

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

The residues were scanned by eye and the abundance of each category of environmental remains estimated. A magnet was also used to test for the presence of hammerscale. The flots were scanned using a low power MEIJI stereo light microscope and plant remains identified using modern reference collections maintained by Worcestershire Archaeology, and a seed identification manual (Cappers *et al* 2012). Nomenclature for the plant remains follows the *New Flora of the British Isles*, 3rd edition (Stace 2010).

3.6.3 Discard policy

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

3.7 Statement of confidence in the methods and results

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

4 The application site

4.1 Topography, geology and archaeological context

The site comprises approximately 33ha of land, located immediately to the northeast of Great Alne village. With the exception of a former industrial complex in the north western part of the site (now a residential development), it is characterised by woods, former landscaped parkland and sports pitches (Plate 1).

Prior to construction of a World War II factory, the topography of the site sloped downwards from the northern boundary with the steeply-contoured Corner Spinney to the southern site boundary. As part of the site levelling in the 1940s, the north-western part of the site was cut down in height and levelled at approximately 65m AOD. The land falls away to 60m AOD at the southern boundary. There is a steep drop in ground level along the western boundary, from approximately 65m AOD within the industrial complex to approximately 55m AOD along Park Lane. To the north of the site, a small wood known as Tom's Corner Spinney forms part of Alne Hills, whilst to the south the River Alne flows across a broad floodplain and joins the River Arrow at Alcester. The underlying geology is mapped as Mercia Mudstone (BGS 2015). Superficial deposits are not mapped.

An archaeological desk-based assessment (DBA) was undertaken by CgMs Consulting (CgMs 2009). This identified potential for archaeological deposits dating from the Roman and Medieval periods. The DBA noted that Roman coins have been found close to the site and that cropmarks to the north have also been attributed to this period. The DBA also noted that the medieval settlement of Great Alne is in close proximity to the site and that there was evidence of medieval agricultural activity across the area. The DBA also identified that earlier evidence of activity was likely to have been removed, truncated or obscured by later industrial development of the site when a World War II factory was built on the site.

5 Structural analysis

The trenches and features recorded are shown in Figures 2 to 5. The results of the structural analysis are presented in Appendix 1.

5.1.1 Archaeological watching brief

A watching brief was undertaken during the excavation of 43 geotechnical test pits (Figure 2). One undated pit (804) was identified in the edge of Test Pit 8. It contained unworked flint, burnt stone

and charcoal, although no worked or datable finds were recovered. No other archaeological features, deposits or finds were identified in the remaining 42 test pits.

5.1.2 Archaeological evaluation

Eighteen evaluation trenches were excavated across the site in a grid array (Figure 3). Trench 50 targeted the pit (804) identified during the watching brief (Plate 2). The trenches measured between 15m and 34m in length.

Archaeological or potential archaeological features were identified in Trenches 47, 49, 50 and 53. These included a small pit or posthole (4707) and a furrow in Trench 47, and a large pit (4906) measuring approximately 3m by 1.3m in Trench 49 (Figure 4 and 6, S.8; Plate 3). This pit was lined with rounded cobbles and pebbles, and filled with two sterile clay deposits. None of the features in Trenches 47 and 49 yielded any datable or worked finds.

In Trench 50 the pit identified during the watching brief (804) was fully exposed. Excavation revealed that it was two pits (5003 and 5006), cut by a modern land drain (Figure 4 and 6, S.9; Plates 2 and 4). The earliest pit was (5003) which measured approximately 2m in diameter and 0.55m in depth and yielded medieval pottery. It was cut to the north-west by Pit (5006) which measured 0.7m in diameter and 0.4m in depth. Pit (5006) contained no finds. To the south of this feature were two small undated pits (5008 and 5010, Figure 6, S.13), and to the west was an undated gully (5013).

At the west end of Trench 53 a small pit (5304) and linear feature (5306) were identified. No finds were recovered from either feature and the linear feature was on the same alignment north to south alignment as the furrows (see below).

No archaeological features or deposits were identified in any of the other trenches, except for a series of medieval or post-medieval furrows aligned roughly north to south (Figure 4).

5.1.3 Archaeological excavation

Based on the areas of archaeological potential identified during the evaluation two areas were opened for archaeological excavation (Figure 4). The first area was located around Trenches 47 and 49, measuring approximately 1300m². No further archaeological features, deposits or finds were identified in this area.

The second excavation area was located around Trench 50 and measured approximately 1000m² (Area 61). On the western edge of this area a ditch (6111), a truncated short ditch or elongated pit (6113, Figure 6, S.44), and two pits (6107) and (6109) were identified (Figure 5). Medieval pottery was recovered from Feature (6113) and Pit (6107) yielded two pieces of unworked flint. No finds were recovered from Pit (6109) or Ditch (6111). Ditch (6111) was on the same alignment as the furrows identified elsewhere on the site.

In the eastern half of this area were a number of pits, gullies and postholes (Figures 5 and 6, S.31, S.35 and S.36). The spatial relationship of gullies (6117), (6120), (6122) and (6128) suggests they were all related although medieval pottery was only recovered from (6117) and (6120). Gully (6128) was probably a continuation of Gully (5013) in the centre of the area, and Gully (6120) was cut by Pit (6126). This pit measured approximately 0.9m in diameter and 0.3m in depth and the upper fill yielded small fragments of pottery. No other finds were recovered from this pit.

To the south of Gully (6120) was Pit (6115) which measured approximately 2m in length by 0.6m in width and was 0.23m in depth (Figure 6, S.29). It yielded possible medieval pottery. Close to the southern edge of the site two pits (6131 and 6134) and a posthole (6129) were identified. Pit (6131) measured approximately 0.5m in diameter and 0.18m in depth (Figure 6, S.38) and yielded a large number of sherds of medieval pottery and fragments of very poorly preserved bone. Pit (6134) measured approximately 1.6m by 1m and was recut by Pit (6135). No finds were recovered from either pit. Posthole (6129) was also sterile and yielded no finds.

Close to the northern edge of this area was an isolated posthole (6105) which did not yield any finds. A number of other features were identified but excavation revealed these to be natural in origin (Figures 1 and 2).

5.2 Artefact analysis by Laura Griffin

5.2.1 Introduction

The assemblage recovered from the site totalled 51 finds weighing 429g (see Tables 1 and 3). Diagnostic material could be dated to the medieval period. Level of preservation was fairly poor, with finds displaying significant levels of surface abrasion and a below average sherd size for the pottery (4.8g).

period	material class	object specific type	total	weight (g)
medieval	ceramic	pot	43	207
medieval	fired clay		4	84
?medieval	ceramic	roof tile (flat)	2	95
?medieval	ceramic	cbm	1	3
undated	stone	burnt	1	40

Table 1: Quantification of the artefactual assemblage

5.2.2 Results

Material of medieval date consisted of 43 sherds of pottery, 32 of which came from a single vessel. The majority of these sherds were undiagnostic and due to high levels of abrasion, identification of fabric type was also problematic. However, those for which fabrics could be ascertained were all of 12th-13th century in date (see Tables 2–3).

Diagnostic sherds included a highly abraded rim sherd from a jug form (context 4801) and two cooking pot rim sherds (contexts 5005 and 6133). The jug sherd had no surfaces surviving and, therefore, no glaze surviving but was tentatively identified as being of sandy glazed ware (fabric Sg15) and 13th-?14th century in date. The cooking pots included 43 sherds from a club-rimmed vessel of Worcester production (fabric SQ08; context 6133) which could be dated late 11th-12th century. The other material was of calcareous oolitic ware (fabric CO03; context 5005) and of 12th-13th century date. All remaining undiagnostic sherds were of unglazed sandy fabrics, most likely from cooking pot forms.

