

ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION
AT
BARON'S CROSS CAMP,
LEOMINSTER,
HEREFORDSHIRE

Tom Vaughan, James Goad, Darren Miller, and Angus Crawford

Illustrated by Carolyn Hunt
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Archaeological Evaluation at Baron's Cross Camp, Leominster, Herefordshire

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Part 1 Project summary

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken of land at Baron's Cross Camp, Leominster, Herefordshire (NGR: SO 4755 5860; HSM 38491). The evaluation was commissioned by Bryant Homes Ltd, who intend to submit a planning application for a residential development on the site. The evaluation aimed to establish whether or not any significant archaeological remains were present, and if any were, to determine their nature, date and significance.

The evaluation was informed by an existing desk-based assessment of the archaeological potential of the site. This assessment showed that the site was enclosed farmland from the mid 19th century until the Second World War, when a military hospital consisting of ranges of brick and concrete buildings was built. Many of the buildings are still standing, and may be the subject of a future archaeological project. The earlier history of the site was obscure, but finds from the surrounding area indicated that it may have been farmed or otherwise used in the prehistoric and Roman periods, and was almost certainly farmed from surrounding medieval hamlets and farmsteads. It was concluded that remains of these periods might be present on the site, although the possibility of truncation due to 19th and 20th century agriculture and the construction of the hospital was noted.

The evaluation comprised the excavation and recording of 27 trenches, which were located in order to investigate every part of the site that was open and accessible. Modern topsoils, former ploughsoils and natural subsoils were identified in all 27 trenches, showing that the site had not been extensively truncated during the construction of the hospital. However, surfaces and/or services associated with the hospital or with later re-use of the buildings were found in 17 trenches, and a significant amount of reworking of earlier deposits by 19th and early 20th century agriculture was attested by land-drains in 7 trenches and by ploughscars in 5 trenches.

In terms of pre-modern archaeological remains, traces of medieval or later plough furrows were identified in 13 trenches, suggesting that all or most of the area had been farmed in common, though specific field and furlong patterns could not be identified. Five narrow linear features were also found, and although no pottery was associated with them, two can be correlated with field boundaries mapped in 1850, and three others are likely to represent an earlier phase of enclosure. In addition, one pit near the centre of the site appears to represent some form of pre-modern activity, though neither the form of the pit nor the character of its fill were especially diagnostic.

A small assemblage of medieval and post-medieval pottery was recovered from topsoil and ploughsoil deposits. This material is almost certainly the result of manuring with midden material including domestic refuse, and so complements the evidence for medieval and later agriculture. A larger assemblage of modern artefacts was also recovered, including pottery, building materials and metalwork, and this can be associated for the most part with the military hospital. Finally, ten fragments of Roman brick and one sherd of Roman glass were recovered, again from later deposits, indicating a Roman presence on the site, but the wide distribution of these artefacts, and the lack of other contemporary artefacts and features argues against the site being a focus of activity in this period.

In conclusion, the evaluation suggests that the area is of no more than local archaeological significance, in terms of buried remains.

Part 2 Detailed report

Background

1.1 Reasons for the project

The evaluation was commissioned by Bryant Homes Ltd, who intend to redevelop the site for residential use, and were advised by Herefordshire Council to address the archaeological implications of their proposal before submitting a planning application.

1.2 Project parameters

The project conforms to model briefs prepared by Herefordshire Council, for which a project proposal (including detailed specification) was produced (HEAS 2004). The project also conforms to the *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IFA 1999).

1.3 Aims

The aims of the evaluation were to establish whether or not any significant archaeological remains were present on the site, and if any were, to determine their nature, date and significance. This information was required to inform future decisions regarding the proposed redevelopment of the site and any archaeological mitigation that this might require.

Methods

1.4 Desk-based research

A desk-based assessment of the archaeological potential of the site was undertaken by CPM (2002). The assessment was based on information contained in the Herefordshire County Sites and Monuments Record, the National Monuments Record, and Hereford and Leominster Local Studies Libraries. The comprehensive nature of the assessment meant that further desk-based research was not required as part of the present evaluation, although some records held by the Service were consulted.

1.5 Fieldwork

1.5.1 Fieldwork strategy

A detailed specification was prepared by the Service (HEAS 2004). In summary, it envisaged the excavation and recording of 27 sample trenches each 50m long by 1.8m wide, spread throughout the area of the former military hospital, giving an overall sample of just over 2% of the development site area (2430m² of a total area of 119200m²). The trenches were intended to test the degree of truncation caused by construction of the hospital, as well as for the presence of archaeological remains.

Fieldwork was undertaken between 19th July and 6th August 2004. The 27 trenches were excavated in or very close to their intended locations (allowing for slight shifts to avoid visible services and other impediments), and the anticipated size of sample was achieved (2497m², representing a sample of *c* 2.1%). The location of the trenches is shown in Figure 1.

Deposits considered not to be significant were removed under archaeological supervision, by a 360° tracked excavator fitted with a toothless bucket. Subsequent excavation was undertaken by hand. Surfaces were cleaned and selected deposits were excavated to determine their nature and recover artefactual material. Drawn, written and photographic records were made

according to standard Service practice (CAS 1995 as amended). After recording, the trenches were reinstated by replacing the excavated material.

1.5.2 **Stratigraphic analysis**

Stratigraphic analysis involved defining deposits on the basis of a range of properties, inferring their mode of deposition and the extent of post-depositional change, and establishing their relative sequence. This information provided the framework for the artefactual analysis.

1.6 **Artefacts**

1.6.1 **Artefact recovery policy**

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

1.6.2 **Method of analysis**

All hand retrieved finds were examined. A primary record was made of all finds on a Microsoft Access 2000 database. Artefacts were identified, quantified, dated and a *terminus post quem* produced for each stratified context where applicable.

Pottery 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).

1.7 **Plant and animal remains**

1.7.1 **Sampling policy**

The sampling strategy for plant and animal remains conformed to standard Service practice (CAS 1995; appendix 4). In the event, no deposits were revealed which were determined to be suitable for sampling.

1.8 **The methods in retrospect**

In general terms, the fieldwork methods are considered to have been appropriate to the aims of the project, and to the circumstances of the site. The number and location of trenches were sufficient to characterise deposits in all open and accessible parts of the site, where the potential for surviving remains was highest. The level of post-fieldwork analysis was in keeping with the nature of the stratigraphic record and artefact assemblage. Taken together, the methods are considered to have provided enough information to allow informed interpretations of past activity and land-use to be made. On the basis of this assessment, therefore, a high degree of confidence can be attached to the conclusions of the project

Stratigraphy

1.9 **Natural deposits**

Natural deposits were encountered in all trenches. As anticipated by geological mapping, the natural deposits consisted of reddish till in the form of pinkish red clay with patches of small cobbles.

1.10 **Undated feature**

An undated, though certainly pre-modern feature was partially exposed in Trench 9 near the centre of the site (Fig 2 and Plate 1; context 903). The feature appeared to represent one half of a sub-oval pit with concave sides and a rounded base, and though it may represent the end of a ditch, its morphology and dimensions are different to the probable ditches described below (it was 1.0m wide and 0.31m deep), and its fill was more obviously anthropogenic, containing charcoal fragments and flecks. If the feature was a pit, however, it is uncertain what it represents. It is unlikely to have been a storage pit, as the fill did not suggest the residue of any particular material or the lining that would have been necessary to keep it dry and sound. It is also smaller and apparently more regular in plan than most clay extraction pits. Moreover, there was no indication in adjacent trenches for settlement or other activity that might provide a context for either storage pits or clay extraction. In short, the feature cannot be interpreted from existing information, and it can only be said to represent some kind of pre-modern activity near the centre of the site.

1.11 **Medieval or later features and deposits**

Traces of medieval or later ridge and furrow ploughing were identified in 13 trenches covering practically all parts of the site (Trenches 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17, 22 and 23). Only the deepest parts of the furrows survived beneath the former ploughsoil, and these were generally shallow, testifying to the degree of truncation caused by later ploughing (typical examples shown by Plates 5 and 6). The orientation of the ridge and furrow varied, suggesting a number of blocks or furlongs of strips within a larger open field, but there was a general north-west to south-east trend. No artefacts were recovered from the fills of the furrows, but they were probably contemporary with the few medieval and post-medieval sherds recovered from later contexts (see section 4 below).

1.12 **Post-medieval deposits and features**

Five undated, but probably post-medieval features were found stratified beneath the former ploughsoil (Fig. 2, contexts 1103, 1403, 1903, 2303, and 2603; Plate 4 fairly represents the character of these features). All of these features were linear, parallel-sided cuts with concave sides and rounded bases, except for context 1903, which had a flat base. They varied in width from 0.50 to 0.64m and in depth from 0.12 to 0.20m, although a degree of horizontal truncation by ploughing must be allowed for, and they would originally have been more substantial. For this reason, and because of their relatively clear definition, they are best interpreted as field ditches rather than plough furrows. This interpretation is supported by the fact that two of the features (contexts 1103 and 1403) correlate exactly with field boundaries mapped in 1850, and again in 1904 (Fig 4). However, the three other features (contexts 1903, 2303, and 2603) do not correlate with mapped field boundaries, and must relate to earlier arrangements, though not to the field system represented by the traces of ridge and furrow earthworks.

1.13 **Modern deposits and features**

Modern deposits and features consisted of 19th or early 20th century land-drains (Trenches 16, 19, and 21-25) and ploughscars (Trenches 8, 12, 14, 18, and 26), and 1940s or later hardcore and tarmac surfaces (Trenches 3-6, 9, 12, 13, 15-17, 19, and 20), and service trenches (Trenches 4-6, 10-14, 17, 20, and 27). There was also one dumped deposit of bricks and burnt materials (Trench 18).

Artefacts

1.14 Analysis

A summary of the artefacts recovered can be seen in Table 1. The assemblage recovered from the evaluation came from 27 trenches. The assemblage ranged in date from the Roman to the modern period. The recovered pottery assemblage consisted of 36 sherds from topsoil and subsoils deposits identified by context numbers.

