

ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION
AT
PARK AND RIDE, SITE C,
BRANSFORD ROAD,
RUSHWICK, WORCESTER

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Illustrated by Carolyn Hunt

9th December 2003

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Project 2246
Report 1202
WSM 33362
& 33363

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Archaeological evaluation at Park and Ride, Site C, Bransford Road, Rushwick, Worcester

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Part 1 Project summary

An archaeological evaluation by fieldwalking and trial trenching was undertaken at the Park and Ride, Site C, Bransford Road, Rushwick, Worcester (National Grid reference: SO 8270 5375). It was undertaken on behalf of Worcestershire County Council, who intends to construct a park and ride terminal. The project aimed to determine if any significant archaeological site was present and if so to indicate what its location, date and nature were.

A small number of residual Roman sherds, a single worked flint, one medieval sherd and frequent post-medieval and modern debris was recovered. All the artefacts were residual within the soil. There was no defined spatial patterning to indicate the presence of a ploughed-out site. The low, even distribution of artefacts indicates that they are probably the result of manuring and general discard of rubbish over the site which has been under agricultural use for at least the last 160 years.

The only identified features, a small number of shallow postholes, were found to be of modern date, and probably relate to agricultural activity, such as the subdivision of the area into small allotments in the early 20th century. Frequent plough marks were noted, scored into the surface of the natural matrix. No archaeological features were identified.

Alluvial deposits were identified along the floodplain of the Laugherne Brook, with possible colluvium on the adjacent slope. Unfortunately this was undated and was not found to contain organic material.

Part 2 Detailed report

1. Background

1.1 Reasons for the project

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at the Park and Ride, Site 'C', off Bransford Road, Rushwick, Worcester (NGR: SO 8270 5375), on behalf of Worcestershire County Council. WCC intends to construct a park and ride terminal. WCC Historic Environment and Archaeology Service, Planning Advisory Section consider that a site of archaeological interest may be affected (WSM 17800).

1.2 Project parameters

The project conforms to the *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IFA 1999).

The project also conforms to a brief prepared by HEAS (HEAS 2002), for which a project proposal (including detailed specification) was produced (HEAS 2003).

1.3 Aims

The aims of the evaluation were to locate archaeological deposits and determine, if present, their extent, state of preservation, date, type, vulnerability and documentation. The purpose of this was to establish their significance, since this would make it possible to recommend an appropriate treatment, which may then be integrated with the proposed development programme.

2. Methods

2.1 Documentary search

An environmental assessment has already been prepared (Halcrow Group Limited forthcoming).

2.2 Fieldwork

2.2.1 Fieldwork strategy

A detailed specification has been prepared by the Service (HEAS 2003).

Fieldwork was undertaken between 10th and 24th November 2003. It comprised a phase of non-intrusive fieldwalking, followed by intrusive sample trenches.

The fieldwalking was undertaken using the methodology developed by Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit. The site is divided into hectares. Each hectare is then sub-divided into 20m² boxes. A transect 2m wide was then walked along the left side of each box and the finds collected, providing a 10% sample of the area (Essex County Council Planning Dept. 1985).

Twenty five trenches, amounting to just over 2005m² in area, were excavated over the site area of c 4.67 ha, representing a sample of 4.29%. The location of the trenches is indicated in Figure 2. A number of the trenches were moved to avoid existing structures and dense

undergrowth along the stream bank. In addition a number were widened to further define exposed features, deposits or to test areas where early artefacts had been recovered.

Deposits considered not to be significant were removed using a 360° tracked excavator, employing a toothless bucket and under archaeological supervision. Subsequent excavation was undertaken by hand. Clean surfaces were inspected and 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.

The following techniques were considered for use but were not considered to be appropriate for this project: geophysical survey.

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 **Artefacts**

2.3.1 **Artefact recovery policy**

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

2.3.2 **Method of analysis**

Fieldwalking

All finds were recorded by grid square and transect number, examined and a primary record was made on a Microsoft Access 2000 database. Artefacts were identified, quantified and where possible, dated.

Sample trenches

All hand retrieved finds were examined. A primary record was made of all finds on a Microsoft Access 2000 database. Artefacts were identified, quantified and dated.

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).

2.4 **Environment**

2.4.1 **Sampling policy**

The environmental sampling strategy conformed to standard Service practice (CAS 1995; appendix 4). In the event no deposits were observed which were deemed suitable.

