

ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
EXCAVATION AT  
DRA NORTH SITE, MALVERN,  
WORCESTERSHIRE

Tom Rogers

With a contribution by Alan Jacobs

Illustrations by Tom Rogers

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Project 2901  
Report 1435  
WSM 35083



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## **Archaeological excavation at DRA North Site, Malvern, Worcestershire**

**Tom Rogers**

**With a contribution by Alan Jacobs.**

### **Part 1 Project summary**

An archaeological excavation was undertaken at the DRA North Site, Malvern, Worcestershire, (NGR:377036,248504) in April 2006. The site has recently ceased to be used as a defence research establishment. It was undertaken on behalf of Pegasus Planning Group and their client Persimmon Homes, who intend to develop the site for residential use. An archaeological evaluation of the site was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in June 2004. This identified a localised group of archaeological features yielding Bronze Age and Romano-British pottery.

Archaeological features were recorded in Trenches 7 and 14 of the evaluation in an area to the north of the site between two former defence research buildings known as NM and 55. These comprised two pits, two tree boles and a possible gully. One piece of worked flint was recorded from one of the pits and a sherd of Romano-British Severn valley ware of 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century date was recovered from one of the tree boles. A single sherd of probable beaker coarseware of Early Bronze Age date was recovered from the fill of a possible gully. These features were uncovered and a wider area around them stripped of topsoil and subsoil using a 360° tracked excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket.

The two pits in Trench 7 were found to be two parts of a probable animal burrow. A further sherd of Romano-British pottery was recorded from this feature. Another feature from the evaluation was fully excavated and found to comprise two cuts, a small irregular pit to the east and a larger regular shallow bowl shaped pit to the west.. Several fills of charcoal rich material were recorded and some fired clay was recovered from pit 2039. It is thought that these represent fragments of a late Iron Age or Roman domestic oven.

A wider area of over 2500m<sup>2</sup> was stripped to the same level around these features revealing river gravels and sands as well as a strip of alluvial clay overlying unsorted gravels, thought to represent a former course of a small stream which runs to the north of the site. Some further irregular features were recorded and excavated within the opened area cut into both the river gravels and the alluvium but these were archaeologically sterile and are thought to represent tree boles or episodes of bush burning.

It is thought that the features recorded in the evaluation and in the excavation are natural in origin (although *in situ* burning implies deliberate clearance of land the pottery recovered in the evaluation may indicate that archaeological objects or features existed within the valley prior to truncation by river erosion or human activity such as ploughing.



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## Part 2 Detailed report

### 1. Background

#### 1.1 Reasons for the project

An archaeological excavation was undertaken at the former DRA North Site, Leigh Sinton Road, Malvern Worcestershire (NGR 377036,248504; Fig 1), on behalf of the client, Pegasus Planning Group. The client intends to redevelop the site for housing and has submitted a planning application to Malvern Hills District Council (reference MH/04/0182-3), who consider that a site of archaeological interest may be affected.

#### 1.2 Project parameters

The project conforms to the *Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation* (IFA 1999)

The project also conforms to a brief prepared by Mike Glyde of Worcestershire Historic Environment and Archaeology Service (HEAS 2006a) and for which a project proposal (including detailed specification) was produced (HEAS 2006b).

#### 1.3 Aims

The aims of the excavation were to confirm the nature of the archaeological deposits recorded during evaluation and to confirm whether they existed as part of a wider site.

## 2. Methods

### 2.1 Documentary search

The following sources were consulted:

#### *Documentary sources*

- Kenyon, D, 2004 *Former DERA North Site, Great Malvern, Worcestershire* Cotswold Archaeology, unpublished report
- Havard, T, 2004 *Former DERA North Site, Malvern, Worcestershire; archaeological evaluation* Cotswold Archaeology, unpublished report

### 2.2 Fieldwork methodology

#### 2.2.1 Fieldwork strategy

A detailed specification has been prepared by the Service (HEAS 2006b). Fieldwork was undertaken between 18<sup>th</sup> April and 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2006. The site reference number and site code is WSM 35083.

Deposits considered not to be significant were removed using a 360° tracked/wheeled 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 Service practice (CAS

1995). On completion of excavation, trenches were reinstated by replacing the excavated material. A storm drain crosses the site approximately SSW–NNE and a 3m wide area was left to protect it. The site was therefore divided into two areas, area A to the west and area B to the east.

#### 2.2.2 **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.

### 2.3 **Artefact methodology, by Alan Jacobs**

#### 2.3.1 **Artefact recovery policy**

All artefacts from the area of salvage recording were retrieved by hand and retained in accordance with the service manual (CAS 1995 as amended).

#### 2.3.2 **Method of analysis**

All hand-retrieved finds were examined and a primary record was made on a Microsoft Access 2000 database. Artefacts were identified, quantified and dated and a terminus post quem date produced for each stratified context.

The pottery and ceramic building material was examined under x20 magnification and recorded by fabric type and form according to the fabric reference series maintained by the service (Hurst and Rees 1992).

### 2.4 **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**

A desk-based assessment of the site was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in 2004 (Kenyon 2004). This section is largely derived from section 3 of that report.

The underlying geology of the site is mapped as Quaternary undifferentiated head deposits. The deposits revealed during this excavation are described in section 4.11 below but largely comprise unsorted river gravels and alluvium.

No evidence for prehistoric settlement or activity is recorded in the immediate vicinity of the site apart from the evaluation of 2004 (Havard 2004) which revealed a feature containing two sherds of pottery of Bronze Age date as well as several fragments of worked flint.

Worcestershire County HER records several Roman features in the immediate area. Two Roman pottery kiln sites have been identified at the former Hygienic Laundry (WSM 6004) 500m to the east of the site and at Halfkey Lane (WSM 7061) 200m to the north of the site. There is also evidence of Roman activity in the fields immediately west of the site where a local resident has collected a significant collection of Roman pottery from the surface of the fields (WSM 4639). Ten sherds of locally Roman Severn Valley ware were recovered in the 2004 evaluation of the site (Havard 2004).



There is little or no evidence of Anglo-Saxon or medieval activity in the area. A mill is recorded from 1243 in Howsell, to the south-east of the site but it is thought that the site was not re-settled substantially until the post medieval period.

The 1838 To the map and accompanying apportionment register for Leigh South shows the area later occupied by the DERA site as fields. The field names were 'Pail Orchard', 'Stack Orchard' and 'Cow Pasture'. The plot occupied by Pale Manor which lies to the south of the excavated area is also shown. On the 1887 Ordnance Survey map, the site is shown as fields and orchards. After 1939 the grounds of Pale Manor were commandeered for military use and until 2003 it was used for a variety of purposes including a Signals Training Establishment and a Radar Research Establishment.