Fragments of fired clay could also be dated to the medieval period by association with the pottery (contexts 6116 and 6119). Although abraded and of no discernible form, these fragments appear to have been deliberately shaped in the past, possibly as the lining of a hearth or oven.

Remaining finds consisted of two fragments of flat roof tile and a highly abraded fragment of undiagnostic ceramic building material. The roof tile was of a long-lived form produced between the 13th-18th centuries but may well be contemporary with the medieval pottery assemblage.

period	fabric code	fabric name	count	weight (g)
medieval	CO03	calcareous oolitic ware	2	22
medieval	SQ052	sandy ware mainly quartz temper variant	1	4
medieval	SQ053	sandy ware mainly quartz temper variant	3	17
medieval	SQ08	Worcester sandy ware	32	152

period	fabric code	fabric name	count	weight (g)
medieval	SQ	sandy ware mainly quartz temper	1	1
medieval	?SG15	sandy glazed ware variant	1	6
medieval	?SQ05	sandy ware mainly quartz temper variant	2	2
medieval	?SQ233	sandy ware mainly quartz temper variant	1	3

Table 2: Quantification of the pottery by fabric type

context	material class	material subtype	object specific type	count	weight (g)	start date	end date	finds TPQ
803	stone		burnt	1	40			
4706	ceramic		roof tile (flat)	1	40			?medieval
4801	ceramic		pot	1	6	13C	?14C	13-?14C
5005	ceramic		pot	2	22	L12C	L13C	13C
5005	ceramic		pot	1	3	13C		
6001	ceramic		roof tile (flat)	1	55			?medieval
6112	ceramic		pot	1	4	12C	13C	13C
6114	ceramic		pot	3	17	12C	13C	13C
6116	ceramic		pot	2	2	13C	?14C	13-?14C
6116	ceramic	fired clay		2	18			
6118	ceramic		cbm	1	3			?medieval
6119	ceramic	fired clay		2	66			
6123	ceramic		pot	1	1			medieval
6133	ceramic		pot	32	152	L11C	12C	12C

Table 3: Summary of context dating based on the pottery

5.2.3 Significance

The medieval finds assemblage formed a good group of 12th to 13th century material, the dominance of cooking pot fabrics and forms also being consistent with this date range. Although some of the assemblage came from a small number of discrete and linear features concentrated in the southern excavation area, there does not appear to be any surviving structural remains associated with this material. There is a possibility that the finds assemblage is indicative of a settlement context rather than just manuring, though the latter is a more typical interpretation for an assemblage in this condition.

5.3 Environmental analysis by Elizabeth Pearson

The environmental evidence recovered is summarised in Tables 4 to 6.

Context	Sample	Feature type	Fill of	Period	Sample volume (L)	Volume processed (L)	Residue assessed	Flot assessed
4903	7	Pit	4906	undated	30	0	No	No

Context	Sample	Feature type	Fill of	Period	Sample volume (L)	Volume processed (L)	Residue assessed	Flot assessed
4904	8*	Pit	4906	undated	20	10	Yes	Yes
5004	1	Pit	5003	Medieval	40	0	No	No
5005	2*	Pit	5003	Medieval	40	10	Yes	Yes
5305	3	Pit	5304	undated	30	0	No	No
6106	4	Pit	6107	undated	10	0	No	No
6108	5*	Pit	6109	undated	30	10	Yes	Yes
6112	6	Ditch	6113	Medieval	20	0	No	No
6114	9	Pit	6115	Medieval	20	0	No	No
6116	10	Ditch	6117	Medieval	10	0	No	No
6123	11*	Pit	6126	undated	40	10	Yes	Yes
6136	12	Pit	6135	undated	40	0	No	No
6137	13	Pit	6134	undated	40	0	No	No
6138	15*	Pit	6134	undated	20	10	Yes	Yes
6140	14*	Pit	6135	undated	20	10	Yes	Yes

Table 4: List of bulk samples recovered from the site by context. * indicates processed bulk sample

Uncharred plant remains (fine root fragments and unidentified herbaceous fragments, for example) are thought to be modern and intrusive as they are unlikely to have survived in the soils for a long period of time.

context	sample	fish	charcoal	charred plant	waterlogged plant	comment
4904	8		occ		moderate	*probably intrusive
5005	2		occ	occ	abundant	occ fired clay, fire-cracked stone, *probably intrusive
6108	5		occ	occ	moderate	*probably intrusive
6123	11		occ	occ		occ window glass, coal
6138	15		occ		occasional	occ coal, * = probably intrusive
6140	14	occ	occ	occ	occasional	*probably intrusive

Table 5: Summary of environmental remains from bulk samples

context	sample	preservation type	category remains	species detail	quantity/diversity	comment
4904	8	?wa	misc	unidentified root fragments, unidentified fungal fragments	++/low	probably modern and intrusive

context	sample	preservation type	category remains	species detail	quantity/ diversity	comment
5005	2	?wa	misc	unidentified root fragments, unidentified fungal fragments	+++/low	Probably modern and intrusive
5005	2	ch	misc	<i>Corylus avellana</i> shell fragment	+/low	
5005	2	ch	grain	<i>Triticum</i> sp (free-threshing) grain, <i>Hordeum vulgare</i> grain (hulled), Poaceae sp indet grain	+/low	
6108	5	ch	grain	cf <i>Hordeum vulgare</i> grain (hulled), Cereal sp indet grain, Cereal sp indet grain (fragment)	+/low	
6108	5	?wa	misc	unidentified root fragments, unidentified fungal fragments	++/low	probably modern and intrusive
6123	11	?wa	misc	Cereal sp indet culm node, unidentified root fragments, unidentified herbaceous fragments	+/low	
6123	11	ch	grain	<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> grain (hulled), Poaceae sp indet grain	+/low	
6138	15	?wa	misc	unidentified stem fragments, unidentified herbaceous fragments	+/low	
6140	14	?wa	misc	unidentified herbaceous fragments	+/low	probably modern and intrusive
6140	14	ch	grain	Cereal sp indet grain	+/low	poorly preserved

Table 6: Plant remains

Key to Table 6:

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

Medieval

Only a small quantity of charred plant remains were recovered from pit fill (5005) which has some potential to indicate the types of cereal crops in use, but has a low potential to interpret cereal crop processing and/or storage processes. A single fragment of charred hazelnut was present. Occasional fired clay and fire-cracked stone fragments were recorded in the residue.

Undated

Four samples were assessed which were undated but may be related to the medieval activity identified on the site. Only occasional charred cereal remains were noted, from which little

interpretation can be made, and the remains suggest low potential to recover environmental remains from these samples. A small quantity of window glass was recovered from context 6123.

6 Synthesis

The investigations at Maudslay Park have revealed elements of a landscape dating to the medieval period. No evidence of any significant settlement features were identified and the excavated features relate to the agricultural landscape or to features which lay on the periphery of the settlement of Great Alne. A number of truncated east to west aligned ditches were identified in the southern excavation area and these could represent the remains of medieval plot boundaries. Dating evidence suggests these may have been in use in the 12th to 13th centuries, and, although they may represent the northern edge of early burgage plots, they were only in use for a relatively short period of time. Later medieval and post-medieval furrows were identified across the entire area cutting these features.