2.5 **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**

The site is bounded by the Laugherne Brook to the east, Bransford Road (the former A4103) to the north and north-west, and the A4440 Worcester Western bypass to the south-west. The brook and road represent the boundary between the City of Worcester and the rural parish of Rushwick (Fig 1).

Topographically the site slopes from a maximum height of 25.60m AOD on the west side, down to 15.80m AOD at the south end along the floodplain of the brook. It occupies agricultural land, *c* 4.67ha., previously under cultivation with pumpkins, with three derelict wooden allotment buildings with corrugated iron roofs and disused 'poly-tunnel' greenhouses and modern porta-cabins. A high voltage overhead electric cable crosses the site from the north-north-west to south-south-east.

The dominant soil series of the area is the Newnham association (541w) of well-defined reddish coarse and fine loamy soils over gravel, locally deep, some affected by groundwater. The parent material is river terrace drift (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983), more specifically clayey reddish river alluvium (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983). The soils have been further defined. On the floodplain of the brook they belong to the Compton series (813), comprising pelo-alluvial gley soils, particularly non-calcareous alluvial clays. On the western slopes adjacent they belong to the Escrick series (571) comprising typical argillic brown earths, permeable well-drained, non-calcareous loams or loams over clays, with clay-enriched subsoil (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1986). Geologically the soils lie over Eldersfield Mudstone along the brook and Third (Main) Terrace drift of the River Severn on the higher ground to the west (British Geological Survey 1993).

A desk-based assessment of the site has previously been undertaken (Halcrow Group Limited forthcoming). The main elements are summarised.

Prehistoric activity in the vicinity of Laugherne Brook is represented by an unusually high number of struck flints found in the area. Roman pottery has been found on Boughton Close to the north-east and Roman bloomery slag has been recovered from the Brook, while a Roman road linking Worcester and Kenchester has been hypothesised, though the route has not yet been determined. There are two Anglo-Saxon boundary clauses in the vicinity: the manors of Laugherne and Wick Episcopi. The Laugherne Brook is thought to represent the latter manor's boundary.

In the medieval period the site probably formed part of the fields associated with Rushwick village or Upper Wick manor. Ridge and furrow is not recorded locally although some is located to the north of Rushwick. Bransford Road was probably in use as a highway from at least the medieval period. Boughton Park on the east side of the Brook was emarked in the 1820s, although an early 16th century house is known (Lockett 1997, 43).

The Laugherne Brook is first recorded as Laure or Lawerne in a document of 816, and Lawrne in 1636 (Mawer and Stenton 1927, 12). Rushwick on the other hand is first recorded as late as 1275, when it was Russewyk. It was also spelt Ruyschewyk (1318), Rushwyke (1348) and Rishwick (1669) and is thought to mean 'Dairy farm by the rushes' (Mawer and Stenton 1927, 94-5).

The first detailed map is the 1840 Tithe plan. It shows the site to have comprised an irregular shaped field, Laugherne Meadow (494), on the west bank of the Laugherne Brook and part of three adjacent fields (490, 491 and 493). The 1887 Ordnance Survey map shows the site to have then comprised two fields: 546 to the east side, adjacent to the brook, and part of 312, a larger field on the west side, which had previously been three separate plots (Fig 4). A number of trees are depicted along the riverbanks, on the zigzag field boundaries and within the larger field. The agricultural regime is not indicated. Little change had been effected by the 1905 edition, with the exception of the straightening of the field boundary, aligned north-west to south-east. By 1930 the eastern field had been sub-divided into five roughly rectangular plots

of between 1 and 3.5 acres (0.4-1.4 ha) and a track established along the main field boundary. Four allotment buildings had been erected by 1938 along the east side of this track and an overhead high voltage electric cable strung across on a north-north-west to south-south-east alignment (Fig 5).

4. Description

The trenches and features recorded are shown in Fig 2 and recorded in Appendix 1.

4.1 Artefactual analysis

4.1.1 Fieldwalking

A summary of the artefacts recovered can be seen in Table 1. The assemblage retrieved from the fieldwalking ranges from the Roman period with the majority dating from the post-medieval/modern (98.8%). While the post-medieval/modern assemblage exhibited generally good preservation, the Roman fabrics exhibited high levels of abrasion.