The pottery was identified and grouped by fabric and context (see Table 2). The majority of the sherds were undiagnostic but could be dated between the 13th and 20th century by fabric type. The majority of finds consisted of ceramic building material for 43% of the assemblage and dated to the mid 1st to 20th century. Other finds included various iron artefacts (a horse shoe, hand made nails, slag and a knife), Roman as well as modern glass, animal bone and a clay pipe stem.

1.15 Results

1.15.1 Roman

No Roman pottery was present within the assemblage, however ten small fragments of brick (contexts 501, 700, 901 and 1400), of fine fabric can be attributed to this period. Their small fragmentary nature means that they can only be broadly dated to between the mid 1st to 4th centuries.

A single shard of pale blue green glass from context 1801 is also of Roman date but due to its small size it can only be loosely placed within the broad date of Roman occupation (mid 1st to 4th century).

1.15.2 Medieval

The medieval finds consisted of a single sherd of pottery (context 1205) and a fragment of roof ridge tile (fabric 800). The pottery was identified as a body sherd of Herefordshire glazed fine micaceous ware (fabric 66). While a form could not be attribute due to size, its thickness indicates that it may have originated from a jug.

While the ridge tile fragment is Malvernian type 3 it is in worn and abraded condition, which only allows for a dating of between the 13th to 16th centuries.

1.15.3 Post-medieval

The post-medieval ceramic assemblage consisted of sixteen pottery sherds and ceramic building material in the form of brick and flat roof tile fragments.

The most dominant pottery fabric (12 sherds) was red sandy ware (fabric 78) recovered from contexts 800,1300, 1801, 2101 and 2300 dating to the 16th –18th century. Other fabrics included Westerwald stoneware (context 501, fabric 81.2), a sherd of creamware (context 1300, fabric 84), dating from 1760-80 and a base sherd of Lingen Deerfold ware (context 401, fabric 150) of unidentifiable form but dating to the 16th century.

The ceramic building material did not produce any distinct fabric types. The brick (contexts 100, 301, 2100) and flat roof tile (contexts 100, 201, 1801) therefore can only be generally dated to the general production period of 16th to 18th century.

1.15.4 **Modern**

The modern finds consisted of nine glass bottles and bottle fragments, eighteen ceramic sherds, ceramic building material and a corroded steel knife. The glass bottles (contexts 1100, 1300, 1400, 1801 and 2300) were in good condition and easily placed within the middle of the 20th century. Forms were also readily identifiable with beer bottles (contexts 1100 and 1600), a milk bottle (context 1100), a condiments bottle (context 1100) and a brylcreem jar (context 1400) amongst the finds.

The pottery consisted of sixteen sherds of modern stone china (contexts 100, 201, 1801, fabric 85), a sherd of miscellaneous stoneware (context 100, fabric 81) and two sherds of porcelain (contexts 201 and 2101). Again no forms were identifiable but their morphology was suggestive of general domestic wares

Box tile fragments (contexts 100 and 201), and a fragment of roof tile (context 700) could also be easily dated to the 1940's, as the same material is still evident in the wartime hospital buildings on site.

A corroded steel dinner knife (context 201) was also attributed to the sites military usage. This is due to a serial number stamped on one side of its handle making it a military issue item (two '9's still visible).

1.16 **Discussion**

The small number of finds, combined with the lack of archaeological features revealed during the evaluation, suggests that the artefact assemblage was the result of manuring with midden material incorporating domestic refuse, and occasional instances of loss and discard, rather than of significant cultural activity on the site. The modern finds however may reflect the use of the site during the Second World War. The serial number present on the knife (context 201) indicates that it was of military issue. While the modern finds may represent daily domestic life at the military hospital it is difficult to attribute meaning without a secure archaeological context. With this in mind the modern material could also be the result of pre-war and early post-war loss and discard.

Material	Type	Total	Weight (g)
Bone	Animal	3	599
Brick	Box	7	602
Brick	Post-medieval	10	117
Brick	Roman	10	191
Brick	Unidentified	5	7
Ceramic	?brick	4	108
Glass	Roman	1	2
Glass	Vessel	11	2623
Iron	Nail	1	6
Iron	Horse shoe	1	235
Iron	Slag	1	140
Iron	Unidentified fragment	1	3
Pipe	stem	2	6
Pottery	Medieval	1	4
Pottery	Modern	19	187
Pottery	Post medieval	16	162
Steel	knife	1	57
Tile	Medieval	1	15
Tile	Roof	11	250

Table 1: Quantification of the assemblage.

Fabric Type	Context	Fabric No	Total	Weight (g)
Miscellaneous Stonewares	100	81	2	22
Modern stone china	100	85	1	1
Porcelain	201	83	1	1
Modern stone china	201	85	13	158
Lingen Deerford ware	401	150	2	29
Westerwald stoneware	501	81.2	1	19
Red sandy ware	800	78	6	34
Herefordshire glazed fine micaceous ware	1205	66	1	4
Red sandy ware	1300	78	1	2
Creamware	1300	84	1	4
Red sandy ware	1801	78	3	47
Modern stone china	1801	85	1	1
Red sandy ware	2101	78	1	19
Porcelain	2101	83	1	4
Red sandy ware	2300	78	1	8

Table 2: *Quantification of assemblage fabrics by context.*

Conclusions

The conclusions that can be drawn from the results described above are naturally limited by the small size of the sample, and the degree of uncertainty surrounding the date and function of certain features. Nevertheless, it can be said that all open and accessible areas of the site were sampled, and that buried remains are likely to survive less well beneath standing buildings. Moreover, the stratigraphy and artefacts appear to be consistent in what they represent.

In the first place, it is reasonably certain that the site was not intensively exploited or settled in prehistory. The few features are most unlikely to be prehistoric, and no artefacts attributable to this period were found. Admittedly, prehistoric pottery cannot be expected to survive very long in continuously cultivated soils, but the lack of durable flint artefacts can be taken to indicate a lack of intensive exploitation and settlement. It may be that the surrounding area was more often used by prehistoric communities, as indicated by the find-spots of flint artefacts recovered by extensive fieldwalking (CPM 2002, 9), but it is hazardous to draw conclusions from such limited evidence, and the distribution of prehistoric activity in the locality must remain an unknown quantity.

Secondly, it is unlikely that the site was a focus of Roman activity. The fragments of brick might conceivably be seen in terms of Romanised buildings, and to find glass rather than pottery of the period is uncommon, but the finds were widely distributed (11 finds over 7.5 hectares), and most probably represent manuring with midden material accumulated in farmsteads lying outside the area. The Roman pottery found outside the area probably also represents manuring (CPM 2002, 9), as most of it was recovered by extensive fieldwalking, which can usually normally be relied upon to distinguish between manuring and settlement debris.

Thirdly, there is no evidence to suggest that the site was settled and farmed in the post-Roman, Anglo-Saxon or early post-Conquest periods. This is not to say that there was no human presence in the area during these periods, as it almost certainly formed part of the endowment of Leominster Abbey in the 7th century, and a degree of continuity between the founders' estate and post-Roman institutions can be assumed, even if it is difficult to trace in detail (Hillaby 1987, 662-3). However, it is likely that pre-Conquest settlement in the area was focused on Cholstrey, and that cultivation was practiced in ways that hardly register in the archaeological record.

Fourthly, the evidence of ridge and furrow ploughing, and medieval and post-medieval manuring scatters suggests that the site formed part of an open-field system between the 13th and 18th centuries. No field or furlong patterns can be identified, but this is only to be expected in view of the small size of the excavated sample and the likelihood that cropping patterns changed significantly over this period.

Fifthly, the field ditches and the 1850 Tithe map suggests 18th or early 19th century enclosure, while the evidence for deep-ploughing, under-drainage and continued manuring suggests that cultivation continued within this new framework, probably right up to the construction of the military hospital.

Finally, it is likely that the latest stratigraphic and artefactual evidence can be related for the most part to the wartime use of the military hospital. At all events, most of the stratigraphic evidence is for construction, while the artefacts include items of military make or issue. Also, the later use of the site is unlikely to have left a significant material trace (CPM 2002, 11).

Research frameworks

The results of the evaluation contribute very little to current research frameworks. In the context of lowland Herefordshire, the lack of evidence for prehistoric, post-Roman, Anglo-Saxon and early post-Conquest activity is neither surprising nor illuminating, while the evidence for Roman, medieval and later agriculture merely confirms established patterns of land-use in these periods.

In a more local context, the evidence complements that already available from recent small-scale projects such as that at Buckfield Farm immediately to the north-east of Baron's Cross Camp (Hurst and Fagan 1994), and an earlier large-scale project covering the whole of Leominster parish, undertaken in 1983. From the archive held (temporarily) at the Service, it is evident that the latter project involved systematic walkover survey, extensive fieldwalking, and a fair amount of historical and cartographic research. If the evidence from these projects, including the present one, could be adequately synthesised, this would represent a major contribution to local (and regional) landscape history. Few detailed studies of this kind have been undertaken in lowland Herefordshire, and changing patterns of rural settlement and land-use are poorly understood as a result (Hoverd, paper given at West Midlands Regional Research Framework for Archaeology, Seminar 5, Warwick, 24th February 2003; posted at www.arch-ant.bham.ac.uk/wmrrfa/sem5.htm; and viewed 24th August 2004). However, it is difficult to see the circumstances in which such a work of synthesis could be undertaken.

Significance

The conclusions reached above and the wider research context allow the archaeological significance of the area to be assessed in the following terms.

First, the evidence for Roman, medieval, post-medieval and later agriculture is of no more than local significance. The pre-modern plough furrows and field ditches are typical in character, and not well-preserved, due in part to later ploughing, but also to the construction of the military hospital. Similarly, the artefacts incorporated into the ploughsoil are typical for the most part, and although the ploughsoil is relatively well-preserved (in open areas of the site, at least), and more material could be recovered by further trenching or excavation, its interpretative potential would be limited.

Secondly, the evidence for the construction and use of the military hospital is also locally, rather than regionally significant. The deposits and features are unexceptional, and while the artefacts include some interesting items, indicating something of the life of the military hospital, they are not especially informative.