## 4. Results

### 4.1 Structural analysis

The extent of the excavated area is shown in Figures 2 and 3. The results of the structural analysis are presented in Appendix 1.

#### 4.1.1 Phase 1 Natural deposits

Natural deposits on the site were typical of a small river valley. Across the larger part of the opened area, context 2003 comprised largely unsorted river gravels and sands but running roughly east-west across the site was an overlying deposit of light brown fine clay (2020) thought to represent an alluvial deposit from a former channel of the stream which now runs to the north of the site. The alluvial deposit was removed by machine on the western side of area B and the shallow profile of a small channel was recorded. At the deepest part of this channel, a layer of plastic grey clay (2044) overlay a light purplish grey sandy clay (2021), which in turn overlay a thin layer of reddish pink mottled clay. Patches of the 2021, the purplish clay were also recorded below the alluvium at the western edge of area A (Fig 3).

#### 4.1.2 Phase 2 Bronze Age deposits

One sherd of beaker coarseware pottery was recovered during the 2004 evaluation from feature 704, thought to have been a gully. A 'box' section was excavated across it. This feature was re-exposed and fully excavated and was recorded as two features (cuts 2007 and 2029; Fig 5). These are described in section 4.14 below.

#### 4.1.3 Phase 3 Roman deposits

A single sherd of Romano-British Severn valley ware of 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century date was recovered from a tree bole (fill 1409) during the evaluation. Abraded sherds of Severn Valley ware (fabric 12.2) were recovered from the topsoil (2001) and the subsoil (2002) and a single fragment of black burnished ware (Fabric 22; context 2002) dating from 120-350AD was recovered from the subsoil. In addition a single fragment of miscellaneous Roman ware was recovered from the fill of a natural feature (2006) described in section 4.1.4 below.

Two features were recorded either side of a box section excavated across a possible gully (707) in Trench 7 of the evaluation. Cut 2039 (Plate 4) to the east of the box section was very irregular in shape. It was filled by 2037, a compact mid brownish-grey silty clay with abundant charcoal flecks and medium sized lumps, moderate small-large angular stones and occasional lenses of red-orange clay. This fill was itself cut by another feature, 2038, an irregular root shaped cut filled by a compact mid brownish grey silty clay with abundant charcoal flecks, moderate small-large angular stones and occasional yellow mottling (2025). Some fragments of fired clay were recovered from this fill. A number of fragments of a fired clay oven were recovered from this context with indications of an air hole in the fabric. These

date from the late Iron Age to the 2<sup>nd</sup> century and are distinct feature of domestic settlement with parallels from Childswickam (cf Hurst 2004, 41-2 and fig 8).

Cut 2005 (Fig 6; Plate 5) to the west was bowl shaped and shallow with gentle sides. There were two fills. The primary fill was 2024, a compact and cohesive light blueish grey silty clay with abundant yellow mottles, abundant small-medium charcoal lumps and occasional charcoal flecks. This was overlain by 2004, a compact light purplish-brown silty clay with abundant yellow mottling and abundant flecks or medium sized lumps of charcoal. A small, sub rectangular, steep sided feature (2023) 0.2m long and 0.14m wide was cut into the base of 2005. It was filled with a moderately compact charcoal rich silty loam with rare angular stones.

#### 4.1.4 Undated deposits

Two possible pits identified during the 2004 evaluation (1404, 1406) in Trench 14 were uncovered and revealed to be part of the same feature (2007; Fig 5; Plate 3). This was a winding and irregular cut 2.28m long and a maximum of 0.46m wide. It was filled by a compact to loose dark greyish black silty clay with frequent charcoal flecking and inclusions of small to medium sized (<5mm - <10mm) angular to sub-angular stones and occasional rootlets (2006). Two smaller, irregular cuts were also recorded to the north-east of this feature, filled with a similar material (2026/2027 and 2028/2029). This feature is clearly natural in origin and is thought to have been part of the same feature, probably an animal burrow or the line of a root. One Romano-British sherd of 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> century was recovered from the fill.

A shallow, circular cut (2011; Fig 4) was recorded on the western edge of the area A. It was approximately 0.45m in diameter and 0.09m deep with a gentle break of slope both at top and base and shallow sides. It was filled by a compact, dark brown/greyish sandy clay (2010) with frequent charcoal flecks and frequent (<15mm) angular stones of fine-grained sedimentary nature. No dateable evidence was recorded from this feature.

Cut 2009 (Fig 4; Plate 2), south of the centre of area A was an elongated oval shape 2.9m long and 0.75 to 0.3m wide with a small offshoot to the south. It had steep to moderate sloping sides with an irregular base and was filled by a compact mid grey brown clay silt (2008) with frequent charcoal flecks of small to medium size (<5mm - >10mm). It is thought that this feature may represent a tree bole.

A small sub-circular pit measuring approximately 0.43m in diameter and 0.14m deep lay to the south of area B. The cut (2031; Fig 4) had a reasonably sharp break of slope at top, 45° sides and gentle break of slope to a bowl shaped base in which one large stone was set. It was filled by 2030 a compact dark grey silty clay with frequent charcoal and small angular stones.

At the north-eastern corner of area A, a long oval cut 2.25m long and 0.48m wide (2036; Fig 5; Plate 6) was half sectioned. It had a sharp break of slope at top, except to south western end and reasonably steep sides with a gentle break to a bowl shaped base. It was filled by a light grey compact clay with occasional charcoal flecks, small, angular stones and frequent manganese flecking (2035). No datable artefacts were recorded from this context and it is thought that this feature may have been formed by the deposition of material around a fallen tree.

To the north of area B a thin layer of fire reddened clay was recorded (2034, Plate 8). It comprised a compact to friable mottled orange and black burnt clay and charcoal deposit with occasional rootlets and frequent charcoal flecks and chunks between 1 and 2cm. Some angular and sub-angular stones were mixed with the deposit. It is thought to represent an episode of *in situ* burning possibly during vegetation clearance. No dateable artefacts were recovered from this context.

Another thin layer of burnt material (2014; Fig 6; Plate 7) lay 1m north west of cut 2005. This comprised a compact black to dark grey clay with orange mottles with occasional rootlets and stones (subangular to angular, small to medium sized). It was irregular in shape with a maximum length of 1.25m and a maximum width of 1.2m. One highly degraded fragment of bone was recovered from the northern half of the feature. This is thought to represent *in situ* burning.

#### 4.2 Artefact analysis, by Alan Jacobs

The pottery assemblage retrieved from the excavated area consisted of twelve sherds of pottery weighing 144g; in addition fragments of fired clay and bone were recovered. The group came from 6 stratified contexts and could be dated from the Roman to post-medieval periods (see Table 1). Level of preservation was generally fair with the majority of sherds displaying high levels of abrasion.