The finds assemblage was limited to a small group of 12th to 13th century pottery, two pieces of roof tile, and ceramic fragments which possibly came from the lining of a hearth or oven. The environmental evidence from the site was limited with only small quantities of charcoal and charred plant remains surviving.

7 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.

Archaeological investigations were undertaken at Maudslay Park, Great Alne, Warwickshire (NGR SP 12183 59631). They were undertaken on behalf of Cathy Patrick of CgMs Consulting, whose client intends development of the site as a retirement village. A programme of archaeological investigation was agreed with the Planning Archaeologist for Warwickshire County Council in relation to ground remediation works at The Meadow, an area of open ground adjacent to the development. The investigations consisted of an archaeological watching brief on a series of geotechnical test pits, an archaeological evaluation and, following the discovery of archaeological features, an excavation.

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8 Acknowledgements

Worcestershire Archaeology would like to thank the following for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project, Cathy Patrick, CgMs Consulting, and Anna Stocks Warwickshire County Council.

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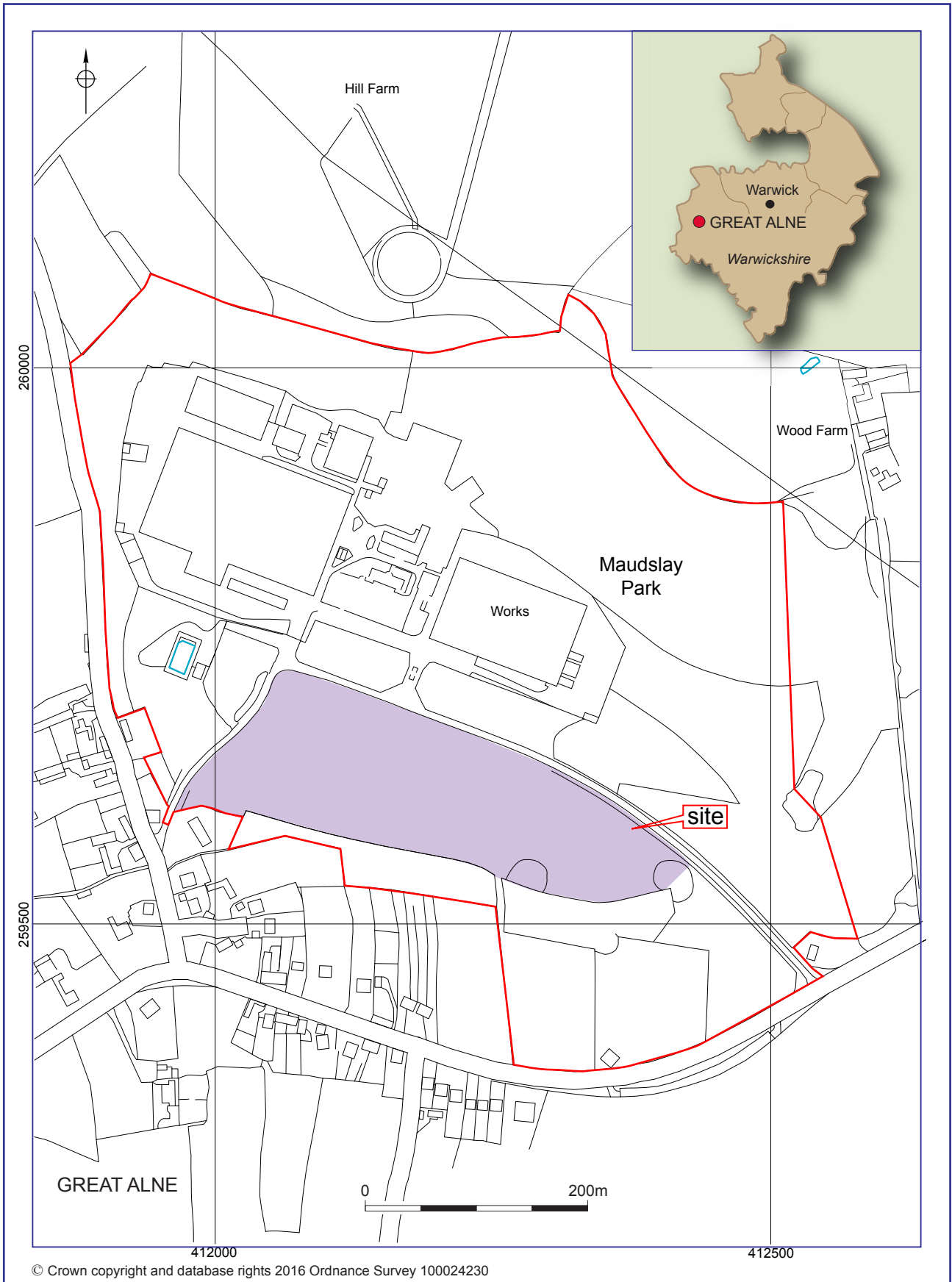
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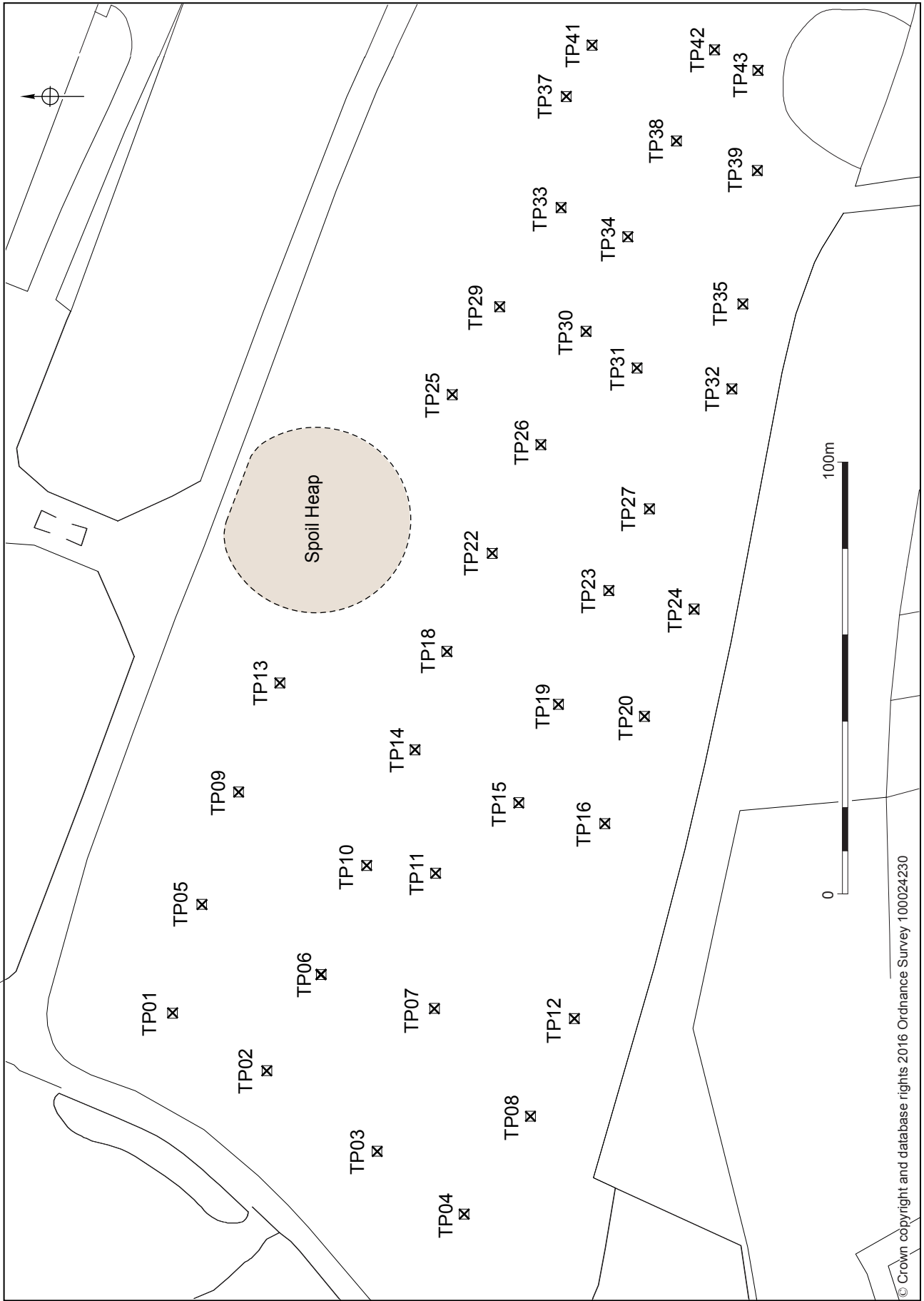
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Figures