Publication summary

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

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken of land to the west of Baron's Cross Camp, Leominster, Herefordshire (NGR: SO 4755 5860; HSM 38491). The evaluation was commissioned by Bryant Homes Ltd, who intend to submit a planning application for a residential development on the site. The evaluation aimed to establish whether or not any significant archaeological remains were present, and if any were, to determine their nature, date and significance.

The evaluation was informed by an existing desk-based assessment of the archaeological potential of the site. This assessment showed that the site was enclosed farmland from the mid 19th century until the Second World War, when a military hospital consisting of ranges of brick and concrete buildings was built. Many of the buildings are still standing, and may be the subject of a future archaeological project. The earlier history of the site was obscure, but finds from the surrounding area indicated that it may have been farmed or otherwise used in the prehistoric and Roman periods, and was almost certainly farmed from surrounding medieval hamlets and farmsteads. It was concluded that remains of these periods might be present on the site, although the possibility of truncation due to 19th and 20th century agriculture and the construction of the hospital was noted.

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A small assemblage of medieval and post-medieval pottery was recovered from topsoil and ploughsoil deposits. This material is almost certainly the result of manuring with midden material including domestic refuse, and so complements the evidence for medieval and later agriculture. A larger assemblage of modern artefacts was also recovered, including pottery, building materials and metalwork, and this can be associated for the most part with the military hospital. Finally, ten fragments of Roman brick and one sherd of Roman glass were recovered, again from later deposits, indicating a Roman presence on the site, but the wide distribution of these artefacts, and the lack of other contemporary artefacts and features argues against the site being a focus of activity in this period.

In conclusion, the evaluation suggests that the area is of no more than local archaeological significance, in terms of buried remains.

The archive

The archive consists of:

- 8 Fieldwork progress records AS2
- 2 Photographic records AS3
- 1 Drawing number catalogue AS4
- 2 Context number catalogues AS9
- 1 Trench record sheet AS41
- 2 Scale drawings
- 1 Box of finds
- 1 Computer disk

The project archive is intended to be placed at the Hereford Heritage Service

Acknowledgements

The Service would like to thank Sally Randell (CPM), and Julian Cotton (Herefordshire Council) for their kind assistance.

Personnel

The fieldwork was led by Tom Vaughan. The report was begun by Tom Vaughn, carried on by James Goad, and completed by Darren Miller. The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Simon Griffin. Fieldwork was undertaken by Andrew Brown, Angus Crawford and Marc Steinmetzer, finds analysis by Angus Crawford and illustration by Carolyn Hunt.

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Appendix 1: Stratigraphic data

Trench 1

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50.80m Width: 1.84m Depth: 0.40-0.60m

Orientation: ENE/WSW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
100	Topsoil	Light pinkish fawn/yellow silt. Turfed and organic rich. 1% small rounded pebbles. Moderately compact but not cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 101 below.	0.00-0.16m
101	Subsoil	Light reddish yellow/fawn clayey silt. <5% small rounded pebbles. Compact and cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 100 above and 102 below.	0.16-0.36m
102	Natural	Mid pinkish red clay. Irregular patches of small-medium rounded pebbles and sandstone fragments. <1% manganese flecks. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 101 above. Cut by linear furrows.	0.36m+

Feature/context descriptions:

The surface of the natural clay was disturbed by traces of ridge and furrow, aligned approximately north-north-west by south-south-east.

No other archaeological features or horizons were identified.

Trench 2

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.88m Depth: 0.40-0.50m

Orientation: N/S

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
200	Topsoil	Light pinkish fawn/yellow silt. Turfed and organic rich. 1% small rounded pebbles. Moderately compact but not cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 201 below.	0.00-0.15m
201	Subsoil	Light reddish yellow/fawn clayey silt. <5% small rounded pebbles. Compact and cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 200 above and 202 below.	0.15-0.32m
202	Natural	Mid pinkish red clay. 5% small-medium rounded pebbles and sandstone fragments, c 1% manganese flecks. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 201 above.	0.32m+

Feature/context descriptions:

No furrows, archaeological features or horizons were identified.

Trench 3

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50.80m Width: 1.84m Depth: 0.25-0.75m

Orientation: ENE/WSW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
300	Topsoil	Light pinkish fawn/yellow silt. Turfed and organic rich. <1% small rounded pebbles. Moderately compact but not cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 301 below. To west end: compact hardcore of brick, gravel and tarmac fragments over 302.	0.00-0.18m
301	Subsoil	Light reddish yellow/fawn clayey silt. <5% small rounded pebbles. Compact and cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 300 above and 302 below.	0.18-0.38m
302	Natural	Mid pinkish red clay. 5% small-medium rounded pebbles and sandstone fragments, c 1% manganese flecks. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 301 above. Cut by linear furrow and service trench.	0.38m+

Feature/context descriptions:

In mid trench the surface of the natural clay was disturbed by a single furrow, aligned approximately north-south.

No other archaeological features or horizons were identified. A gravel filled service trench cut into the natural toward the west end of the trench, below a modern hardcore road surface.

Trench 4

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50.10m Width: 1.85m Depth: 0.34-0.70m

Orientation: NNE/SSW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
400	Topsoil	Light pinkish fawn/yellow silt. Turfed and organic rich. Moderately compact but not cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 401 below. To south end: compact hardcore of tile, gravel and tarmac fragments over 401.	0.00-0.20m
401	Subsoil	Light pinkish red silty clay. <1% small rounded pebbles. Compact and cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 400 above and 402 below.	0.20-0.42m
402	Natural	Mid pinkish red clay. <5% large rounded pebbles and sandstone fragments, c 1% manganese flecks. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 401 above. Cut by linear furrow.	0.42m+

Feature/context descriptions:

In the northern half of the trench the surface of the natural clay was disturbed by traces of ridge and furrow, aligned approximately east-north-east by west-south-west.

No other archaeological features or horizons were identified. A hardcore road surface was noted at the south end of the trench.

Trench 5

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50.75m Width: 1.85m Depth: 0.60-0.65m

Orientation: NE/SW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
500	Topsoil	Light pinkish fawn/yellow silt. Turfed and organic rich. <1% small rounded pebbles. Moderately compact but not cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 501 below.	0.00-0.30m
501	Subsoil	Light reddish yellow/fawn clayey silt. <1% small rounded pebbles. Compact and cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 500 above and 502 below.	0.30-0.60m
502	Natural	Mid pinkish red clay. <5% large rounded pebbles and sandstone fragments, c 1% manganese flecks. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 501 above. Cut by linear furrow.	0.60m+

Feature/context descriptions:

A single trace of ridge and furrow was noted toward mid trench cut into the surface of the natural clay, aligned approximately east-west.

No other archaeological features or horizons were identified. A modern service trench was noted toward the southwest end of the trench.

Trench 6

Maximum dimensions: Length: 49.50m Width: 1.85m Depth: 0.47-0.70m

Orientation: N/S

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
600	Topsoil	Light pinkish fawn/yellow silt. Turfed and organic rich. <1% small rounded pebbles. Moderately compact but not cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 301 below. To west end: compact hardcore of brick, gravel and tarmac fragments over 302.	0.00-0.30m
601	Subsoil	Light reddish yellow/fawn clayey silt. <5% small rounded pebbles. Compact and cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 600 above and 602 below.	0.30-0.70m
602	Natural	Mid pink clay. Patches of light grey and purple-grey sandstone fragments. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 601 above. Cut by a service trench.	0.70m+

Feature/context descriptions:

No archaeological features or horizons were identified. A modern service trench was noted toward mid trench.

Trench 7

Maximum dimensions: Length: 54.70m Width: 1.85m Depth: 0.54-0.77m

Orientation: NE/SW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
700	Topsoil	Light pinkish fawn/yellow silt. Turfed and organic rich. <1% small rounded pebbles. Moderately compact but not cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 701 below.	0.00-0.26m
701	Subsoil	Light pinkish red silty clay. <1% small rounded pebbles. Compact and cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 700 above and 502 below.	0.26-0.43m
702	Natural	Mid pinkish red clay. <5% large rounded pebbles and sandstone fragments, c 1% manganese flecks. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 701 above. Cut by linear furrow.	0.43m+

Feature/context descriptions:

Traces of ridge and furrow were noted toward the north end of the trench cut into the surface of the natural clay, aligned approximately north-west by south-east.

No other archaeological features or horizons were identified.

Trench 8

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50.80m Width: 1.85m Depth: 0.50-0.62m

Orientation: E/W

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
800	Topsoil	Light pinkish fawn/yellow silt. Turfed and organic rich. <1% small rounded pebbles. Moderately compact but not cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 801 below.	0.00-0.20m
801	Subsoil	Light reddish yellow/fawn clayey silt. <5% small rounded pebbles. Compact and cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 800 above and 802 below.	0.20-0.50m
802	Natural	Mid pinkish red clay. c 1% grey sandstone fragments. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 801 above.	0.50m+

Feature/context descriptions:

Plough scars were noted to cut into the surface of the natural clay toward the western end of the trench, aligned north-east by south-west.

No archaeological features or horizons were identified.

Trench 9

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50.20m Width: 1.84m Depth: 0.56-0.90m

Orientation: ENE/WSW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
900	Topsoil	Light pinkish fawn/yellow silt. Turfed and organic rich. 1% small rounded pebbles. Moderately compact but not cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 902 below.	0.00-0.32m
901	Hardcore	Red brick, concrete and grey gravel fragments. Overlies 902 in mid and eastern half of trench.	0.11-0.46m
902	Subsoil	Light reddish yellow/fawn clayey silt. <5% small rounded pebbles. Compact and cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 900 above and 905 below.	0.26-0.76m
903	Cut	Irregular ?sub-oval. Continues into south section. Moderate break of slope. Concave sides at 45° to horizontal, curving to shallow concave base. Cut through 905. Sealed by 902.	0.46-0.77m
904	Fill	Mid brown silty clay. <5% charcoal flecks and fragments. Compact and cohesive. Single fill of 903.	0.46-0.77m
905	Natural	Mid pinkish red clay. Irregular patches of small-medium rounded pebbles and sandstone fragments. <1% manganese flecks. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 901 above. Cut by linear furrows	0.40m+

Feature/context descriptions:

A single possible pit or ditch terminus, 903, was noted in mid trench. It continued into the southern baulk of the trench. No finds were recovered from the single fill.