Ceramic building material as brick and tile formed the largest material group with a total of 233 fragments retrieved. This material was mainly undiagnostic and, while some appeared to be hand made, was attributed to modern building materials from the 18th to 20th century. Two small fragments, totalling 10g and exhibiting heavy abrasion, were identified as Roman through their fabric type only.

Pottery remains constituted 39.5% of the assemblage. Sherds were identified and grouped by fabric (see Table 2). The majority of the sherds were undiagnostic but could be dated between the 2nd and 20th centuries on the basis of fabric type.

In addition 33 pieces of vessel glass were retrieved and could be identified as modern bottle glass from various types. Fourteen individual pieces of modern clear window glass were also recovered. One glass fragment was also identified as apart of a reflective lens as used in carriage lamps.

Other finds included nine clay pipe fragments, a piece of iron slag and a piece of unidentified burnt material.

Material	Total	Weight (gm)
Brick-modern	131	7543.5
Brick/tile-modern	112	777
Ceramic-field drain	29	1271
Ceramic-modern	18	541
Coal	1	7
Glass-modern	1	4
Glass vessels	33	126.5
Glass-window pane	14	28
Clay pipe bowl	1	0.5
Clay pipe stem	8	10
Modern pottery	152	732.8
Post-medieval pottery	75	193.5
Roman pottery	6	11
Modern slag	1	21
Floor tile	5	619
Modern tile	60	1414
Roman tile	2	10
Uidentified material	1	2

Table 1: *Quantification of fieldwalking assemblage.*

Fabric Name	Fabric	Total	Weight (gm)
Misc. modern wares	101	43	203
Severn Valley ware	12	5	9
Sandy oxidised ware	13	1	2
Red sandy ware	78.1	57	126
Nottingham stoneware	81.3	3	4
Misc. late stoneware	81.4	10	125
Porcelain	83	3	8
Creamware	84	1	5
Modern stone china	85	105	435.8
Post-med. buff wares	91	5	19.5

Table 2: *Quantification of fieldwalking assemblage fabrics.*

4.1.2 Sample Trenches

A summary of the artefacts recovered can be seen in Table 3. The assemblage recovered from the evaluation trenching was unstratified and contained material from the Roman and medieval to modern periods. Pottery made up the majority of finds totalling 49.7% of all material recovered. The majority of the pottery recovered (92.3%) was from the post-medieval/modern period. A single lithic flake of prehistoric date was also identified. Pottery from the Roman (7 sherds) and medieval period (1 sherd) exhibited high levels of abrasion while the post-medieval and modern pottery was of small individual sherds in good condition.

The pottery was identified and grouped by fabric (see Table 4). The majority of the sherds were undiagnostic but could be dated between the 2nd and 20th century by fabric type.

Other finds consisted of general building material, as brick and/or tile, clay pipe fragments, a piece of window glass, a slate fragment and a piece of unworked flint.

Material	Total	Weight (g.)
Brick-modern	4	1173
Brick/tile-modern	12	183
Ceramic-field drain	3	51
Ceramic unidentified	2	3
Fired clay decorative	1	33
Prehistoric worked flint	2	2
Flint	1	2
Glass-window pane	1	1
Iron finds	6	78
Clay pipe stem	15	30.5
Medieval pottery	1	4
Modern pottery	51	250.5
Post-medieval pottery	32	489
Roman pottery	7	16.5
Slate	1	2
Modern floor tile	37	651
Modern tile	3	69
Roman tile	4	5

Table 3: *Quantification of evaluation assemblage.*

Material	Fabric	Total	Weight (g.)
Misc. modern wares	101	10	39
Severn Valley ware	12	3	14
Severn Valley ware variant	12.2	2	1
Wheelthrown Malvernian ware	19	1	0.5
Black Burnished ware, type 1	22	1	1
Red sandy ware	78.1	14	327
Miscellaneous late stoneware	81.4	4	96
White salt glazed	81.5	3	11
Tin glazed ware	82	1	1
Porcelain	83	9	48
Creamware	84	4	7
Modern stone china	85	36	101.5
Post-medieval buff wares	91	2	109
Misc. medieval wares	99	1	4

Table 4: *Quantification of evaluation assemblage fabrics.*

4.2 Environmental analysis

A visit was made by the Environmental Archaeologist to assess the potential of the site for analysis of the geoarchaeology and environmental remains. The site lies in an area of alluvial gley soils of the Compton Series (which include clayey reddish alluvial deposits) and argillic brown earths of the Rushwick Series (loamy reddish drift with sandstone and siltstone pebbles), British Geological Survey Drift deposit sheet S085/95 1:25,000 (1982). This overlies Eldersfield Mudstone Formation solid geology.