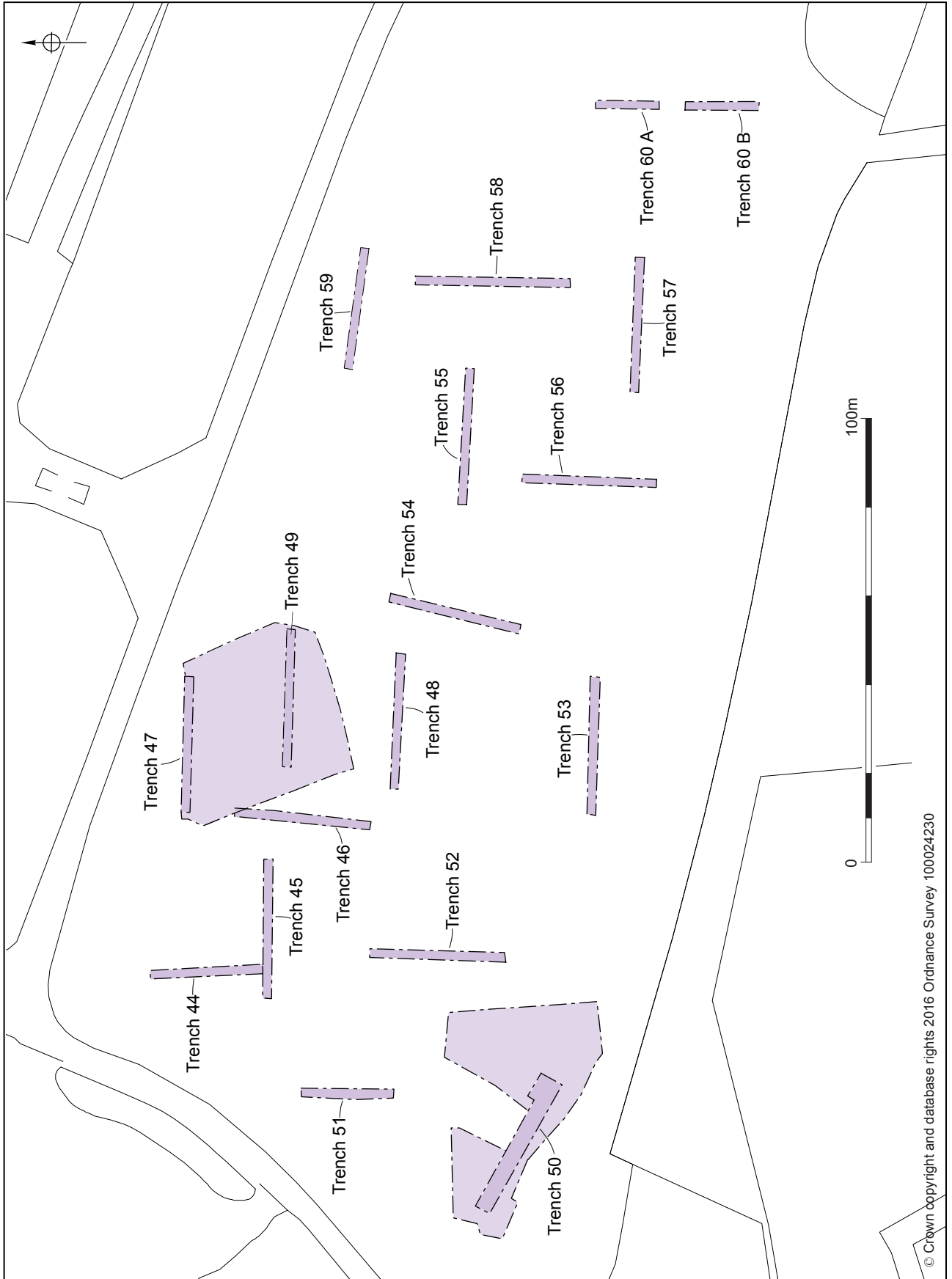
Location of the site

Figure 1



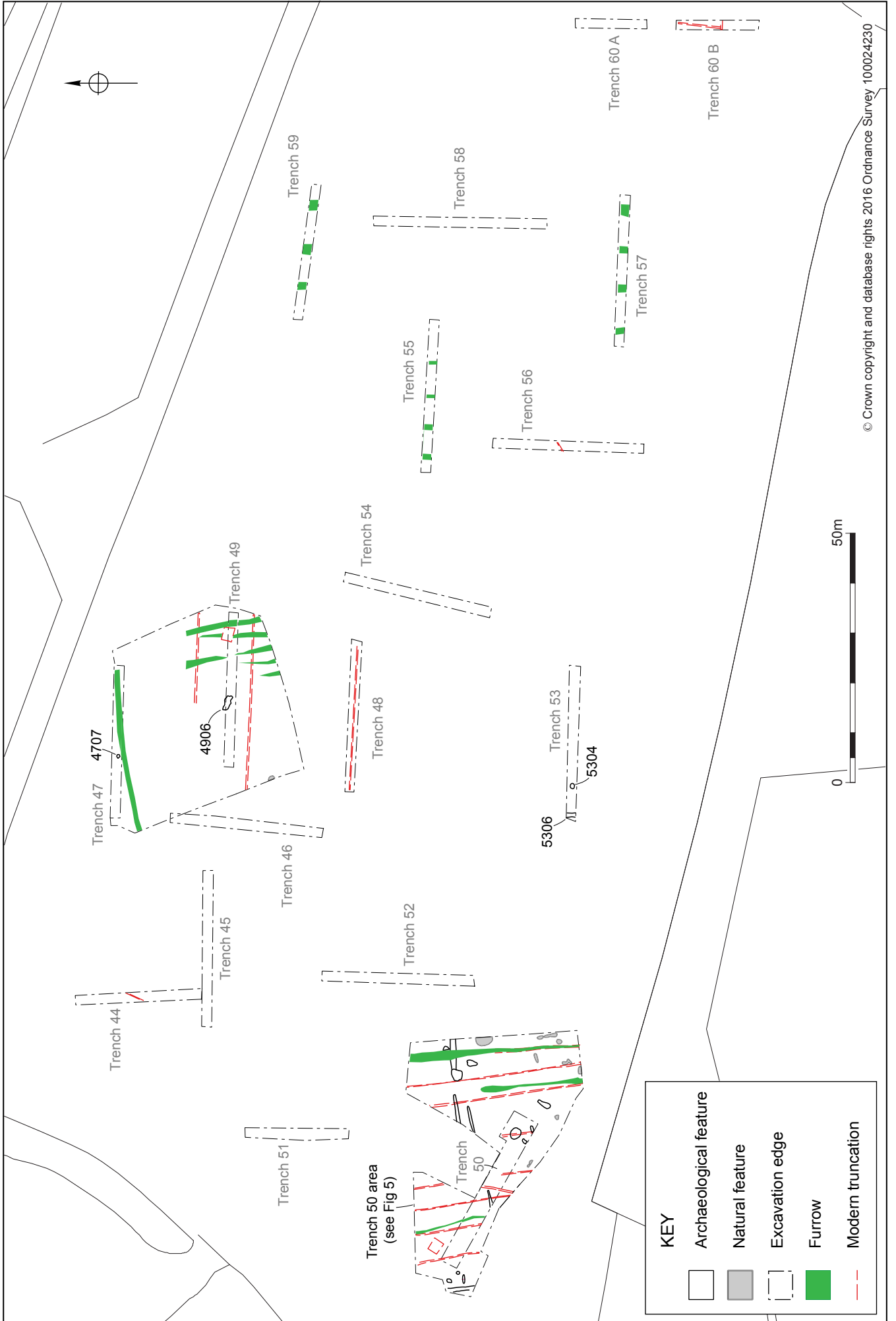
Location of Test Pits

Figure 2