The natural clay was cut by truncated traces of ridge and furrow aligned approximately north-west by south-east within the east end of the trench.

No other archaeological features or horizons were identified.

Trench 10

Maximum dimensions: Length: 49.85m Width: 1.85m Depth: 0.29-0.40m

Orientation: NNW/SSE

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1000	Topsoil	Light pinkish fawn/yellow silt. Turfed and organic rich. 1% small rounded pebbles. Moderately compact but not cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 1001 below.	0.00-0.10m
1001	Subsoil	Light reddish yellow/fawn clayey silt. <5% small rounded pebbles. Compact and cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 1000 above and 1002 below.	0.00-0.40m
1002	Natural	Mid pinkish orange clay. To south end: mid pink clay with light grey mottling. c 1% grey sandstone fragments. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 1001 above. Cut by modern trenches.	0.40m+

Feature/context descriptions:

Three modern trenches were noted along the east side of the trench, filled with concrete and redeposited clay.

No archaeological features or horizons were identified.

Trench 11

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50.55m Width: 1.85m Depth: 0.60m

Orientation: ENE/WSW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1100	Topsoil	Light pinkish fawn/yellow silt. Turfed and organic rich. 1% small rounded pebbles. Moderately compact but not cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 1101 below. Occasional asbestos cement to east end.	0.00-0.30m
1101	Subsoil	Light reddish yellow/fawn clayey silt. <5% small rounded pebbles. Compact and cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 1100 above and 1102 below.	0.30-0.60m
1102	Natural	Dark pinkish red clay with grey-white mottling to west; mid pinkish red clay with extensive root activity to east. Compact and cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 1101 above. Cut by furrows and ?field boundary.	0.60m+
1103	Cut	Linear. Aligned east-west. Moderately sharp break of slope and concave sides at c 45° to horizontal, curving to sharp concave base. Possible ditch or deep furrow?	0.56-0.71m
1104	Fill	Light reddish yellow/fawn clayey silt. <5% small rounded pebbles. Compact and cohesive. Single fill of 1103. As 1101.	0.56-0.71m

Feature/context descriptions:

The surface of the natural clay was cut by ridge and furrow on differing alignments: east-west and north-north-west by south-south-east.

The linear 1103 in the eastern half of the trench was similarly aligned east-west. The single fill was identical to the subsoil above. The feature may represent a field boundary ditch or simply a more substantial furrow.

No other archaeological features or horizons were identified. A modern man-hole was noted in mid trench and left *in situ*.

Trench 12

Maximum dimensions: Length: 48.50m Width: 1.84m Depth: 0.56-0.80m

Orientation: NNW/SSE

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1200	Hardcore	Grey gravel, roof tile and brick fragments with light brown silt below rough turf. Compact. Overlies 1201.	0.00-0.17m
1201	Topsoil	Light pinkish fawn/yellow silt. Turfed and organic rich. 1% small rounded pebbles. Moderately compact and cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 1202 below.	0.17-0.37m
1202	Subsoil	Light reddish yellow/fawn clayey silt. <5% small rounded pebbles and sandstone fragments. Compact and cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 1201 above and 1203 below.	0.37-0.80m
1203	Natural	Mid pinkish red clay. <5% small-medium rounded pebbles and sandstone fragments. <1% manganese flecks. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 901 above. Cut by service trenches and tree bole.	0.54m+

Feature/context descriptions:

The surface of the natural was disturbed by two modern service trenches and a tree bole. Possible plough scars were also observed to the south end of the trench, on north-south and east-west alignments.

No archaeological features or horizons were identified.

Trench 13

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50.75m Width: 1.85m Depth: 0.82-1.00m

Orientation: ENE/WSW

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1300	Topsoil	Light pinkish fawn/yellow silt. Turfed and organic rich. 1% small rounded pebbles. <i>c</i> 2% brick rubble in patches. Moderately compact and cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 1301 below. Hardcore of grey gravel and tile fragments to east end.	0.00-0.42m
1301	Subsoil	Light reddish yellow/fawn clayey silt. <5% small rounded pebbles and sandstone fragments. <i>c</i> 2% brick rubble in patches. Compact and cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 1300 above and 1302 below.	0.25-1.00m
1302	Natural	Mid pinkish red clay. <5% small-medium rounded pebbles and sandstone fragments. <1% manganese flecks. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 1301 above. Cut by modern services, furrows and tree boles.	0.76m+

Feature/context descriptions:

Traces of ridge and furrow aligned approximately east-west were noted to cut into the surface of the natural. Tree boles were recorded to the east end and to mid trench. In addition a modern service trench was noted to the east end, and a manhole with associated trenching left *in situ* to the west end.

No other archaeological features and horizons were identified.

Trench 14

Maximum dimensions: Length: 51.80m Width: 1.85m Depth: 0.80-0.98m

Orientation: ENE/WSW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1400	Topsoil	Light pinkish fawn/yellow silt. Turfed and organic rich. 5% small rounded pebbles. Concrete slabs at west end. Moderately compact but not cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 1401 below.	0.00-0.36m
1401	Subsoil	Light reddish yellow/fawn clayey silt. <2% charcoal flecks. Compact and cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 1400 above and 1402 below.	0.26-0.80m
1402	Natural	Mid pinkish red clay. <i>c</i> 2% small-medium rounded pebbles and sandstone/limestone fragments. <1% manganese flecks. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 1401 above. Cut by modern services and furrow.	0.80m+
1403	Cut	Linear aligned N/S. Gradual break of slope and shallow concave sides at 30° to horizontal, curving to sharp concave base. Gully or furrow?	0.80-0.92m
1404	Fill	Light reddish yellow/fawn clayey silt. Compact and cohesive. Single fill of 1403.	0.80-0.92m

Feature/context descriptions:

The surface of the natural was noted to be disturbed by modern service trenches to either end of the trench. A single trace of ridge and furrow was noted toward the east end, aligned approximately west-north-west by east-south-east. Plough scars were observed on approximately north-south alignments towards mid trench. This is the same alignment as the linear 1403, which may also be a truncated furrow.

No other archaeological features or horizons were identified.

Trench 15

Maximum dimensions: Length: 48.85m Width: 1.85m Depth: 0.60-0.98m

Orientation: NNE/SSW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1500	Topsoil	Light pinkish fawn/yellow silt. Turfed and organic rich. 1% small rounded pebbles. Moderately compact but not cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 1501 below. Grey gravel hardcore to south end.	0.00-0.35m
1501	Subsoil	Light reddish yellow/fawn clayey silt. <2% charcoal flecks. Compact and cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 1500 above and 1502 below. Deeper to north end.	0.28-0.76m
1502	Natural	Light pinkish red clay. <1% small-medium rounded pebbles. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 1501 above.	0.60m+

Feature/context descriptions:

No furrows, other archaeological features or horizons were identified.

Trench 16

Maximum dimensions: Length: 51.65m Width: 1.85m Depth: 1.10-1.20m

Orientation: ENE/WSW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1600	Topsoil	Light pinkish fawn/yellow silt. Turfed and organic rich. 1% small rounded pebbles. Moderately compact but not cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 1601 below. Grey gravel and red brick/tile hardcore to east end. Very occasional patches of sheet asbestos cement.	0.00-0.35m
1601	Subsoil	Light reddish yellow/fawn clayey silt. <2% charcoal flecks. Compact and cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 1600 above and 1603 below. Cut by ceramic field drains.	0.30-1.00m
1602	Natural	Mid pinkish red clay. c 2% small-medium rounded pebbles and sandstone/limestone fragments. <1% manganese flecks. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 1603 above. Cut by tree boles and furrows.	1.10m+
1603	Subsoil	Mid red-brown clayey silt. Compact and cohesive. Diffuse boundary with 1601 above and 1602 below.	1.00-1.20m

Feature/context descriptions:

The surface of the natural clay was extensively disturbed by root activity and traces of ridge and furrow. The latter were aligned approximately north-west by south-east.

No other archaeological features or horizons were identified.

Trench 17

Maximum dimensions: Length:49.60m Width: 1.85m Depth: 0.37-1.03m

Orientation: NW/SE

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1700	Topsoil	Light pinkish fawn/yellow silt. Turfed and organic rich. 1% small rounded pebbles. Moderately compact but not cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 1701 below. Light grey gravel and occasional pinkish red brick hardcore to mid-north end.	0.00-0.20m
1701	Subsoil	Light reddish yellow/fawn clayey silt. <2% charcoal flecks. Compact and cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 1700 above and 1702 below. Shallow to north-west; deeper to south-east; deepest to mid trench.	0.20-1.02m
1702	Natural	Mid pinkish red clay. c 2% small-medium rounded pebbles and sandstone/limestone fragments. <1% manganese flecks. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 1701 above. Cut by tree bole, service trenches and furrows.	0.36m+

Feature/context descriptions:

The surface of the natural clay was disturbed by a tree bole, service trenches in the south-east half, and traces of ridge and furrow to the north-west. The furrows were aligned approximately east-north-east by west-south-west.

No other archaeological features or horizons were identified.

Trench 18

Maximum dimensions: Length: 49.70m Width: 1.85m Depth: 0.52-0.60m

Orientation: WNW/ESE

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1800	Topsoil	Light pinkish fawn/yellow silt. Turfed and organic rich. 1% small rounded pebbles. Moderately compact but not cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 1801 below. Charcoal rich brick and tile dump to west end.	0.00-0.23m
1801	Subsoil	Light reddish yellow/fawn clayey silt. <2% charcoal flecks. Compact and cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 1800 above and 1802 below.	0.20-0.60m
1802	Natural	Mid/light orangey red clay with dark purple/red sandstone to mid trench. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 1802 above. Cut by tree bole, geotechnical test pit.	0.42m+

Feature/context descriptions:

The surface of the natural clay was disturbed by a modern geotechnical test pit, and plough scars, aligned west-north-west by east-south-east, in the east half of the trench.

No other archaeological features or horizons were identified.