Alluvial deposits were recorded in trenches close to Laugherne Brook which correspond to the description of the Compton Soil series (for example in Trenches 2 and 7, contexts 204/205, 702/703). These are either red-yellow or yellow brown compact clays, which appeared to be relatively uniform and homogenous in appearance and no organic deposits were present (the only organic material being tree roots penetrating in some areas to the base of the trenches). These deposits lie at the base of the west to east slope of the site forming the floodplain of the brook. Clayey deposits on the slope correspond to the drift deposits of the

Rushwick Series. However, here there were indistinct darker bands, which appeared mixed and closer to the sub-soil in description. These may be colluvial deposits, considering their position approximately half way up the slope. Drift material was identified further west on the upper slope.

4.3 **Phase 1 Natural deposits**

The natural matrix was very variable, comprising areas of drift, alluvium and colluvium (as above).

4.4 **Phase 2 Prehistoric deposits**

No features were identified of prehistoric date in association with the worked flint recovered from Trench 6.

4.5 **Phase 3 Roman deposits**

No features were identified of Roman date in association with the residual Roman finds in Trenches 11, 12, 17 and 23.

4.6 **Phase 4 Medieval deposits**

No features were identified of medieval date in association with the residual medieval sherd from Trench 11.

4.7 **Phase 5 Post-medieval and modern deposits**

A small number of postholes were recorded across the site. Where they were identified, the trenches were extended to determine the presence/absence of associated features.

A single isolated posthole was identified within Trench 4 toward the south-east side of the site. The rest of the postholes lay toward the north and north-east. Trench 17 revealed a single shallow posthole. Four were identified within Trench 16, on a 7.50m north-north-west to south-south-east alignment. A single posthole was also exposed within Trench 14, adjacent to extensive root disturbance. The fills were similar to the plough-soil above, and a number contained fragments of plastic sheeting, indicating their 20th century origin.

A number of modern rubble filled pits were also noted, along with land-drains and irrigation pipes. Traces of the former north-west to south-east aligned track were also noted in the form of compact hardcore below the plough-soil. The locations of these features were recorded, but they were not investigated further.

5. **Discussion**

5.1 **Artefacts from fieldwalking**

The discussion below is a summary of the finds and associated location by period. Where possible, dates have been allocated based on the evidence recorded and the importance of individual finds commented upon as necessary.

5.1.1 Roman

Roman pottery and possible tile were recovered during the fieldwalking, all of which were heavily abraded suggesting an extensive period of surface exposure or continuous damage from ploughing.

In total six sherds of Roman pottery, including one rim sherd, and one tile were recovered (Fig 3). It was not possible to identify any forms so the pottery has been dated by fabric type only. Of the six sherds five were of Severn Valley ware (fabric 12) dating from the mid 1st-4th century. This included two joining body sherds from a single vessel suggesting recent breakage with slightly abraded edges at the join. The remaining sherd was identified as Sandy oxidised ware (fabric 13) dating from the mid 1st-2nd century.

5.1.2 Post-medieval

The post-medieval assemblage composed of 75 recovered fragments evenly distributed across the search area. All sherds were small in size but in good condition. Few forms were identifiable so dating was derived from fabric type. Six different fabrics were identified. The most common fabric of this assemblage was Red Sandy Ware (fabric 78.1), constituting 76% of the post medieval ceramics. The others were fairly evenly represented by fabrics of Nottingham stoneware (81.3), miscellaneous late stoneware (81.4), porcelain (83), creamware (84) and post-medieval buff wares (91). A broad dating covering these fabrics can be given of 17th-18th century manufacture. A more specific date can be ascribed to fabric 84 due to its short manufacturing period (1760-80). Two small sherds of porcelain (fabric 85) were identified of which one had only undergone biscuit firing

Other material identified of post-medieval date was clay pipe, represented by several small fragments. Some of the recovered brick and tile fragments may also be representative of this period but dating difficulties make them undiagnostic and they have been included with the modern assemblage.