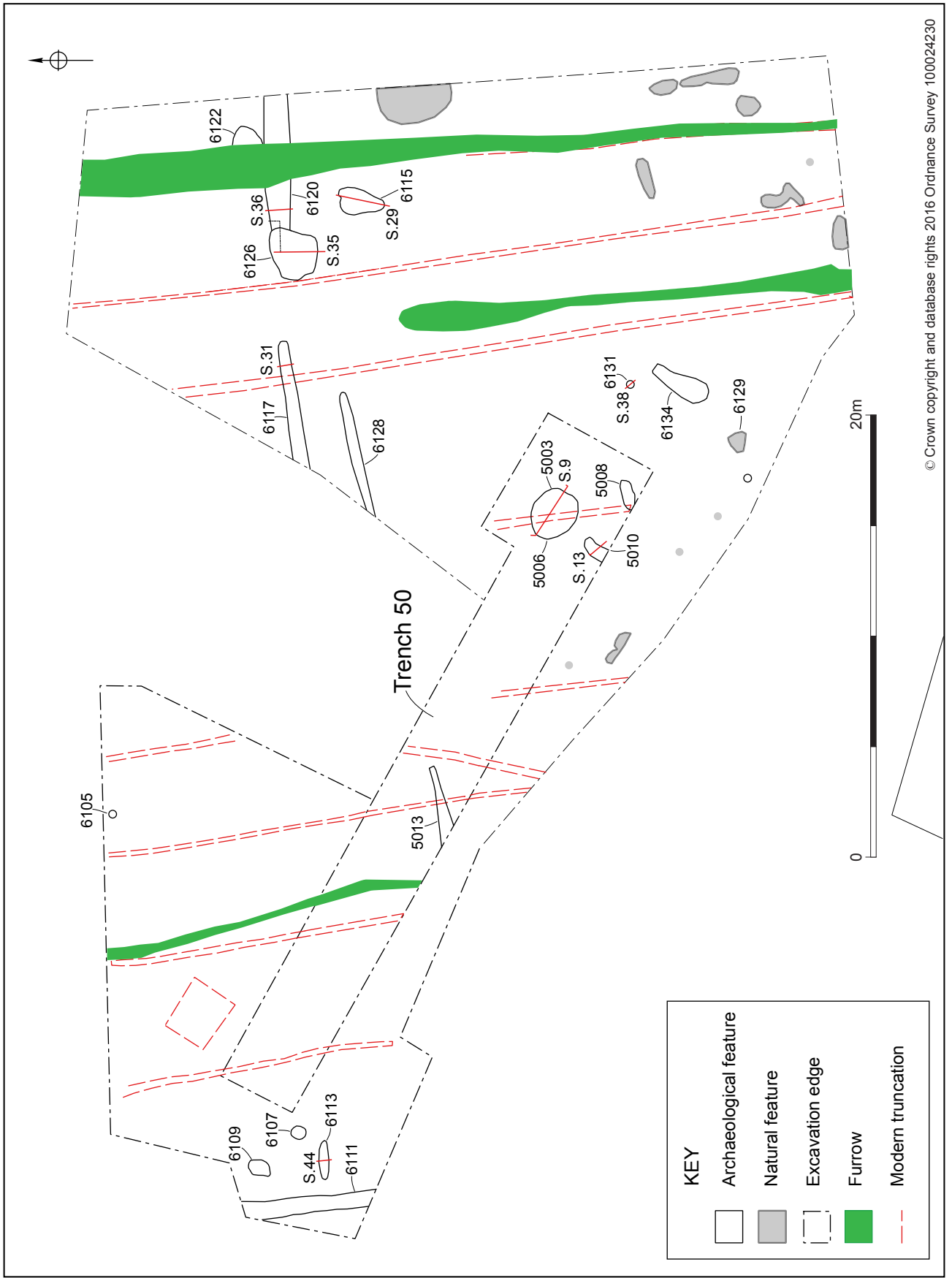
Trench location plan

Figure 3



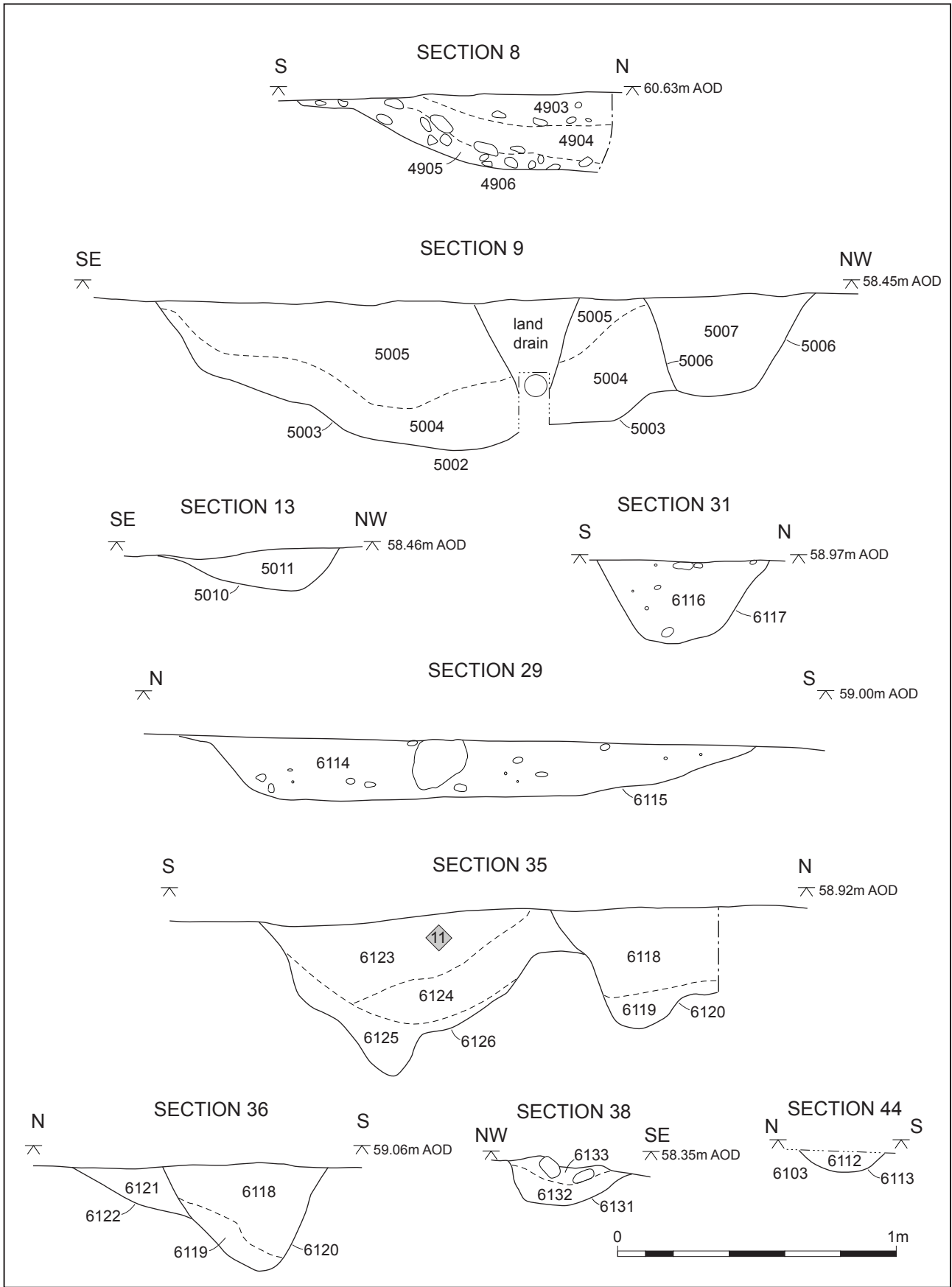
Evaluation trenches and excavation areas