Trench 19

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50.65m Width: 1.84m Depth: 0.60-0.90m

Orientation: NW/SE

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1900	Topsoil	Light pinkish fawn/yellow silt. Turfed and organic rich. 1% small rounded pebbles. Moderately compact but not cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 1901 below. Compact small-large light grey gravel hardcore and occasional pebble patches below decayed tarmac to north-west.	0.00-0.23m
1901	Subsoil	Light reddish yellow/fawn clayey silt. <2% charcoal flecks. Compact and cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 1900 above and 1902 below. Patch of sheet asbestos cement to south-east end.	0.23-0.68m
1902	Natural	Mid orange clay. c 2% small sub-rounded pebbles. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 1901 above.	0.60m+
1903	Cut	Linear. Aligned north-east by south-west. Moderate break of slope and irregular sides at 45° to horizontal curving to flattish base. Filled by 1904.	0.61-0.79m
1904	Fill	Light reddish yellow/fawn clayey silt. <1% charcoal flecks. Compact and cohesive. Single fill of 1903.	0.61-0.79m

Feature/context descriptions:

A single feature was identified, within the south-east half of the trench. No finds were recovered and it was unclear if it was a possible linear gully or modern field drain.

No other archaeological features or horizons were identified.

Trench 20

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50.15m Width: 1.85m Depth: 0.54-0.89m

Orientation: ENE/WSW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
2000	Topsoil	Light pinkish fawn/yellow silt. Turfed and organic rich. 1% small rounded pebbles. Moderately compact but not cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 2001 below. Thin band of decayed tarmac to west.	0.00-0.27m
2001	Subsoil	Light reddish yellow/fawn clayey silt. <2% charcoal flecks. Compact and cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 2000 above and 2002 below. Deeper to west.	0.25-0.75m
2002	Natural	Mid pinkish red clay. <1% charcoal flecks. <i>c</i> 2% sub-rounded pebbles and grey limestone fragments. Compact and cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 2001 above. Cut by modern service trenches.	0.60m+

Feature/context descriptions:

The surface of the natural clay was noted to be disturbed by two modern service trenches and a ceramic field drain.

No other archaeological features or horizons were identified.

Trench 21

Maximum dimensions: Length: 40.30m Width: 1.84m Depth: 0.44-1.03m

Orientation: NNW/SSE

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
2100	Topsoil	Light pinkish fawn/yellow silt. Turfed and organic rich. 1% small rounded pebbles. Moderately compact but not cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 2101 below.	0.00-0.30m
2101	Subsoil	Light reddish yellow/fawn clayey silt. <5% small rounded pebbles. Compact and cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 2100 above and 2102 below.	0.25-0.67m
2102	Natural	Orange - mid pinkish red clay. Patches of dark purple/pink sandstone to mid trench.. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 2101 above. Cut by field drain.	0.55m+

Feature/context descriptions:

A single modern field drain was noted in the north-west half of the trench, cut into the surface of the natural clay.

No other archaeological features or horizons were identified.

Trench 22

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50.25m Width: 1.84m Depth: 0.38-0.44m

Orientation: NW/SE

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
2200	Topsoil	Light pinkish fawn/yellow silt. Turfed and organic rich. 1% small rounded pebbles. <1% charcoal flecks. Moderately compact but not cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 2201 below.	0.00-0.28m
2201	Subsoil	Light reddish yellow/fawn clayey silt. <5% small rounded pebbles. <1% charcoal flecks. Compact and cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 2200 above and 2202 below.	0.20-0.44m
2202	Natural	Mid pinkish red – light orange clay. Occasional patches of light grey clay. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 2201 above. Cut by field drain, tree bole and linear furrows.	0.37m+

Feature/context descriptions:

The surface of the natural clay was noted to be disturbed by a modern field drain, a tree bole, and traces of ridge and furrow, aligned approximately north-north-east by south-south-west.

No other archaeological features or horizons were identified.

Trench 23

Maximum dimensions: Length: 51.25m Width: 1.85m Depth: 0.36-0.77m

Orientation: NE/SW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
2300	Topsoil	Light pinkish fawn/yellow silt. Turfed and organic rich. 1% small rounded pebbles. <1% charcoal flecks. Moderately compact but not cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 2301 below.	0.00-0.30m
2301	Subsoil	Light reddish yellow/fawn clayey silt. <5% small rounded pebbles. <1% charcoal flecks. Compact and cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 2300 above and 2302 below.	0.26-0.75m
2302	Natural	Mid/light reddish orange - mid pinkish red clay. c 2% small-medium rounded pebbles and sandstone fragments. <1% manganese flecks. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 2301 above. Cut by field drain and linear furrows.	0.35m+
2303	Cut	Shallow cut into natural, linear feature approx E-W orientation. Probable field boundary ditch	C0.2m deep
2304	Fill	Friable mid brown silty clay. <10% small rounded stones, <1% manganese flecks	

Feature/context descriptions:

The subsoil was noted to be very minimal in places - probably due to its incorporation into the topsoil during ploughing.

No other archaeological features or horizons were identified.

Trench 24

Maximum dimensions: Length: 49.75m Width: 1.84m Depth: 0.44-0.95m

Orientation: ENE/WSW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
2400	Topsoil	Light pinkish fawn/yellow silt. Turfed and organic rich. 1% small rounded pebbles. <1% charcoal flecks. Moderately compact but not cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 2401 below.	0.00-0.17m
2401	Subsoil	Light reddish yellow/fawn clayey silt. <5% small rounded pebbles. <1% charcoal flecks. Compact and cohesive. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 2300 above and 2302 below.	0.17-0.32m
2402	Natural	Mid –light reddish orange clay at the eastern end of the trench. Mottled dark pinkish red clay to the west. Occasional root activity.	0.25m+

Feature/context descriptions:

Modern field drains oriented north-south

Trench 25

Maximum dimensions: Length: 49.65m Width: 1.84m Depth: 0.39-0.80m

Orientation: NNW/SSE

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
2500	Topsoil	Light pink/ fawn silty clay	0.00-0.25m
2501	Subsoil	Virtually non existent in places – was present as a light pink/ fawn silty clay	0.20-0.40m
2502	Natural	Variable clay – light blueish/ off white-grey; mid pinkish red; dark purpleish red sandstone – decayed occasional pebble gravel. Occasional sub soil and root patches	0.25m+

Feature/context descriptions:

Root activity, land drains and a probable tree bole (2507)

Trench 26

Maximum dimensions: Length: 53m Width: 1.84m Depth: 0.36-0.76m

Orientation: WNW/ESE

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
2600	Topsoil	Light pinkish fawn/yellow silt. Turfed and organic rich. 1% small rounded pebbles. <1% charcoal flecks. Moderately compact but not cohesive. Very occasional tile fragments, frequent Fe debris towards the NW side	0.00-0.20m
2601	Subsoil	Light reddish yellow/fawn clayey silt. <5% small rounded pebbles. <1% charcoal flecks. Compact and cohesive	0.12-0.36m
2602	Natural	Mid pinkish red clay containing c1% small-medium sub rounded pebbles and pockets of very dark pinkish grey sandstone.	0.27m+
2603	Cut	Probable field boundary. Linear feature, sharp break of slope with an irregular flat base. Cuts furrows. Filled by 2604	

Feature/context descriptions:

Ridge and furrow oriented approximately north – south

Ploughscars

Trench 27

Maximum dimensions: Length: 49.60m Width: 1.85m Depth: 0.49-0.83m

Orientation: ENE/WSW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
2701	Topsoil	Medium orange/brown fine soft sandy silt with frequent root action and worm sorting. Contains occasional medium flecks of charcoal, rare tile and rare clay pipe. Cut by one modern water pipe trench.	0.00-0.24m
2702	Subsoil	Medium orange friable silty sand with worm sorting and root action present in upper 0.10m. Also cut by water pipe trench.	0.15-0.32m
2703	Natural	Pale orange to pink/orange with patches of grey compact bedded sand and soft sandstone. Contains occasional silt channels and patches of grey silty material. Cut by water pipe trench and modern posthole.	0.32m+

Feature/context descriptions:

Only features noted were modern – a water pipe trench along with a modern post hole.

Appendix 2: Copy of WHEAS proposal dated 6th May 2004

Proposal for an archaeological evaluation at Barons Cross Camp, Leominster, Herefordshire

Project specific design

Background

The Field Section of the Historic Environment and Archaeology Service (the Service) has been requested to prepare a proposal for an evaluation on an archaeological site.

The proposal has been requested by CPM on behalf of their Bryant Homes Ltd (the Client) in response to an expected requirement for a field evaluation as part of a planning application. No specific brief has been prepared by Herefordshire Council though the proposal aims to conform to the generality of briefs prepared by that Council (the Brief). An archaeological assessment has been prepared by CPM which gives the background to the site and recommends a mitigation strategy (dated 18 January 2002 ref H2118_01a), and CPM also kindly supplied some photographs of the site. The offer contained in this proposal is provisional on the proposal conforming to a brief from Herefordshire Council or confirmation that it is acceptable to them.

The archaeological background to the site (National Grid reference SO 4755 5860) is given in the archaeological assessment. The Client should be aware that buried archaeological evidence can be very variable, and that neither the archaeological assessment, nor this proposal, can always accurately specify what may exist on this particular site. This proposal is based on an existing state of knowledge as summarised in the assessment.

Aims and objectives

The aims and scope of the project are to determine the presence or absence of important archaeological deposits

The assessment indicates that significant deposits may be defined as those likely to be of prehistoric, Roman or medieval date.

The recommended mitigation in the archaeological assessment includes recording of the US 135th General Hospital buildings though it is understood that this may be a planning condition to be undertaken prior to demolitions and therefore lies outside of the scope of this evaluation. Sample trenches will however be undertaken within the built area and contemporary features and artefacts will be recorded and collected.

Methods

The project will conform to guidelines relating to undertaking archaeological fieldwork issued by the Curator.