Material	Total	Weight (g)
Roman pottery	10	140
Post-medieval pottery	2	4
Bone	40	61
Fired clay	31	383
<b>Total</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>588</b>

*Table 1: Quantification of the assemblage*

##### 4.2.1 Discussion of the pottery

All sherds have been grouped and quantified according to fabric type (see Table 2). No diagnostic form sherds were present which could be dated accordingly; the remaining sherds were datable by fabric type to their general period or production span.

The discussion below is a summary of the finds and associated location or contexts by period. Where possible, *terminus post quem* dates have been allocated and the importance of individual finds commented upon as necessary.

Fabric number	Fabric name	Total sherds	Weight (g)
12	Severn Valley ware organic tempered	8	33
22	Black-burnished ware	1	9
84	Creamware	2	4
98	Miscellaneous Roman	1	98
<b>Total</b>		<b>12</b>	<b>144</b>

*Table 2: Quantification of the pottery by fabric*

The pottery assemblage dates from the Roman to the post-medieval period. The Roman material consisted of abraded sherds of organic Severn Valley ware (fabric 12.2; contexts 2001 and 2002) and a single fragment of Black-Burnished ware (Fabric 22; context 2002) dating from 120-350AD. In addition a single fragment of miscellaneous Roman ware was recovered (Fabric 98; context 2006). The only post-medieval pottery recovered consisted of two small sherds of creamware (Fabric 84; context 2001) dating to the 1750-1795.

##### 4.2.2 Other finds

A number of fragments of a fired clay oven were recovered with indications of an air hole in the fabric (context 2025). These date from the late Iron Age to the 2<sup>nd</sup> century and are distinct

feature of domestic settlement with parallels from Childswickam (Patrick and Hurst, 2004). In addition a number of fragments of animal bone were recovered (context 2004 and 2014) and cattle teeth were also present.

#### 4.2.3 Significance

The assemblage is too small to have much significance, however the artefacts recovered would point to early Roman domestic activity in this area during the 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> centuries.

Context	Ceramic TPQ
2001	1750-1795
2002	120-350
2004	Undated
2006	1st-4th century
2014	Undated
2025	Late-Iron Age-2nd century

**Table 3: Context dating**

## 5. Synthesis

Although the results of the evaluation suggested that this site was occupied in the past, relatively little of archaeological interest was recorded during the excavation. Several pits were recorded but no archaeological artefacts were recovered from the fills of these features. Two of the features (2009, 2036) were long oval cuts, which may represent riverine deposition around fallen trees. Two patches of *in situ* burning were also recorded where the top layer of the alluvial deposit (2020) had been reddened by fire. In both cases, this was a single layer and they are thought to represent single episodes of burning perhaps related to clearance of vegetation.

The feature recorded as a gully (707 of the evaluation, 2007; Fig 5) during the evaluation, from which a single sherd of Bronze Age coarseware pottery was recovered, is enigmatic. Fragments of fired clay from a late Iron Age or Roman domestic oven were recovered from an irregular cut to the east of the box section but it is thought that the irregular form of this feature is a clear indication of its natural origins. The clay fragments may have been transported naturally into the feature or were perhaps deliberately deposited after the oven went out of use. The shallower and more regular feature, immediately to the west of the tree bole (cut 2005), had very charcoal rich fill and it is possible that this feature formed the base of such an oven. A small sub rectangular cut in the base of this feature (2023) may have held a supporting post or pole.

It is probable that the Romano-British pottery recovered during the evaluation either travelled into these features either from another location further up the valley (Romano British pottery has been recovered from a field to the west; WSM4639) or these are part of a sparse scatter of features outside of the main site. The headwaters of the stream lie in the foothills of the Malvern Hills and it is probable that episodes of rapid deposition and erosion occur periodically in this valley. A palaeo-channel was mapped running across the site approximately parallel to the existing watercourse and this is an illustration of the variable nature of deposits in such a valley.

## 6. 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 excavation was undertaken at the former DRA North Site, Malvern, Worcestershire, (NGR: 377036 248504) in April 2006. The site has recently ceased to be used as a defence research establishment. It was undertaken on behalf of Pegasus Planning Group and their client Persimmon Homes, who intend to develop the site for residential use. An archaeological evaluation of the site was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in June 2004. This identified a localised group of archaeological features yielding Bronze Age and Romano-British pottery. The project aimed to determine the nature, date and extent of these and related features and to preserve them by record.*

*Archaeological features were recorded in the evaluation in an area to the north of the site between two former defence research buildings known as NM and 55. These comprised two pits, two tree boles and a possible gully. One piece of worked flint was recorded from one of the pits and a sherd of Romano-British Severn valley ware of 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century date was recovered from one of the tree boles. A single sherd of probable beaker coarseware of early Bronze Age date was recovered from the fill of the gully.*

*The full extent of the gully was uncovered and found to comprise two pits, one regular and bowl shaped to the west and a very irregular pit to the east from which a number of fragments of a fired clay oven were recovered with indications of an air hole in the fabric. These date from the late Iron Age to the 2<sup>nd</sup> century and are distinct feature of domestic settlement with parallels from Childswickam.*

*A wider area of over 2500m<sup>2</sup> was stripped to the same level around these features revealing river gravels and sands as well as a strip of alluvial clay overlying unsorted gravels, thought to represent the former course of a small stream which runs to the north of the site.*

*The two pits recorded in the evaluation were shown to be part of a long winding feature with natural origins. Several further features were recorded and excavated within the opened area cut into both the river gravels and alluvium. Although these contained charcoal these did not yield any datable evidence and are thought to represent tree boles or episodes of vegetation clearance.*

*It is concluded that the presence of Bronze Age and Romano-British pottery as well as the fragments of fired clay in the largely natural features on the site may indicate that either material from a site further up the valley has been transported into the excavated area or that a site that previously existed at this location has been truncated through agriculture or natural processes leaving only a residual assemblage.*

## 7. **The archive**

The archive consists of:

3	Context records AS1
29	Abbreviated context records AS40
1	Context number catalogue
2	Fieldwork progress records AS2
2	Photographic records AS3
1	Matrix sheets AS7
147	Digital Photographs
1	Sample records AS17

- 24 Scale drawings
- 1 Box of finds
- 1 Computer disk

The project archive is intended to be placed at:

Worcestershire County Museum

Hartlebury Castle

Hartlebury

Near Kidderminster

Worcestershire DY11 7XZ

Tel Hartlebury (01299) 250416

## 8. **Acknowledgements**

The Service would like to thank the following for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project, Olivia Dobson of Pegasus Planning Group and Mike Glyde of Worcestershire Historic Environment and Archaeology Service.