Figure 4



Excavation area around Trench 50

Figure 5



Sections

Figure 6

Plates



Plate 1. General view of the site looking north-west



Plate 2. General view of Trench 50 looking north-west. Pits (804)/(5003) and (5006) are visible to the right of the ranging poles



Plate 1. Pit (4906) was lined with pebbles and cobbles.



Plate 2. Pits (5003) and (5006) was cut by a field drain.

Appendix 1 Trench descriptions

Trench 1

Length: 2m Width: 2m Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
100	Topsoil	Layer	Firm mid brown clay silt	0.30m	
101	Subsoil	Layer	Dark brown silty clay	0.20m	
102	Natural	Layer	Firm reddish clay		

Trench 2

Length: 2m Width: 2m Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
200	Topsoil	Layer	Firm mid brown clay silt	0.20m	
201	Subsoil	Layer	Dark brown silty clay	0.20m	
202	Natural	Layer	Firm reddish clay		

Trench 3

Length: 3m Width: 2m Orientation: East to west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
300	Topsoil	Layer	Dark greyish brown silty	0.20m	
301	Subsoil	Layer	Mid brown silty clay	0.20m	
302	Natural	Layer	Red clay		

Trench 4

Length: 3m Width: 2m Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
400	Topsoil	Layer	Friable mid brown clayey silt	0.30m	
401	Subsoil	Layer	Mid brown clay	0.10m	
402	Natural	Layer	Compact mid reddish brown clay		

Trench 5

Length: 2m Width: 2m Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
500	Topsoil	Layer	Mid brown silty clay	0.20m	
501	Subsoil	Layer		0.50m	
502	Natural	Layer	Red clay		

Trench 6

Length: 2m Width: 2m Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
600	Topsoil	Layer			
601	Subsoil	Layer			
602	Natural	Layer	Red clay		

Trench 7

Length: 2m Width: 2m Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
700	Rubble	Layer	Rubble	0.30m	
701	Subsoil	Layer		0.10m	
702	Natural	Layer	Compact red clay		

Trench 8

Length: 3m Width: 2m Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
800	Topsoil	Layer	Mid brown silty clay	0.10m	
801	Subsoil	Layer	Mid orangey brown silty	0.10m	
802	Natural	Layer	Compact reddish brown clay		
803	Pit	Fill	Moderately compact dark brownish grey silty clay	0.40m	
804	Pit	Cut		0.40m	
805	Land drain	Fill		0.40m	
806	Land drain	Cut		0.40m	

Trench 9

Length: 2m Width: 2m Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
900	Topsoil	Layer	Mid brown silty clay	0.30m	
901	Subsoil	Layer		0.20m	
902	Natural	Layer	Firm reddish brown clay	0.20m	

Trench 10

Length: 2m Width: 2m Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
1000	Topsoil	Layer		0.40m	
1001	Subsoil	Layer	Silt	0.20m	
1002	Natural	Layer	Red clay	0.20m	

Trench 11

Turf strip only - abandoned

Trench 12

Length: 2m Width: 2m Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
1200	Topsoil	Layer		0.30m	
1201	Subsoil	Layer		0.10m	
1202	Natural	Layer	Reddish brown clayey silt		
1203	Modern Layer	Layer	Rubble		

Trench 13

Length: 2m Width: 2m Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
1300	Topsoil	Layer	Mid brown clayey silt	0.30m	
1301	Subsoil	Layer	Mid brown silty clay	0.10m	
1302	Natural	Layer	Firm mid reddish brown clay		

Trench 14

Length: 2m Width: 2m Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
1400	Topsoil	Layer			
1401	Subsoil	Layer			
1402	Natural	Layer			

Trench 15

Length: 2m Width: 2m Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
1500	Topsoil	Layer			
1501	Subsoil	Layer			
1502	Natural	Layer			

Trench 16

Length: 2m Width: 2m Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
1600	Topsoil	Layer		0.30m	

Trench 17

Not excavated

Trench 18

Length: 2m Width: 2m Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
1800	Topsoil	Layer	Moderately compact mid brown		
1801	Subsoil	Layer	Gravelly clay		
1802	Natural	Layer	Red clay		

Trench 19

Length: 2m Width: 2m Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
1900	Topsoil	Layer			
1901	Subsoil	Layer			
1902	Natural	Layer	Red clay		

Trench 20

Length: 2m Width: 2m Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
2000	Topsoil	Layer		0.30m	

Trench 21

Not excavated

Trench 22

Length: 2m Width: 2m Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
2200	Topsoil	Layer	Mid brown clayey silt	0.30m	
2201	Subsoil	Layer	Pebbles	0.10m	
2202	Natural	Layer	Firm red sandy clay	0.30m	

Trench 23

Length: 2m Width: 2m Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
2300	Topsoil	Layer	Mid brown silty clay		
2301	Subsoil	Layer	Greyish brown clay		
2302	Natural	Layer	Cohesive reddish brown clay		

Trench 24

Length: 2m Width: 2m Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
2400	Topsoil	Layer		0.30m	

Trench 25

Length: 3m Width: 2m Orientation:

Trench 26

Length: 2m Width: 2m Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
2600	Topsoil	Layer	Mid brown clayey silt	0.30m	
2601	Natural	Layer	Compact reddish brown clay		

Trench 27

Length: 2m Width: 2m Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
2700	Topsoil	Layer		0.20m	
2701	Subsoil	Layer	Firm yellowish brown silty	0.10m	
2702	Natural	Layer		0.40m	

Trench 28

Not excavated

Trench 29

Length: 3m Width: 2m Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
2900	Topsoil	Layer		0.30m	
2901	Subsoil	Layer	Silty clay	0.10m	
2902	Natural	Layer	Reddish brown clay		