Prior to fieldwork commencing existing information on the site will be collected. This will consist of the archaeological assessment already prepared

Stage 1 Fieldwork

Locations of trenches will be determined following preparation (SMR and other relevant searches as specified by the Brief) and site inspection, to allow any documented, earthwork or topographic features to be investigated. 27 trenches (each 50x1.8m) will be excavated. Where open ground is present the trenches will be in a grid (standard array) though within the area of the former military hospital buildings trenches will be excavated to avoid the buildings, and a consistent grid and sample density across the whole site, may not be achievable. The trenches within the built area will test for the level of ground disturbance caused by construction, as well as for the presence of archaeological sites. The trenches will cover an area of 2430² (representing just over 2% of the development site area of c 119200m²). The trenches will be excavated initially by a 360° mechanical excavator and a concrete breaker will be available, though large areas of breaking out are not anticipated.

Neither fieldwalking or geophysical survey are considered to be useful in achieving the aims of the project. The present ground cover prevents fieldwalking and it is likely that the modern use of the site will negate the efficiency of magnetic based geophysical survey. The Service would welcome the advice of the Curator in the location of trenches.

The site has not been subject to a specific safety risk assessment and issues such as contaminated ground (from hospital and turkey farm use), the presence of utilities and unauthorised human occupation of the site will require addressing. A specific risk assessment will be undertaken prior to works commencing.

Professional standards and Service methodologies are detailed in Section 2.

Stage 2 Report

Following completion of fieldwork, a report will be prepared for submission to the Client and Curator as specified in Section 2.

Contingency

A contingency has been allowed to be applied to either fieldwork or report stages where necessary. The contingency is to allow for the appropriate treatment of the archaeological resource where this cannot be accommodated within the original costs. The contingency will be implemented in one or more of the following circumstances.

- The further recording and analysis of archaeological remains of a date and nature as indicated in the archaeological assessment.
- Where possible to cover or offset the additional costs for circumstances excluded from the cost given in Section 3.

Personnel

The Project Manager will be the first point of contact in all matters relating to the project.

- The Project Manager for this project will be Simon Woodiwiss (a profile is appended).

-
- The Project Leader for this project will be notified to the client on acceptance of this proposal.

All staff will be appropriately qualified and with an established record of expertise. Profiles of key members of the team will be made available to the Client and Curator on request. The team will comprise the following, as required.

- Project Manager Responsible for the project.
- Project Leader Direct fieldwork and prepare report.
- Field Archaeologists Undertake fieldwork and associated tasks.
- Specialist coordination and support Finds and environmental assessment and illustration.

In-house specialist support may be provided in a number of broad areas common to this type of project.

- Artefacts - Victoria Bryant, Derek Hurst or Laura Griffin (ceramics of all periods).
- Plant macrofossils - Elizabeth Pearson.

In-house specialist support is also available in further more specialised areas (details will be supplied on request).

The Service has worked previously with a range of specialists in other fields (details will be supplied on request).

Programme

The project will commence on a date to be mutually agreed in writing. The Service would prefer a period of 4-5 weeks to complete the project. The Service will meet externally imposed deadlines wherever possible (for instance dates of planning committee meetings). Please inform the Service of specific commencement dates and date requirements for submission of the report.

The level of resources indicated below is for the purposes of demonstrating that an adequate level of resources have been committed to the project and variation may occur due to staff availability and the nature of the archaeological site. Any such variation will not compromise the quality or standard of the project.

Periods for report production and the contingency are dependent on the quantity and complexity of information retrieved and cannot be quantified at present. Provision equivalent to 53% of fieldwork (Stage 1) costs has been allowed for report production (Stage 2), and 15% of estimated fieldwork costs for contingencies. By way of illustration the resources identified for the report would allow for 20 person days (including specialist contributions). The resources identified for the contingency would allow for 2 person days in the field and a further 2 person days for the report, together with one day's further plant hire.

Programme	Stage name	Fieldwork
	Stage number	Stage 1
staff		
Project Manager	person days	1
Project Leader	person days	9
Field Archaeologists	person days	16
Specialists	person days	

Standard project design

Quality

The Service is part of Worcestershire County Council and is subject to the Council's policies, safeguards, practices and audit procedures.

The Service is registered as an archaeological organisation with the Institute of Field Archaeologists, and as such is bound to the IFA's *Code of Conduct* and bylaws.

The following are relevant to this project:

- *Code of approved practice for the regulation of contractual arrangements in field archaeology (1997)*;
- *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluations (1999)*; and
- *Guidelines for finds work*.

The project and any recommendations will conform to the government advice contained in *Planning Policy Guidance: archaeology and planning* (DoE, PPG 16 1990).

Standard methods

The project will follow the procedures of the *Manual of Service Practice: fieldwork recording manual*, 1995 as amended, County Archaeological Service internal report, **399**. Of particular importance here are the *Guidelines on evaluation*, *Finds recovery policy*, and *Guidelines for environmental sampling*. Copies of the guidelines will be supplied to the Client and Curator on request.

Stage 1 Fieldwork

The County Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) will be consulted before fieldwork starts, with the aim of refining the project strategy as presented in this proposal.

After the trenches have been opened by machine (using a toothless bucket and under archaeological supervision), excavation will be by hand. Please note that the precise location and size of trenches will vary according to health and safety and archaeological requirements and the proximity of standing or buried structures. The

Client may wish to be consulted by the Service on the location of trenches before they are excavated.

- Clean surfaces will be inspected.
- Selected deposits will be fully or partially excavated to determine their nature and retrieve artefactual material and environmental samples.
- Deposits will be selected for excavation on the basis of the minimum required to meet the aims of the Brief.
- Where possible less significant deposits will be excavated in order to define the nature and extent of those, which are likely to be of greater significance.
- Recognisable human remains, structured deposits, and areas of complex stratigraphy likely to be a significant part of the site will not be removed as part of the evaluation.
- Selection for excavation will be on the judgement of the Project Leader.
- The Service welcomes the assistance of the Curator in selection of deposits for excavation.
- The Service's specialist staff in artefacts and environmental evidence will be available for on-site advice.
- Unless otherwise specified reinstatement shall consist of simple replacement of the excavated material.
- The Brief requires that the Curator is invited to monitor fieldwork, and the Service will normally arrange visits. Any requirements of the Curator must be notified to the Service before fieldwork commences.

Stage 2 Reporting

The results of all fieldwork will be presented as a report in the Service's internal report series.

The report will contain:

- a non-technical summary;
- background;
- aims;
- methods;
- location and size of archive;
- discuss results; and
- assessment of the significance of deposits.

Assessment will usually employ the criteria for the scheduling of ancient monuments used by the Department for Culture Media and Sport as a guide (DoE, PPG 16 1990, Annex 4). Where the Curator has provided other criteria (such as those prepared by English Heritage for the Monuments Protection Programme or contained in structure or local plans) these may also be used.

In assessing the state of deposit preservation, physical, artefactual and environmental aspects will all be considered. An assessment of the quantity and range of artefactual and environmental material will be presented. Appropriate specialists will be consulted or contracted where appropriate.

The Service will normally supply three copies of the report to the Client (or agent if they are coordinating the project on the Client's behalf). One of these copies may be forwarded to the Curator. A reasonable number of extra reports will be supplied to the Client on request. Where requested the Service will forward a copy directly to the Curator (in the interests of speed).

The Service has a professional obligation to make archaeological information available within a reasonable period (outside of any period of confidentiality reasonably required by the Client). The report will be submitted to the SMR with a short summary to be published in one or more regional journals (eg West Midlands Archaeology, Transactions of the Worcestershire Archaeological Society) where appropriate. The report will be submitted to the SMR within three months of completion of the fieldwork, unless the Service is notified to the contrary.

All artefacts, except articles defined as treasure under the Treasure Act 1996 (or other legal requirements), discovered in the course of the archaeological project shall be the property of the Client (or landowner if not the Client). The Service will encourage the Client to donate any artefacts to an appropriate museum where they may be curated and made available for research and education. The Service will approach the Client after completion of the project with regard to the deposition of artefacts.

The record archive will be offered to an appropriate museum (usually the same as that for the deposition of artefacts) and security copies kept by the Service (or other appropriate arrangement).

Health and safety

The Service is covered by the conditions and requirements of the County Council's health and safety policies and procedures (as amended).

- *Health and Safety, corporate health and safety policy 1998.*
- *Corporate Services safety policy (Cultural Services) 2000.*

The County Council also produces supplementary guidance (for example).

- *Guide to general risk assessment, no date.*
- *Display screen equipment, information for users, 1992.*
- *Manual handling in libraries, no date*

The Service has issued *Manual of Service practice: safe working practice* (1996 as amended, County Archaeological Service internal report, **461**) which are guidelines drawn from its risk assessments of common situations. The following guidelines are relevant to this project, and all staff will be aware of them.

- *Working out of doors and working with soils.*
- *Travelling.*
- *Processing finds and environmental samples.*
- *Working with tools and small equipment.*
- *Working with large plant.*
- *Lone working.*

In addition provision has been made within the guidelines for assessing further risks which may be encountered during the project (*The specific circumstances of the site*).

All these documents may be viewed at the Service's offices, and may be copied to the Client and Curator on request.

The Client must notify the Service of any hazards within the archaeological site before the project commences. These include the location of existing services, contaminated ground, any agricultural chemicals.

The project is for the purposes of survey (partly to establish site conditions) and is considered to fall outside of the *Construction (Design and Management) Regulations* 1994. Should the Service be asked to participate in any development programme it will fulfil its responsibilities both as a archaeological designer and contractor, where requested.

- Protective clothing will consist of hard hat, protective boots, and high visibility jacket.
- All staff will be appropriately certified in the use of any equipment used during the project. Any equipment or plant (including scaffolding) provided by the Client will be inspected before use by Service staff.

Conditions

The project is undertaken under the provisions of one or more of the following:

- *Local Government Act, 1972, section 111,*
- *Local Authorities (Goods and Services) Act, 1970,*
- *Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act, 1979,*
- any other relevant legislation.

In undertaking an archaeological project Worcestershire County Council's support (or otherwise) cannot be assumed or expected for any development proposal unless specifically indicated.

Worcestershire County Council will not have, or obtain any tenancy, or other estate, or interest in the archaeological site other than the access granted for the purposes of the archaeological project.