The small sherd size and wide distribution of finds across the site suggests that these finds may have been deposited during field manuring. The good condition of the finds also suggests that the field has not been intensively ploughed over the last 200 years.

5.1.3 Modern

Modern pottery represented the largest percentage of pottery finds recovered (63.5%). The modern pottery was also quantified by fabric only and represented by fabrics 101 and 85. Fabric 101 was evident mainly as common terracotta flowerpot fragments. Fabric 85, in the majority, consisted of small sherds of modern stone china from dinner services. A toy miniature sugar bowl of porcelain was also recovered.

Other materials identified as modern included brick and tile fragments, shards from glass vessels, window glass and pieces of field drain.

The good condition and broad dispersal across the site of finds suggests that the modern assembly is also the result of manuring or discard.

5.2 Artefacts from Sample Trenches

5.2.1 Prehistoric

A single knapped flint flake 22mm long was recovered from Trench 6. Diagnostic features displayed included a bulb scar and ripples from proximal to distal end. Retouching was also identified along the right edge in the area of the proximal part.

5.2.2 **Roman**

Seven pieces of Roman pottery and four fragments of tile were recovered, of which none were diagnostic. All were heavily abraded suggesting that any potential Roman contexts have been highly disturbed by agricultural process. Trench 23 produced the majority of finds with two fragments of Severn Valley ware variant (fabric 12.2) dating from the mid 1st-2nd century; one fragment of Black Burnished ware, type 1 (fabric 22) dating from AD 120 onwards and a single piece of Wheelthrown Malvernian ware (fabric 19) dating from the 2nd-4th century.

Other Roman pottery finds consisted of one piece of Severn Valley ware (fabric 12, mid 1st-4th century), and one small fragment of tile in Trench 12. A further piece of fabric 12 was recovered in Trench 17 with another two located within Trench 11.

5.2.3 **Medieval**

A single piece of medieval pottery was recovered from Trench 11 in abraded and burnt condition. The burning is suggestive of a form used as cooking pot but due to the small size of the sherd it could only be classified within fabric 99 (miscellaneous medieval wares) with a date range of 11th to the 16th century.

5.2.4 **Post-medieval/modern**

The post-medieval/modern assemblage consisted of 84 pottery sherds totalling 92.3% of the pottery finds recovered during trenching. The finds were mainly undiagnostic with only six of the sherds of fabric type 78.1 (red sandy ware) and one of 91 (post-medieval buff wares) being identified as originating from pancheons dating from the late 17th to 18th century. Other types recovered included four sherds of fabric 84 (cream ware) dated 1760-1780, with the majority of sherds, thirty-six, identified as fabric 85 (modern stone china.).

Further finds from these periods consisted of fifteen fragments of clay pipe, commonly identified building material as brick and tile, a single shard of window glass, corroded iron fragments and a small porcelain fish of unknown purpose.

In all, the post-medieval/modern ceramics were consistent in condition and size to items deposited through the agricultural process of field manuring.

5.3 **Environmental discussion**

No further investigation is recommended of the alluvial and colluvial clays because of the difficulty in dating the sequence, either from pottery or from radiocarbon dated organic material. It is therefore difficult to relate the sequence to any archaeological stratigraphy. There were no deposits that could be used to provide information on the surrounding environment (for example a pollen sequence) which would be of merit independently of any other archaeological evidence.

5.4 **Prehistoric, Roman and medieval**

The few finds recovered from these periods may be stray finds representing very minor activity on the site, or they may have simply been accidentally brought onto site during manuring in the last few centuries.

If there was activity on the site in these periods, it must have been of a very minimal nature, leaving only very ephemeral traces, which have subsequently been destroyed by intensive modern ploughing.

5.5 **Post-medieval and modern**

The mixed, well-dispersed, residual nature and small size of the finds is indicative of their having been brought onto the site accidentally during manuring. This is consistent with the cartographic information, which shows the site to have been used for agricultural purposes for at least the last 160 years, but was otherwise undeveloped until the construction of allotment buildings when the area was subdivided in the 1920s.

6. **Significance**

In considering significance, the Secretary of State's criteria for the scheduling of ancient monuments (DoE 1990, annex 4), have been used as a guide.