Trench 30

Length: 2m Width: 2m Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
3000	Topsoil	Layer	Mid yellowish brown sandy silt	0.30m	
3001	Subsoil	Layer		0.10m	
3002	Natural	Layer	Compact reddish brown clay		

Trench 31

Length: 3m Width: 3m Orientation: East to west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
3100	Topsoil	Layer	Mid greyish brown silty clay		
3101	Subsoil	Layer	Mid yellowish brown silty clay		
3102	Natural	Layer	Red clay		

Trench 32

Not excavated

Trench 33

Length: Width: Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
3300	Topsoil	Layer		0.20m	
3301	Subsoil	Layer		0.10m	
3302	Natural	Layer	Red clay		

Trench 34

Length: 2m Width: 2m Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
3400	Topsoil	Layer	Mid greyish brown silty clay	0.30m	
3401	Subsoil	Layer	Firm orangey brown	0.10m	
3402	Natural	Layer	Compact reddish brown sandy clay	0.30m	

Trench 35

Length: 2m Width: 2m Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
3500	Topsoil	Layer		0.30m	
3501	Subsoil	Layer	Orangey brown gravelly clay	0.20m	
3502	Natural	Layer	Reddish brown sandy clay		

Trench 36

Not excavated

Trench 37

Length: Width: Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
3700	Topsoil	Layer	Mid brown silty clay	0.20m	
3701	Subsoil	Layer	Light yellowish brown sandy clay	0.20m	
3702	Natural	Layer	Red clay		

Trench 38

Length: 3m Width: 2m Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
3800	Topsoil	Layer	Mid greyish brown silty clay	0.30m	
3801	Subsoil	Layer	Dark blackish grey rooting and gravels	0.10m	
3802	Natural	Layer	Firm red clay		

Trench 39

Length: Width: Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
3900	Topsoil	Layer		0.30m	
3901	Natural	Layer		0.40m	

Trench 40

Not excavated

Trench 41

Length: 2m Width: 2m Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
4100	Topsoil	Layer		0.20m	
4101	Natural	Layer			

Trench 42

Length: 3m Width: 2m Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
4200	Topsoil	Layer	Firm dark brown silty clay	0.20m	
4201	Natural	Layer	Red clay		

Trench 43

Length: 3m Width: 2m Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
4300	Topsoil	Layer		0.20m	
4301	Natural	Layer		0.50m	

Trench 44

Length: 26m Width: 1.8m Orientation: North-east to south-west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
4400	Topsoil	Layer	Friable darky greyish brown silty clay	0.26m	
4401	Subsoil	Layer	Moderately compact mid greyish brown silty clay	0.27m	
4402	Natural	Layer	Red clay		

Trench 45

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

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
4500	Topsoil	Layer	Friable dark greyish brown silty clay	0.20m	
4501	Subsoil	Layer	Moderately compact mid greyish brown silty clay	0.19m	
4502	Natural	Layer	Red clay	0.58m	

Trench 46

Length: 31m Width: 1.80m Orientation: North-east to south-west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
4600	Topsoil	Layer	Friable dark greyish brown silty clay	0.28m	
4601	Subsoil	Layer	Moderately compact mid greyish brown silty clay	0.24m	
4602	Natural	Layer	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay	0.13m	

Trench 47

Length: 32m Width: 1.80m Orientation: East to west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
4700	Topsoil	Layer	Friable mid greyish brown silty clay	0.15m	
4701	Modern Layer	Layer	Compact mid reddish brown silty clay	0.23m	Modern dumping/levelling material
4702	Topsoil	Layer	Friable dark greyish brown silty clay	0.18m	Buried topsoil
4703	Subsoil	Layer		0.38m	
4704	Natural	Layer	Reddish clay	0.05m	
4705	Furrow	Cut			
4706	Furrow	Fill			
4707	Pit	Cut		0.21m	Small pit or post hole, though no post pipe visible and no other post holes in the area
4708	Pit	Fill	Compact dark blackish grey silty sand	0.14m	Pit/Post hole fill. V. little charcoal, no finds or dating

4709	Pit	Fill	Compact mid brownish grey silty clay	0.14m	Fill of pit/ post hole. No finds or dating
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Trench 48

Length: 31m Width: 1.80m Orientation: East to west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
4800	Topsoil	Layer	Friable mid greyish brown silty clay	0.25m	
4801	Subsoil	Layer	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay	0.23m	
4802	Subsoil	Layer	Compact light brownish grey sandy silt	0.08m	Possible lower subsoil
4803	Natural	Layer	Reddish clay	0.12m	

Trench 49

Length: 30m Width: 1.80m Orientation: East to west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
4900	Topsoil	Layer	Dark greyish brown clayey	0.28m	
4901	Subsoil	Layer	Mid orangey brown clayey	0.24m	
4902	Natural	Layer	Compact reddish clay	0.12m +	
4903	Pit	Fill	Mid grey silty clay	0.12m	Top fill of pit [4906]. Contained some charcoal
4904	Pit	Fill	Light grey silty clay	0.24m	Pit fill, no finds/ dating
4905	Pit	Fill	Compact stones	0.29m	Compact layer of rounded and sub-rounded stone set within a matrix of silty caly - deliberately laid into the cut [4905]
4906	Pit	Cut		0.29m	Cut of stone lined pit

Trench 50

Length: 34m Width: 3.60m Orientation: North-west to south-east

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
5000	Topsoil	Layer		0.31m	
5001	Subsoil	Layer		0.15m	
5002	Natural	Layer		0.12m	

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5003	Pit	Cut		0.56m	Large pit truncated at NW end by smaller pit [5006]
5004	Pit	Fill	Moderately compact mid greyish brown silty clay	0.27m	Basal fill of pit [5003]
5005	Pit	Fill	Moderately compact dark blackish grey silty clay	0.39m	Dark, organic, charcoal rich fill of pit.
5006	Pit	Cut		0.37m	Cut of small pit that cuts the NW edge of large pit [5003]
5007	Pit	Fill	Moderately compact dark blackish grey silty clay	0.37m	Pit fill
5008	Pit	Cut		0.17m	Possible undated pit
5009	Pit	Fill	Moderately compact mid greyish brown silty clay	0.17m	Fill of pit
5010	Pit	Cut		0.16m	Possible small pit/linear
5011	Pit	Fill	Moderately compact light/mid brown/grey silty clay	0.16m	Mixed fill of pit
5012	Pit	Fill	Light greyish brown silty	0.08m	
5013	Pit	Cut		0.08m	Small pit or gully

Trench 51

Length: 21m Width: 1.80m Orientation: North to south

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/depth	Interpretation
5100	Topsoil	Layer	Dark greyish black clinker and silt	0.06m	
5101	Modern Layer	Layer	Yellow stone rubble	0.41m	Rubble layer
5102	Modern Layer	Structure	Concrete blocks	0.95m	Former footing of concrete blocks
5103	Subsoil?	Layer	Mid greyish brown clayey	0.37m	
5104	Subsoil?	Layer	Mid/light greyish brown clayey silt	0.22m	
5105	Natural	Layer	Red clay	0.37m	

Trench 52

Length: 31m Width: 1.80m Orientation: North to south

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/depth	Interpretation
5200	Topsoil	Layer	Friable dark greyish brown silty clay	0.21m	

5201	Subsoil	Layer	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay	0.21m	
5202	Subsoil	Layer	Compact dark greyish brown silty sand clay	0.14m	Possibly subsoil/geological layer related to water action
5203	Natural	Layer	Red clay	0.04m	