## 9. **Personnel**

The fieldwork and report preparation was led by Tom Rogers. The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Simon Woodiwiss. Fieldwork was undertaken by Tom Rogers, Sarah Phear and Stephen Potten, finds analysis by Alan Jacobs, and illustration by Tom Rogers.

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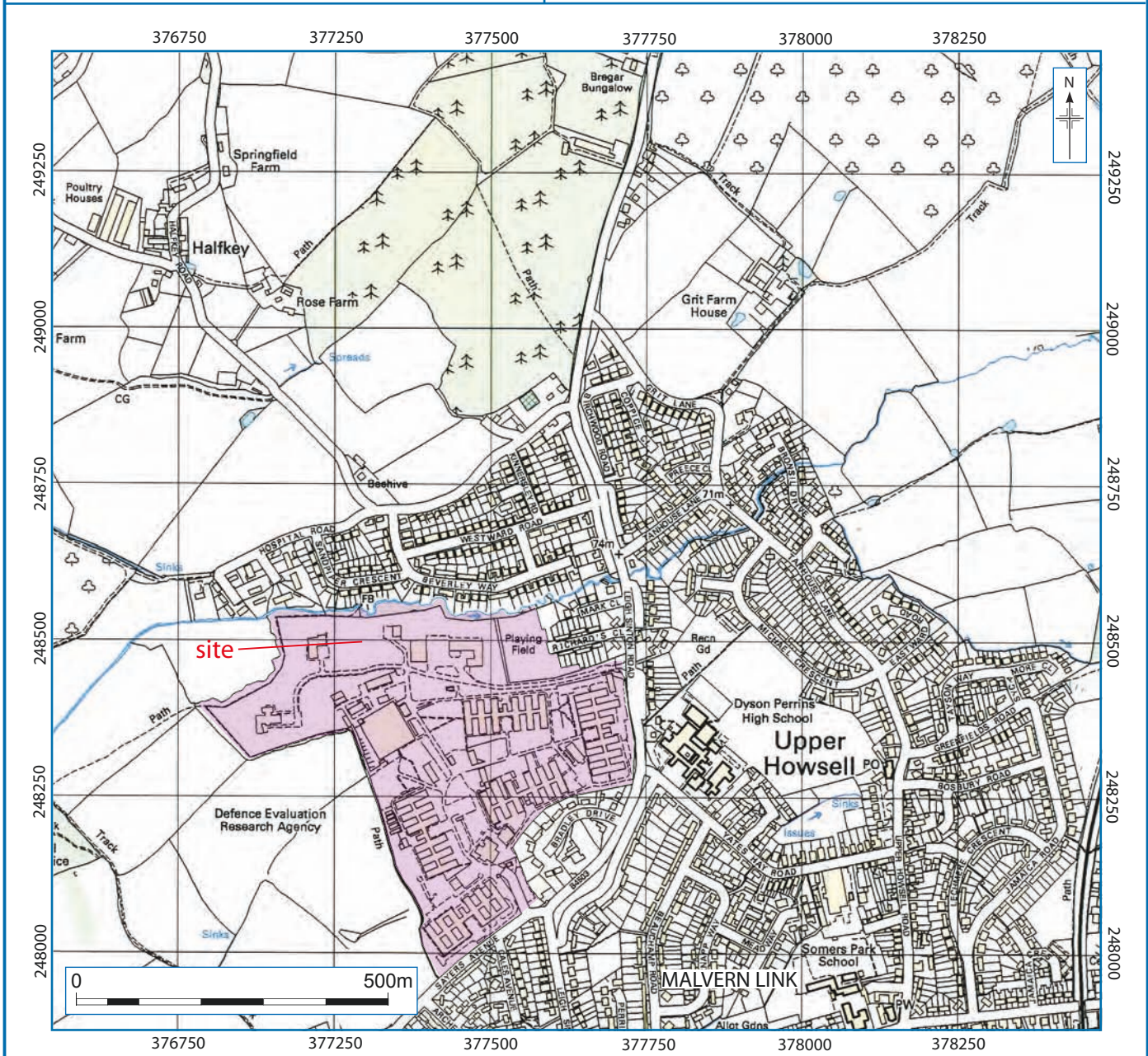
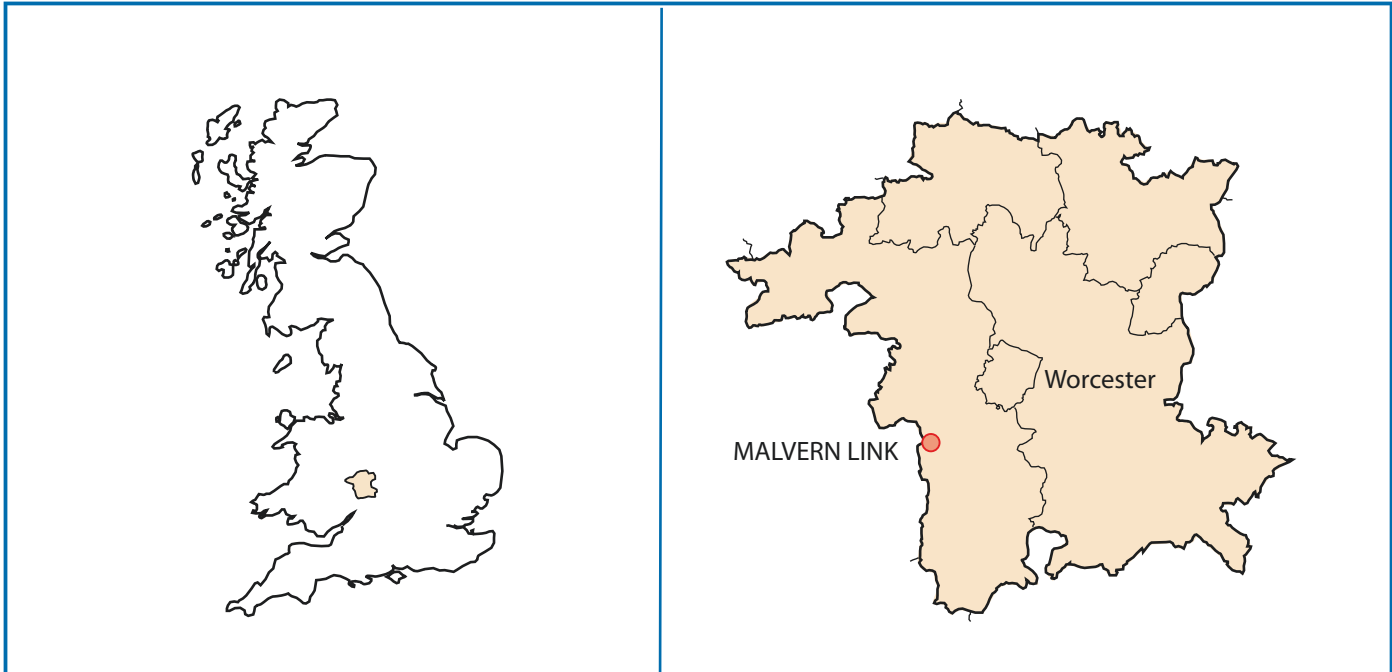
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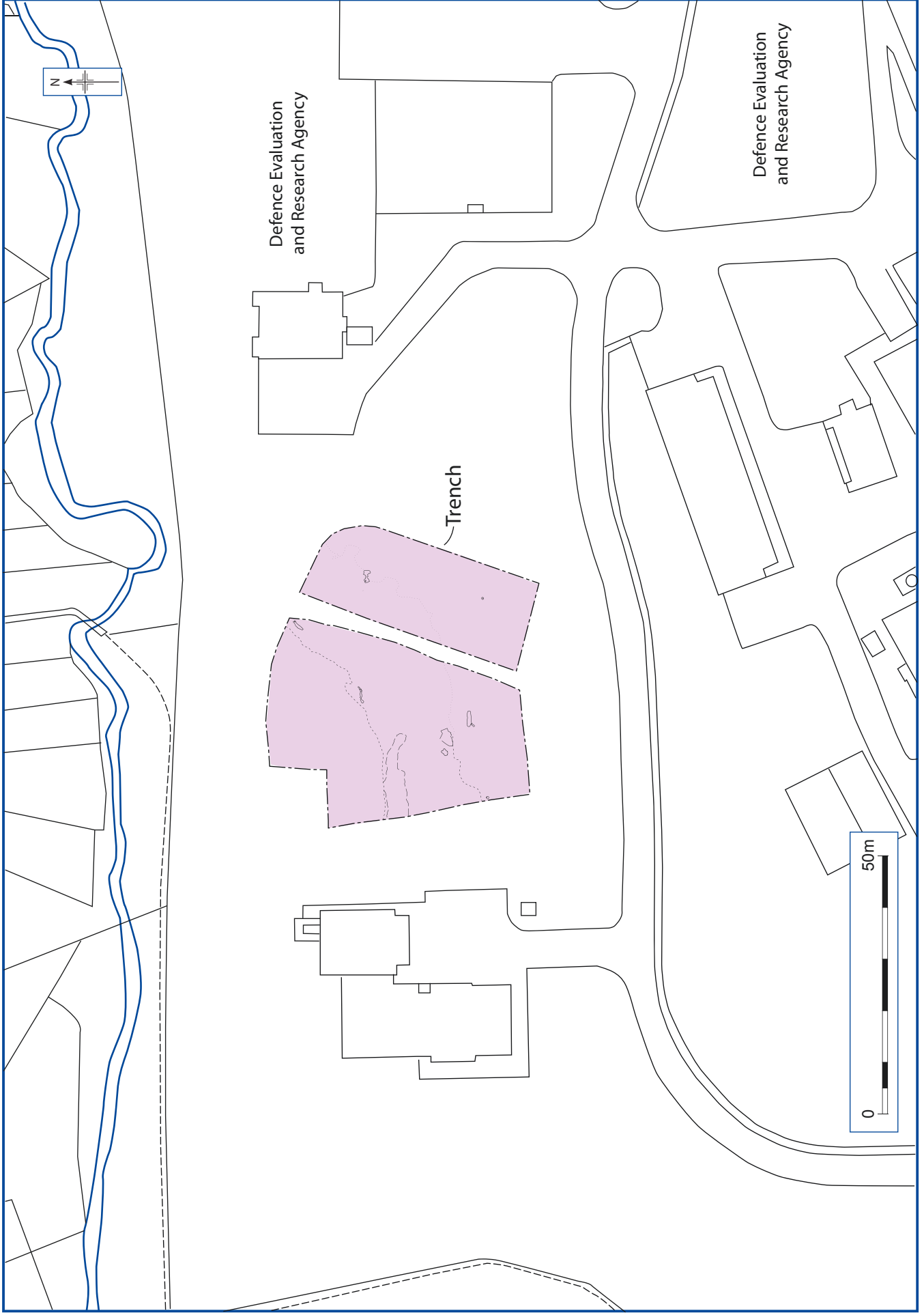