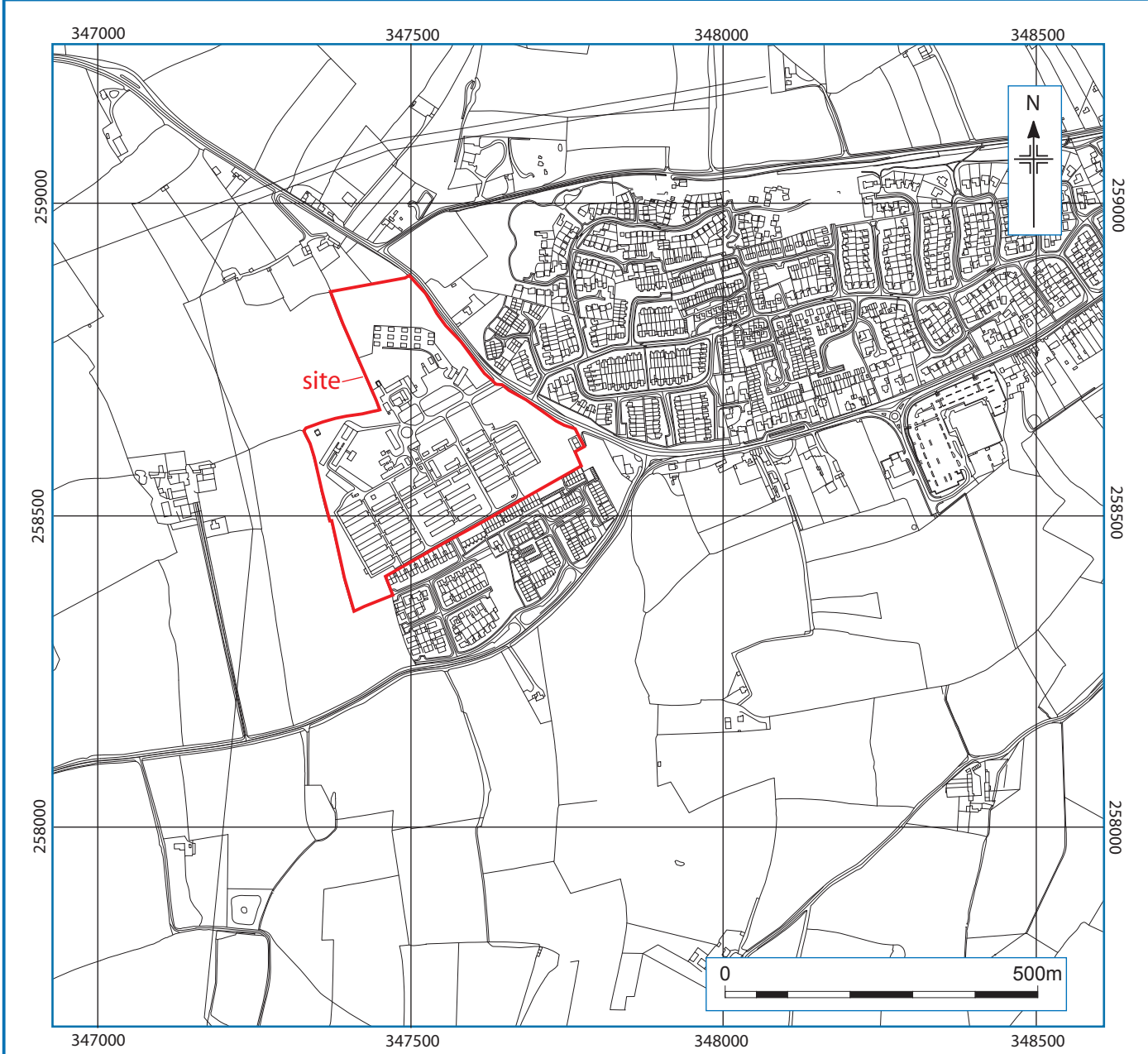
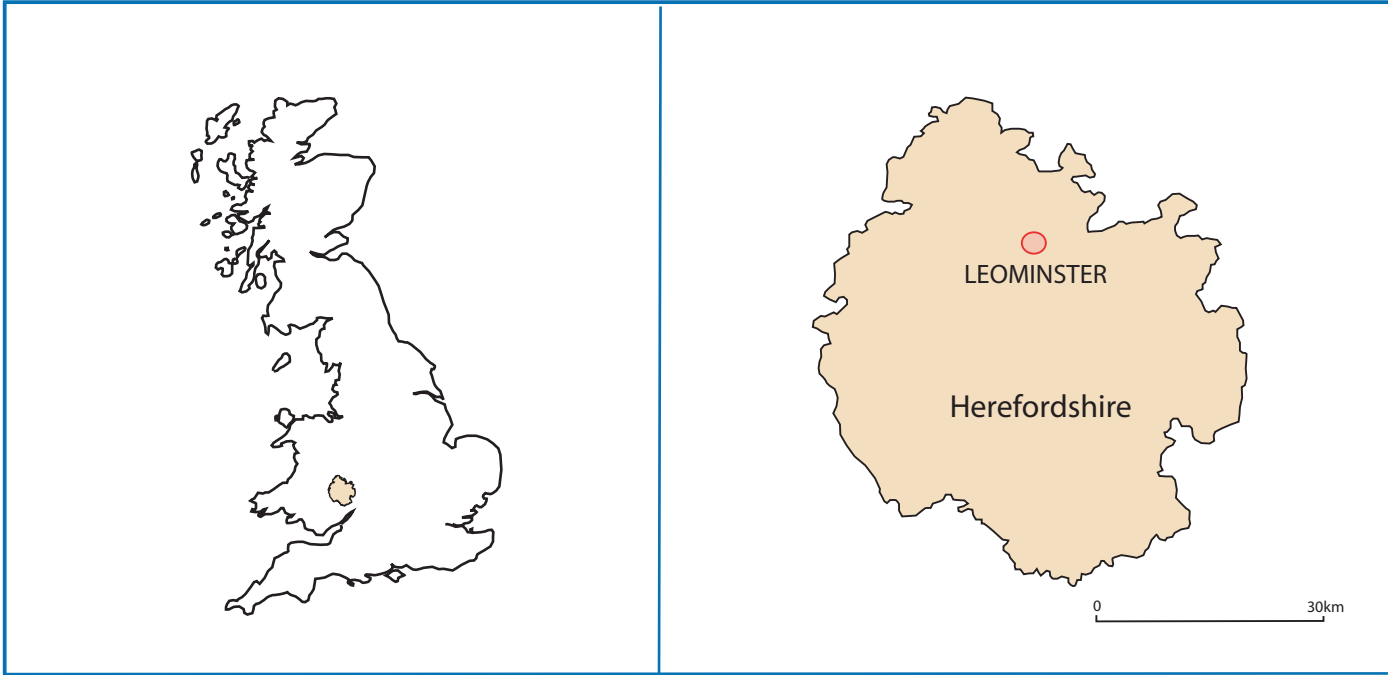
The Client will be responsible for obtaining all necessary permissions for undertaking the project. Of particular importance may be any consents for sites scheduled (or areas of archaeological importance) under the *Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979*, or listed buildings legislation.

Access to the site is the responsibility of the Client. Permissions for access must be arranged by the Client, with the landowner and tenant, as appropriate.

The project will only be undertaken when supported by a written agreement between Worcestershire County Council, the Client and/or the landowner (as appropriate). Forms of agreement or a draft agreement are enclosed with this proposal.

The Service is covered by public and employer's liability insurance (with a limit of £40 million), and professional indemnity insurance (with a limit of £2 million). Insurance is with the American Re Insurance Co (Policy Number ARMI10069/03, expires 29 September 2004).

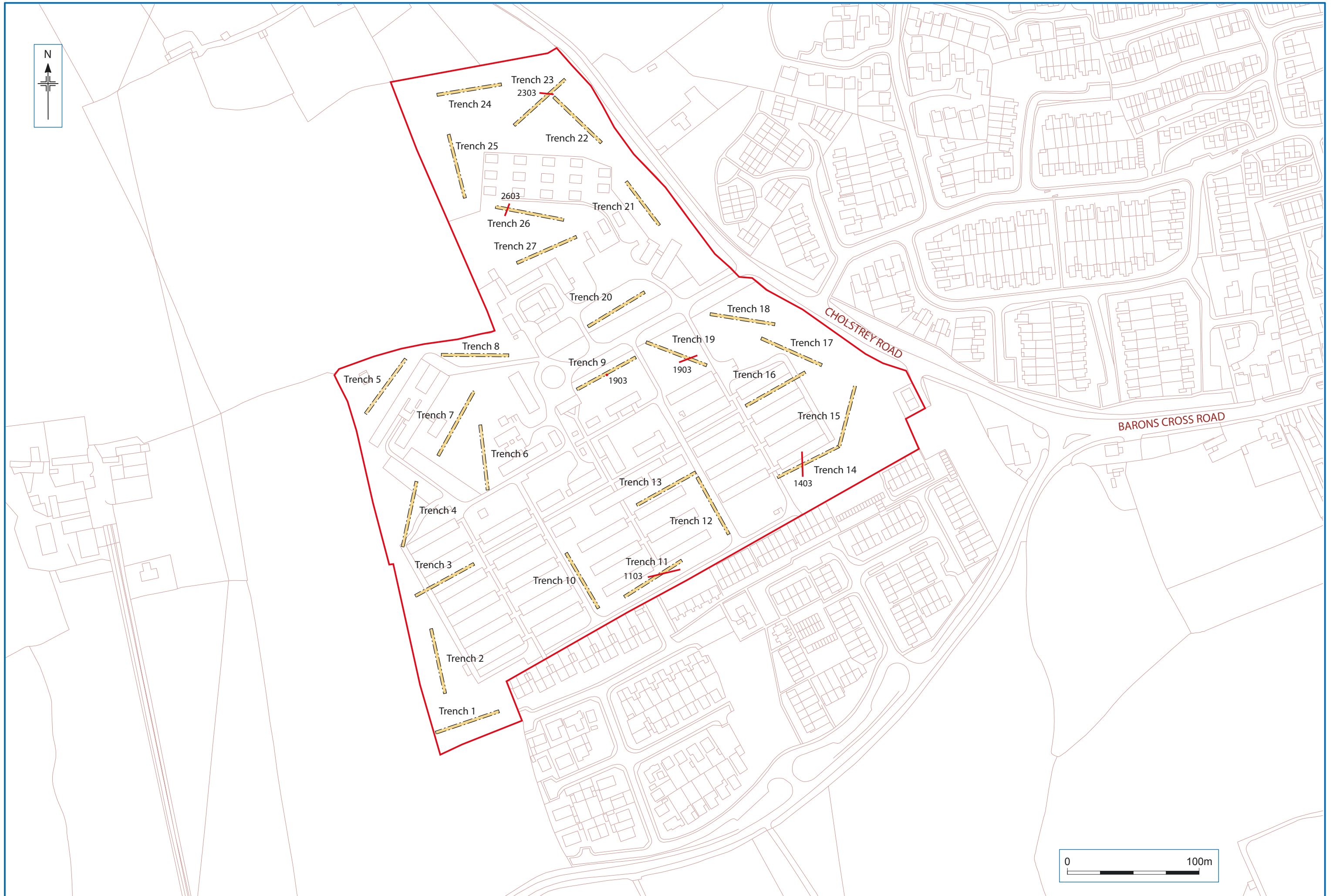
The Service will retain full copyright of the report under the *Copyrights, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved; excepting that it shall provide an exclusive licence to the Client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in this proposal. This licence will only become effective on payment of any agreed costs to Worcestershire County Council.