Trench 53

Length: 31m Width: 1.80m Orientation: East to west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/depth	Interpretation
5300	Topsoil	Layer	Mid greyish brown clayey	0.22m	
5301	Subsoil	Layer	Mid/light grey silty clay	0.18m	
5302	Subsoil	Layer	Stone	0.05m	Possible subsoil
5303	Natural	Natural	Red clay		Marl
5304	Pit	Cut			
5305	Pit	Fill	Moderately compact mid grey silty clay		Fill of small pit [5305]
5306	Ditch	Cut			
5307	Ditch	Fill	Moderately compact mid greyish brown silty clay		Silted fill of ditch [5306]

Trench 54

Length: 30.20m Width: 1.80m Orientation: North to south

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/depth	Interpretation
5400	Topsoil	Layer	Mid greyish brown silty clay	0.24m	
5401	Subsoil	Layer	Mid/light greyish brown silty clay	0.12m	
5402	Natural	Layer	Compact/cohesive red clay	0.08m	

Trench 55

Length: 31m Width: 1.80 Orientation: East to west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/depth	Interpretation
5500	Topsoil	Layer	Mid greyish brown silty clay	0.25m	
5501	Subsoil	Layer	Mid/light greyish brown silty clay	0.10m	
5502	Natural	Layer	Compact/cohesive red clay	0.20m	

Trench 56

Length: 30.5m Width: 1.80m Orientation: North to south

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
5600	Topsoil	Layer	Mid greyish brown silty clay	0.25m	
5601	Subsoil	Layer	Mid/light greyish brown silty clay	0.17m	
5602	Natural	Layer	Compact/cohesive red clay	0.19m	

Trench 57

Length: 30.5m Width: 1.80m Orientation: East to west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
5700	Topsoil	Layer	Mid greyish brown silty clay	0.21m	
5701	Subsoil	Layer	Mid/light greyish brown silty clay	0.15m	
5702	Natural	Layer	Compact/cohesive red clay	0.15m	

Trench 58

Length: 35m Width: 1.80m Orientation: North to south

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
5800	Topsoil	Layer	Mid greyish brown silty clay	0.25m	
5801	Subsoil	Layer	Mid/light greyish brown silty clay	0.22m	
5802	Natural	Layer	Compact/cohesive red clay	0.17m	

Trench 59

Length: 27.6m Width: 1.80m Orientation: East to west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
5900	Topsoil	Layer	Mid greyish brown silty clay	0.27m	
5901	Subsoil	Layer	Mid/light grey silty clay	0.22m	
5902	Natural	Layer	Compact/cohesive red marl	0.10m	

Trench 60

Length: 31m Width: 1.80m Orientation: North to south

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
6000	Topsoil	Layer	Mid greyish brown silty/clay	0.18m	
6001	Subsoil	Layer	Mid/light greyish brown silty clay	0.14m	
6002	Natural	Layer	Compact/cohesive red clay	0.19m	

Trench 61 (southern excavation area)

Length: Width: Orientation:

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
6100	Topsoil	Layer	Friable dark greyish brown silty clay	0.15m	
6101	Subsoil	Layer	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay	0.25m	
6102	Subsoil	Layer	mid brownish grey clayey	0.08m	
6103	Natural	Layer	Compact red clay	0.62m	
6104	Posthole	Fill	Compact mid blueish grey clayey silt	0.16m	Possible post hole
6105	Posthole	Cut		0.16m	Possible post hole
6106	Pit	Fill	Moderately compact mid pinkish brown silty clay	0.22m	Fill of small pit
6107	Pit	Cut		0.22m	Cut of small pit
6108	Pit	Fill	Compact mid brownish grey silty clay	0.14m	Pit fill with no finds
6109	Pit	Cut		0.14m	Oval pit
6110	Ditch	Fill	Moderately compact mid grey silty clay	0.23m	Ditch fill
6111	Ditch	Cut		0.23m	Probable post-med ditch cut
6112	Linear	Fill	Compact mid brownish grey silty clay	0.06m	Fill of linear
6113	Linear	Cut		0.06m	Cut of shallow linear hollow
6114	Pit	Fill	Moderately compact mid brownish grey clayey silt	0.23m	Single fill of pit. Contained charcoal
6115	Pit	Cut		0.23m	Cut of possible medieval

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6116	Ditch	Fill	Firm dark brownish grey silty clay	0.30m	Fill of small ditch terminus
6117	Ditch	Cut		0.30m	Ditch terminus cut
6118	Linear	Fill	Moderately compact dark brownish grey silty clay	0.34m	Upper fill of linear [6120]
6119	Linear	Fill	Firm mid reddish brown silty clay	0.13m	Loose basal fill of ditch [6120]
6120	Linear	Cut		0.43m	Cut of small ditch/linear.
6121	Ditch	Fill	Moderately compact mid brownish grey silty clay	0.18m	Fill of ditch [6122]
6122	Ditch	Cut		0.18m	Small ditch that is cut by and thus post-dated by gully [6120]
6123	Pit	Fill	Moderately compact dark brownish grey silty clay	0.29m	Upper fill of pit [6126]
6124	Pit	Fill	Moderately compact dark orangey brown silty clay	0.21m	Fill of pit [6126]
6125	Pit	Fill	Firm mid reddish brown	0.21m	Basal fill of pit [6126]
6126	Pit	Cut		0.60m	Large oval pit that pre-dates linear [6120]
6127	Gully	Fill	Firm mid brownish grey silty clay	0.10m	Homogenous fill of small gully
6128	Gully	Cut		0.10m	Terminus of small gully.
6129	Posthole	Cut		0.17m	Possible post hole cut that appears to be in isolation.
6130	Posthole	Fill	Moderately compact mid greyish brown clayey silt	0.17m	Possible post hole fill
6131	Pit	Cut		0.18m	Small pit feature, probably Medieval waste dump
6132	Pit	Fill	Moderately compact mid brownish red silty clay	0.15m	Slumping into pit [6132]
6133	Pit	Fill	Loose mid brownish grey clayey silt	0.10m	Fill of pit [6132]
6134	Pit	Cut		0.54m	Earlier pit of the pair with pit [6135]
6135	Pit	Cut		0.54m	Pit that cuts and is thus later than pit [6134]
6136	Pit	Fill	Moderately compact mid brownish grey clayey silt	0.08m	Upper fill running over the top of both pits [6134] and [6135]
6137	Pit	Fill	Moderately compact light brownish grey clayey silt	0.28m	Fill in pit [6134]. Contained charcoal
6138	Pit	Fill	Moderately compact dark blackish grey clayey silt	0.54m	Fill of pit [6134]. Contained charcoal
6139	Pit	Fill	Moderately compact light brownish grey clayey silt	0.25m	Fill of pit [6135]. Contained charcoal

6140	Pit	Fill	Moderately compact dark blackish grey clayey silt	0.54m	Fill of pit [6135]. Contained charcoal
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Appendix 2 Technical information

The archive (site code: P4726)

The archive consists of:

62	Context records AS1
6	Field progress reports AS2
5	Photographic records AS3
2	Black and white photographic films
214	Digital photographs
1	Drawing number catalogues AS4
16	Scale drawings AS34
1	Context number catalogues AS5
1	Sample number catalogues AS18
49	Trench record sheets AS41
1	Box of finds, scanned sample residues, sorted environmental remains and flots
1	CD-Rom/DVDs
1	Copy of this report (bound hard copy)

The project archive is intended to be placed at:

Warwickshire Museum
The Butts
Warwick Warwickshire,
CV34 4SS
Tel. Warwick (01926) 412500