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Location of the site.

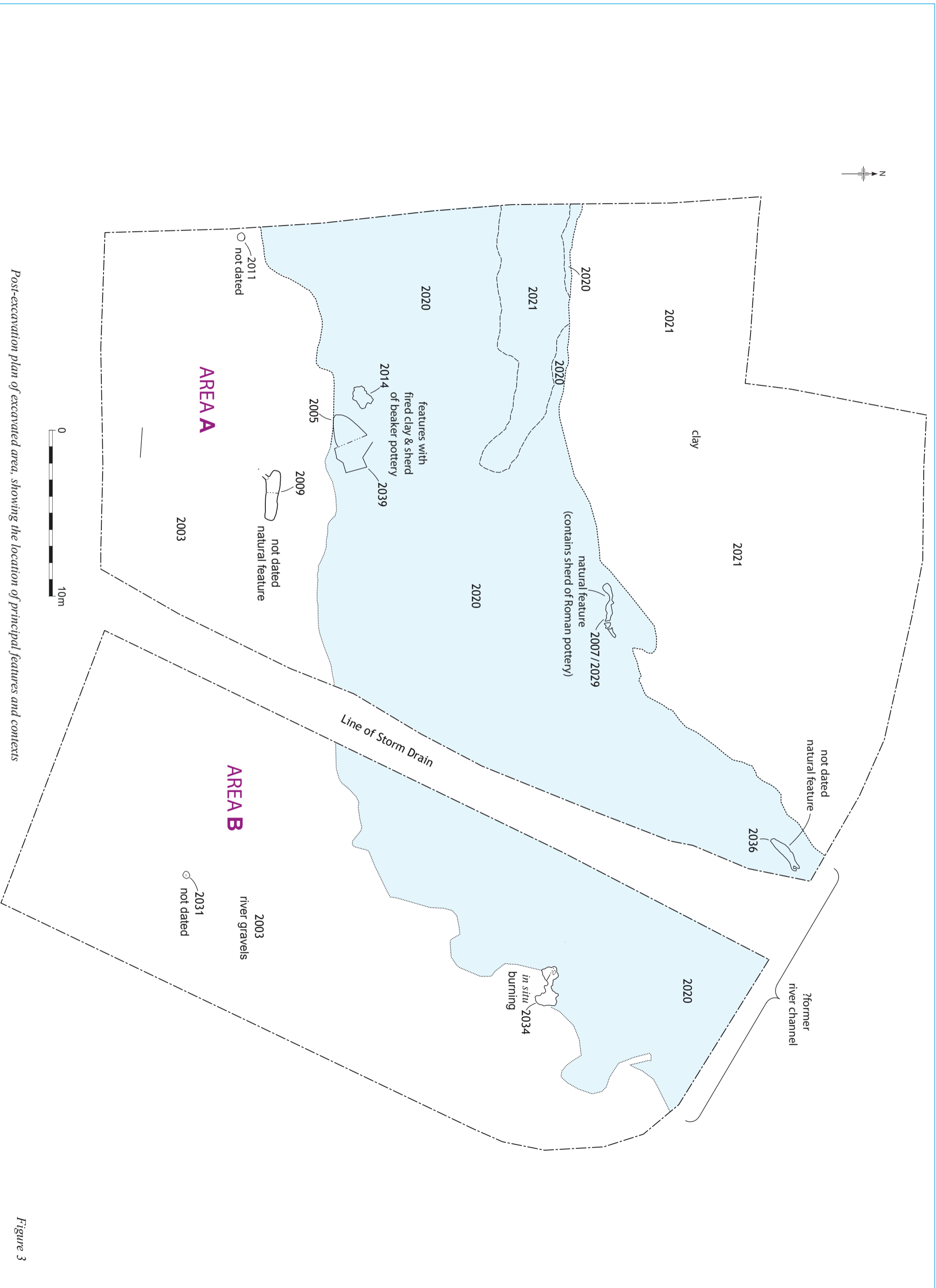
Figure 1





Trench location plan

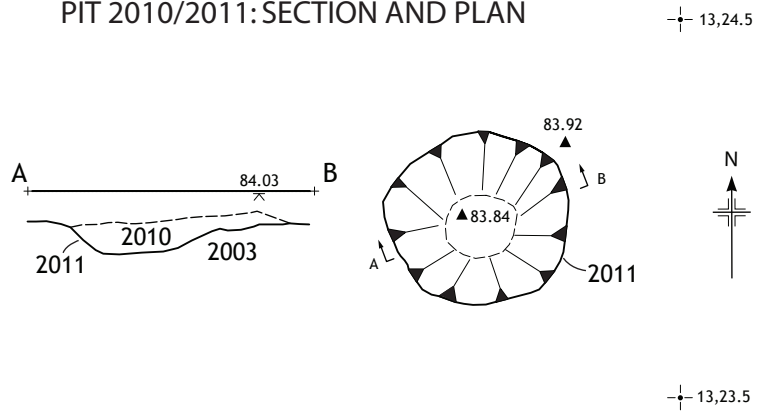
Figure 2



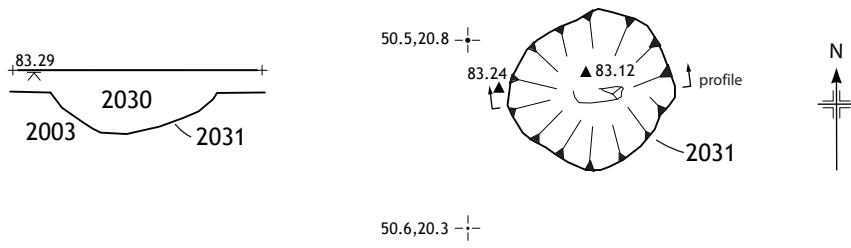
Post-excavation plan of excavated area, showing the location of principal features and contexts