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Location of the site.

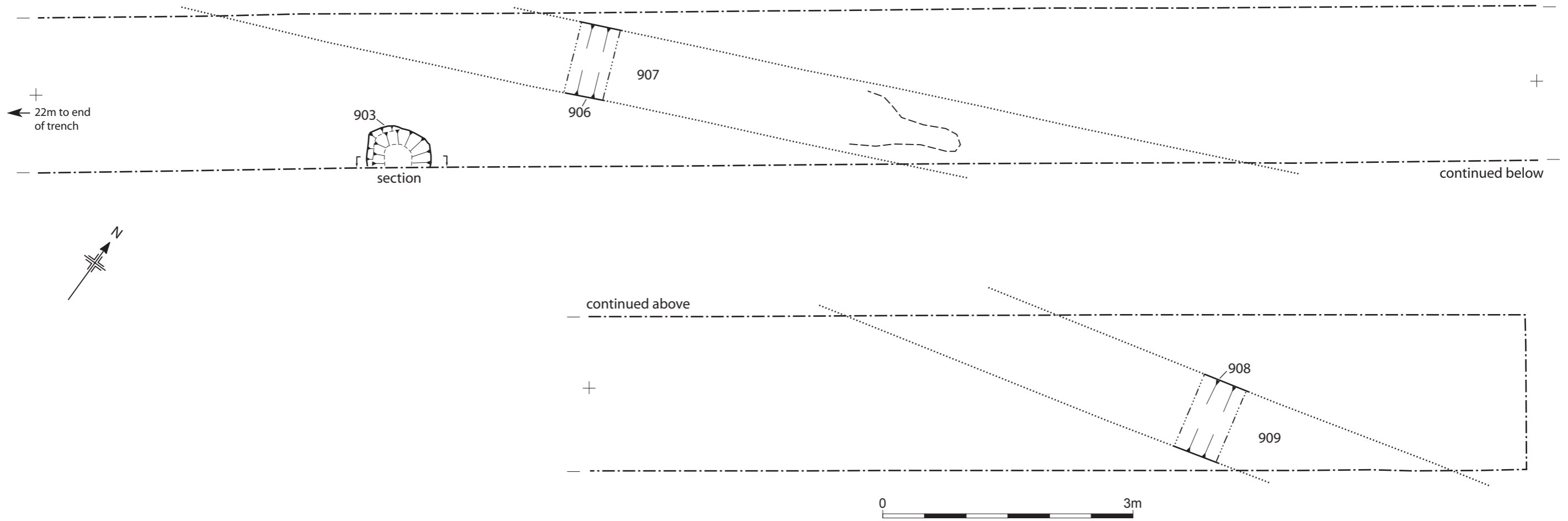
Figure 1



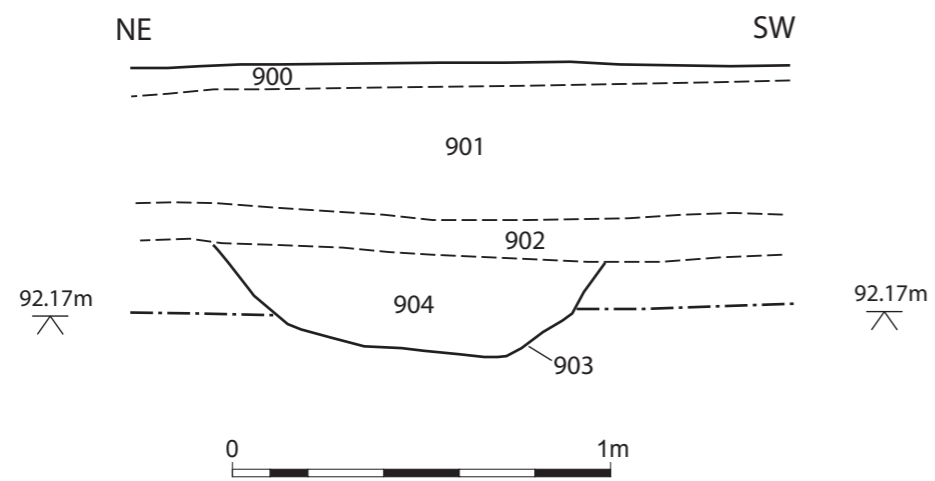
Plan of trenches and main features.

Figure 2

TRENCH 9: PLAN

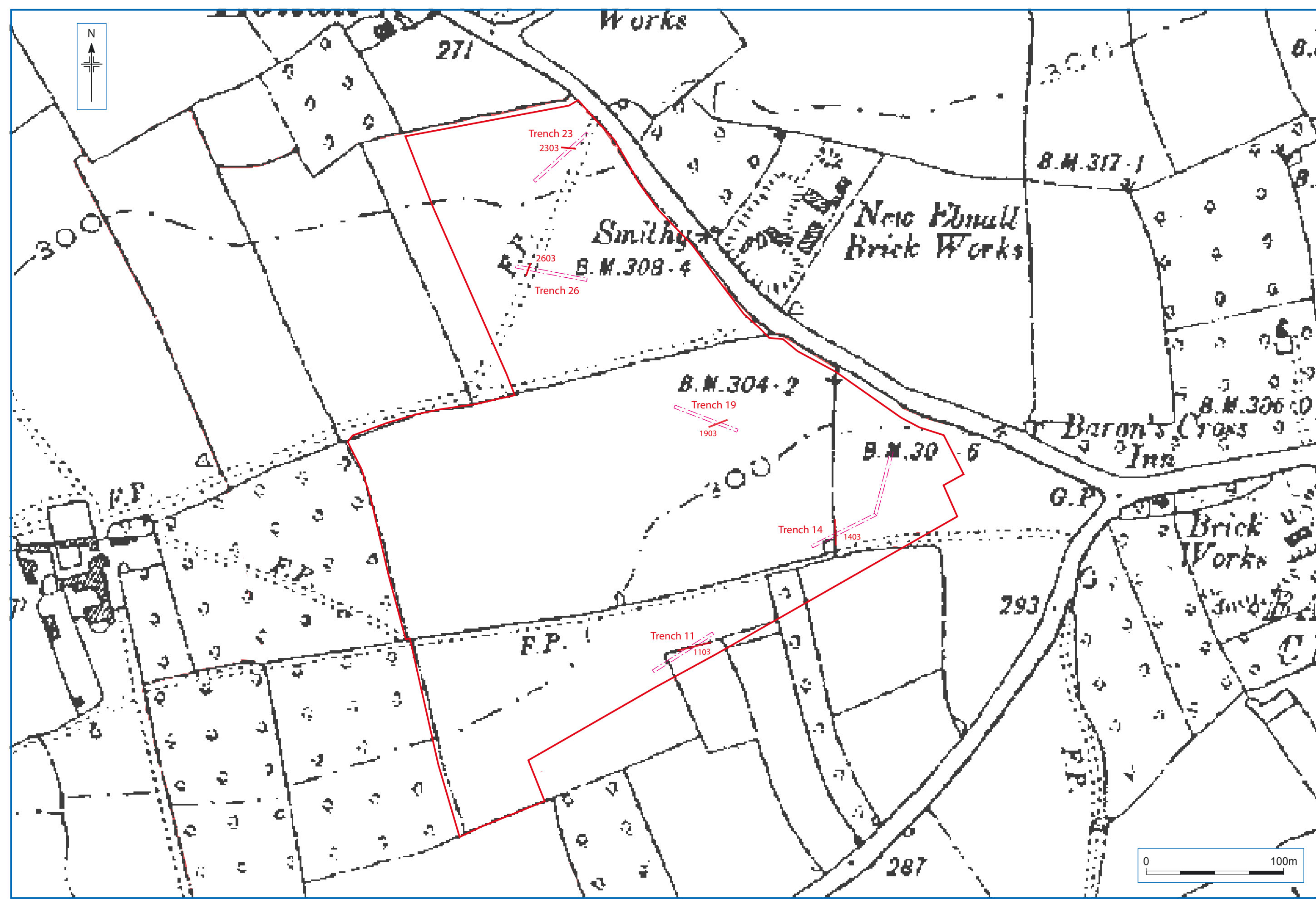


SECTION OF PIT 903



Plan of Trench 9 and section of pit 903.

Figure 3



Extract from 1904 Ordnance Survey map showing location of field ditches observed in trenches.

Figure 4



Plate 1: Pit 903 in Trench 9, facing south-east.



Plate 2: General view of Trench 9, with former military hospital buildings in background



Plate 3: General view of Trench 14, facing west (field ditch 1403 above 2m ranging rod)



Plate 4: North-facing section through field ditch 1403 (scale divided into 0.2m intervals)



Plate 5: Typical plough furrow in plan and section, Trench 5



Plate 6: Detail of typical section through plough furrow, Trench 22