Figure 3

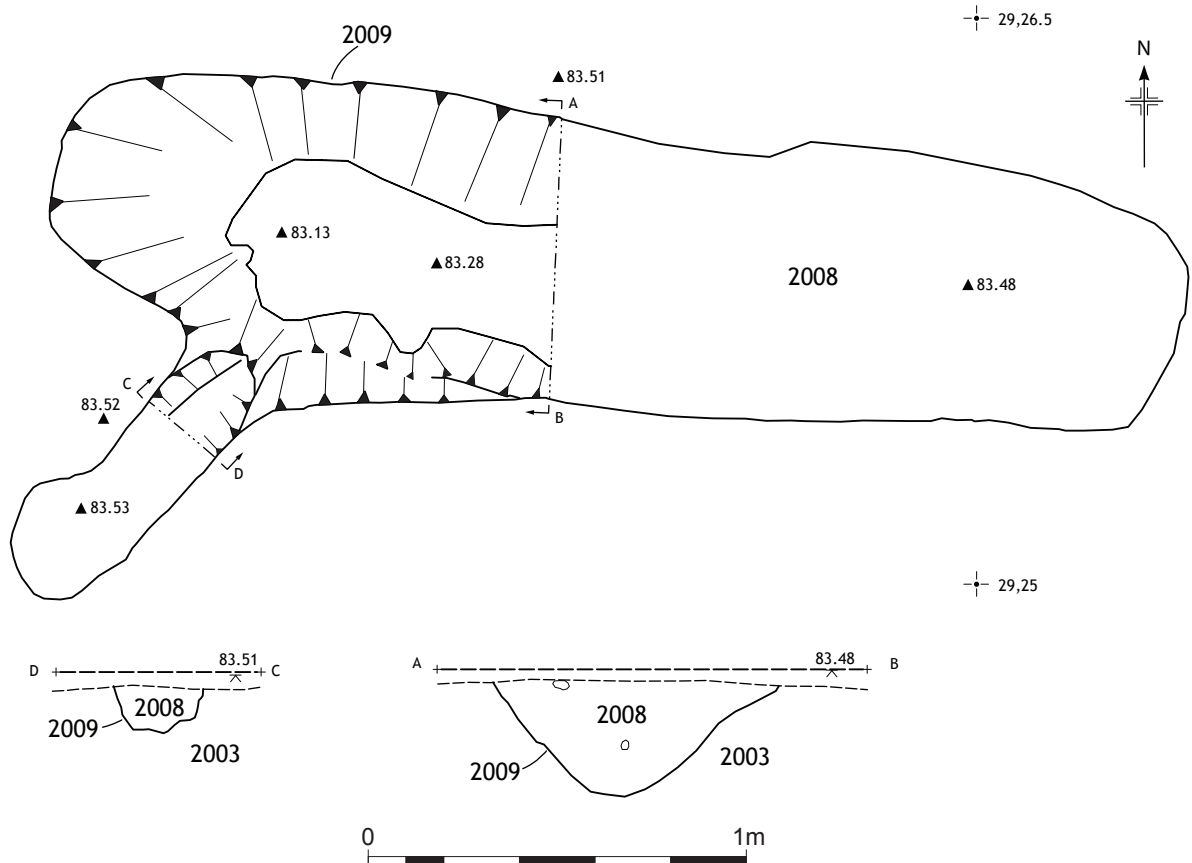
PIT 2010/2011: SECTION AND PLAN



PIT 2030/2031: PROFILE AND PLAN



PIT 2008/2009: PLAN AND SECTIONS

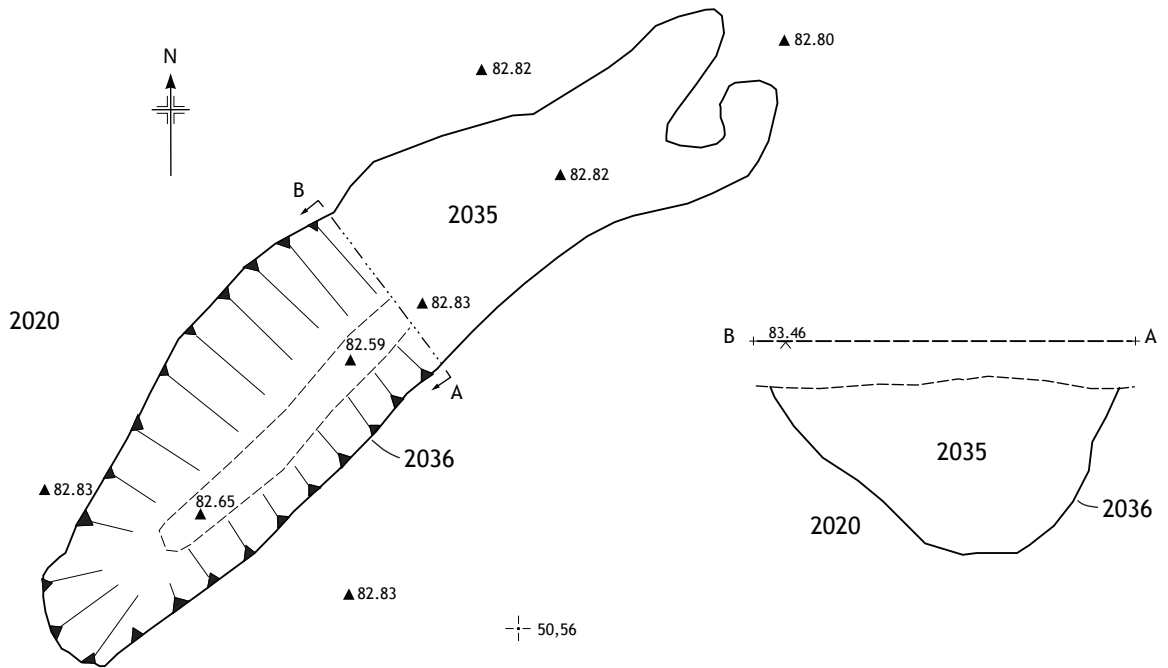


Pits 201/2011, 2030/2031 and 2008/2009: plans and sections

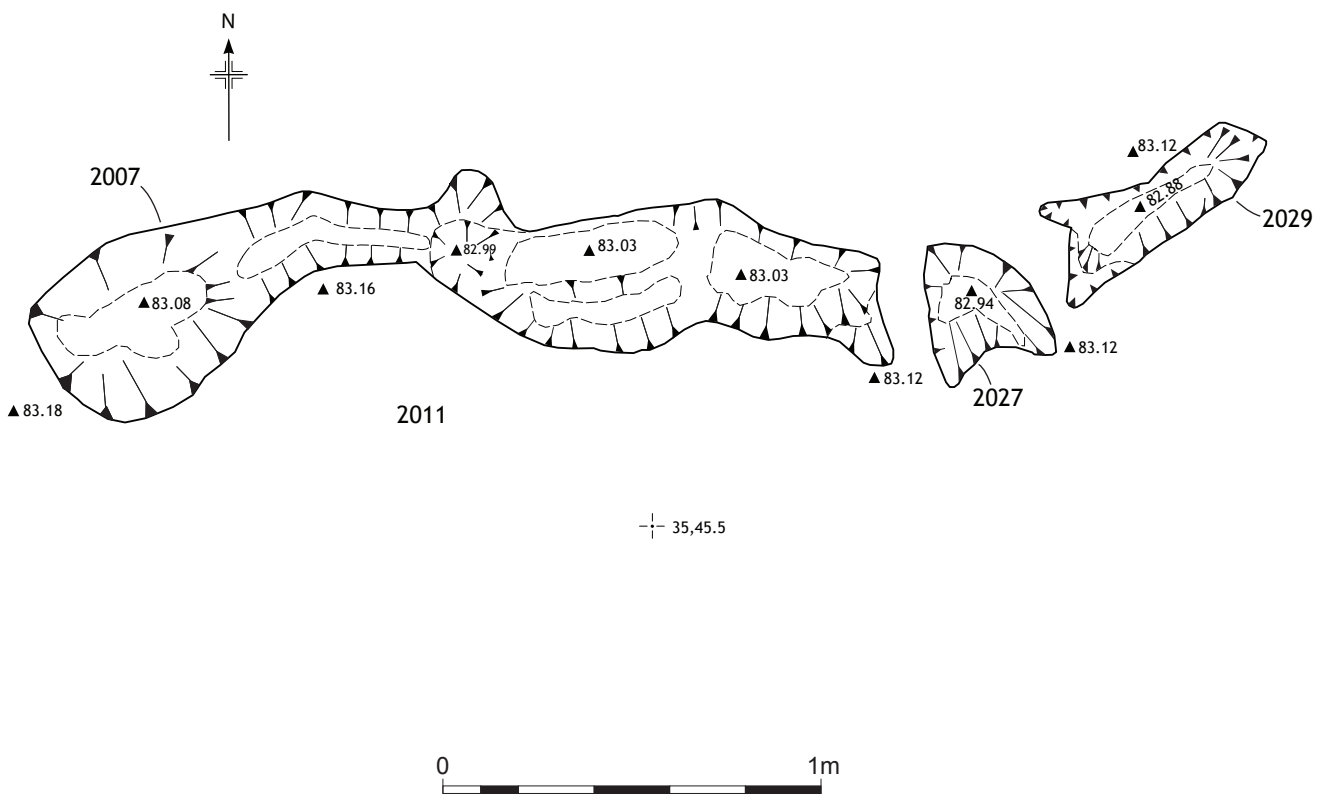
Figure 4

# PIT 2035/2036: PLAN AND SECTIONS

50,58



# PLAN OF FEATURES 2007, 2022 AND 2029



Pits 2035/2036: plans and sections; plan of features 2007, 2022 and 2029

Figure 5



## Plates



Plate 1. Pit 2010/2011 looking north



Plate 2. Pit 2008/2009 looking east



Plate 3. Cuts 2007, 2027 and 2029 looking east



Plate 4. Box section around cut 2039 looking west



Plate 5 Cut 2005 post-excitation, looking north-west



Plate 6. 2035/2036 mid excavation, looking north-east





Plate 7. Layer 2014, mid excavation, looking south



Plate 7. Layer 2034, mid excavation, looking north-east



Plate 8. Line of alluvial clay 2020 marking line of palaeochannel, looking east



Plate 9. Work in progress, the site from the south east.

## Appendix 1 Context Descriptions

Context	Classification	Description
2000		
2001	Layer	Topsoil: Firm, mid-light brown silty clay with frequent sub rounded stones up to 0.15m in length, occasional charcoal flecks and rare manganese flecks. One sherd 18 <sup>th</sup> Century pottery.
2002	Layer	Subsoil: Firm, light brown clay with frequent small (<0.07m) stones with occasional charcoal flecks and occasional manganese flecks.
2003	Layer	Natural gravels: Loose pale pink sandy clay with frequent sub-angular stones up to 0.25m in length, degraded sandstone patches and some manganese flecks .
2004	Secondary fill of 2005	Compact and cohesive, light purplish brown silty clay with abundant yellow mottling and abundant flecks or medium sized lumps of charcoal, occasional manganese flecks and moderate small-large angular stones.
2005	Cut	Irregular oval pit 1.87m long, 1.7m wide and a maximum of 0.17m deep. Sharp break of slope to south, gentler break of slope to west and north, steeply sloping sides to south, gently sloping to west and north. A gentle break of slope to base which is generally flat but undulating in places. Truncated to east by box section excavated during evaluation.
2006	Fill of 2007	Compact to loose dark greyish black silty clay with frequent charcoal flecking and inclusions of small to medium sized (<5mm - <10mm) angular to sub-angular stones and occasional rootlets.
2007	Cut	Probable animal burrow. Long, winding and irregular. Steep to moderate sloping sides, concave base, rounded and flat.
2008	Fill of 2009	Compact mid grey brown clay silt with frequent charcoal flecks of small to medium size (<5mm - >10mm), Frequent angular and sub-angular stones. Some manganese flecking and occasional rootlets.
2009	Cut	Elongated oval cut 3m long and 0.75 to 0.3m wide with a offshoot to the south. Steep to moderate sloping sides with an irregular base. Cut not fully excavated.
2010	Fill of 2011	Compact, dark brown/greyish sandy clay with frequent charcoal flecks and frequent (<15mm) angular stones of fine grained sedimentary nature.
2011	Cut	Shallow circular cut, gentle break of slope both at top and base. Slightly steeper sides to north-west and south-east.
2014	Layer	Compact black to dark grey clay with orange mottles. Occasional rootlets and stones (subangular to angular, small to medium sized). One fragment of possible long bone recovered from the northern half of the feature, highly degraded.
2018	Layer	Black to dark grey burnt layer with moderately compact light brown clay, Occasional rootlets and frequent small angular stones. Extends beneath the alluvium implying <i>in-situ</i> burning.

Context	Classification	Description
2014	Layer	Burnt layer, dark
2018		
2020	Layer	Fine, compact yellowish/buff clay with frequent manganese flecking, occasional charcoal and patches of iron-rich sand. An alluvial deposit derived from the small stream which runs to the north of the site.
2021	Layer	Loose, light purple-grey sandy clay, quite coarse gritty sand. Frequent to large angular and sub-angular stones, concentrated in patches. Some yellow mottling. Present in deepest part of palaeo-channel.
2022	Fill of 2023	Moderately compact and cohesive dark black charcoal in a mid grey silty loam. Rare angular stones.
2023	Cut	Small rectangular with a sharp break of slope at top, almost vertical sides and sharp break to base. Base irregular, where stones protrude from natural.
2024	Primary fill of 2005	Compact and cohesive light blue grey silty clay with abundant yellow mottles, abundant small-medium charcoal lumps and occasional charcoal flecks.
2025	Fill of 2038	Compact and cohesive mid brownish grey silty clay with abundant charcoal flecks, moderate small-large angular stones and occasional yellow mottling. Truncated to SW by evaluation trench.
2026	Fill of 2027	Compact dark greenish-black silty clay with frequent charcoal flecks, occasional small angular stones and occasional rootlets.
2027	Cut	Tree bole: Irregular in shape with steep sloping sides and pointed base.
2028	Fill of 2029	Dark greenish-black silty clay (same as 2026)
2029	Cut	Tree bole: Very irregular in shape, slightly pointed to south-west. Steep sides with pointed and flat base.
2030	Fill of 2031	Compact dark grey silty clay with frequent charcoal and small angular stones.
2031	Cut	Small sub-circular pit 0.14m deep. Reasonably sharp break of slope at top, 45° sides and gentle break of slope at base. Base bowl shaped. One large stone set into base.
2032	Fill of 2032	Compact to moderately compact black to dark grey burnt clay.
2033	Cut	Irregular shaped cut. Sides moderate in places but mostly steep or near vertical. Uneven base.
2034	Layer	Compact to friable mottled orange and black burnt clay and charcoal deposit. Occasional rootlets and frequent charcoal flecks and chunks between 1 and 2cm. Some angular and sub-angular stones mixed with deposit.
2035	Fill of 2036	Light grey compact clay with occasional charcoal flecks, small, angular stones and frequent manganese flecking.
2036	Cut	Long oval cut 2.25m long, 0.24m deep and 0.48m wide. Sharp break of slope at top, except to south-western end. Reasonably steep sides, and gentle break to bowl shaped

Context	Classification	Description
		base. Probable tree bole.
2037	Fill of 2039	Compact and cohesive mid brownish-grey silty clay with abundant charcoal flecks and medium sized lumps, moderate small-large angular stones and occasional lenses of red-orange clay.
2038	Cut	Cut of tree bole; Irregular root shape in plan. Break of slope gentle to south-east and steeper to north-west. Sides irregular, steeply sloping to north-west and south east. Rounded break to irregular base which slopes to north-east.
2039	Cut	Irregular cut. Break for slope variable, sides a mixture of gentle and steep, break to base variable. Base uneven and sloping to north.
2043	Layer	Compact, sticky red clay with occasional white and grey mottles, moderate small angular stones. Situated within the palaeochannel.
2044	Layer	Compact, plastic light grey clay with occasional small rootlets and very small sub-angular stones. Occurs as a lens of clay within the deepest part of the palaeochannel.
2045	Layer	Fire reddened redeposited clay similar to 2020