These nationally accepted criteria are used to assess the importance of an ancient monument and considering whether scheduling is appropriate. Though scheduling is not being considered in this case they form an appropriate and consistent framework for the assessment of any archaeological site. The criteria should not, however, be regarded as definitive; rather they are indicators, which contribute to a wider judgement based on the individual circumstances of a case.

The absence of archaeological features, the very low quantity and scattered nature of the finds from both the fieldwalking and sample trenches indicate that there is no significant on-site activity from the prehistoric through to the modern period. All finds from the post-medieval/modern period appear to be the result of manuring or simply discarding of general rubbish.

The existence of substantial deposits of alluvial material within the floodplain of the Laugherne Brook coupled with probable colluvial deposits along the slope to the west may be of interest for environmental information. However no organic material was identified in association, and it is at present entirely undated.

7. **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 on behalf of Worcestershire County Council at Park and Ride, Site 'C', Bransford Road, Rushwick, Worcester (NGR: SO 8270 5375; WSM 33362 & 33363). The project involved fieldwalking, followed by intrusive sample trenches. A small number of Roman pottery sherds and tile were recovered in association with a single worked flint, a medieval sherd and frequent post-medieval and modern debris. All the artefacts were residual within the soil. There was no defined spatial patterning to indicate the presence of a ploughed-out site. A few modern postholes were observed, primarily on the north side of the site, and frequent plough marks were noted, scored into the surface of the natural matrix. No archaeological features were identified. Alluvial deposits were identified along the floodplain of the Laugherne Brook, with possible colluvium on the adjacent slope. Unfortunately this was undated and was not found to contain organic material.

8. **The archive**

The archive consists of:

- 11 Fieldwork progress records AS2
- 3 Photographic records AS3
- 141 Digital photographs
- 2 Drawing number sheets AS4
- 4 Levels record sheets AS19
- 25 Trench record sheets AS41
- 9 Fieldwalking record sheets
- 25 Scale drawings
- 2 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

9. **Acknowledgements**

The Service would like to thank the following for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project, Caroline Vickers, Emily Joyce and David Garton (Halcrow), Bill Davison (Aquila), Paul Dunne (WCC Property Services) and Mike Glyde (WCC Archaeological Planning Officer).

10. **Personnel**

The fieldwork and report preparation was led by Tom Vaughan. The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Simon Woodiwiss. Fieldwork was undertaken by Alvaro Ottomano, Marc Steinmetzer, Andy Brown, Simon Sworn, Rosemary Jones and Anna Deeks, finds analysis by Angus Crawford and Laura Griffin, environmental analysis by Liz Pearson and illustration by Carolyn Hunt.

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12. **Abbreviations**

HER Historic Environment Record.

NMR National Monuments Record.

WCRO Worcestershire County Records Office.

WSM Numbers prefixed with 'WSM' are the primary reference numbers used by the Worcestershire County Historic Environment Record.

Appendix 1 Trench descriptions

Trench 1

Maximum dimensions: Length: 49m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.45-0.80m

Orientation: NW/SE

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
100	Topsoil	Loose dark brown silty clay loam. Contains occasional sub-rounded pebbles, charcoal flecks, residual pottery and tile. Slightly diffuse boundary.	0.00-0.20m
101	Subsoil	Mid brown silty clay. Contains frequent gravel, occasional brick and charcoal flecks. Moderately compact but friable.	0.20-0.54m
102	Natural drift	Light-mid orange-yellow sand with frequent gravel, to south-east. Mid orange-brown sandy clay with frequent gravel, plus occasional charcoal and brick fragments at surface, to north-west.	0.42m+
103	Dump deposit	Mid-dark grey-brown silty clay. Contains very frequent brick, tarmac and plastic debris. Only in mid trench, below topsoil and above natural matrix.	0.08-0.68m

Feature/deposit description:

No archaeological features were identified within this trench. Two land drains were noted, cut into [102]. A small amount of post-medieval debris was recovered from the spoil during machining.

The mixed sand and sandy clay with gravel [102] is considered to be natural drift material.

Trench 2

Maximum dimensions: Length: 45m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.60-1.20m

Orientation: NE/SW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
200	Topsoil	Loose dark brown silty clay loam. Contains occasional sub-rounded pebbles, charcoal flecks, residual pottery and tile. Slightly diffuse boundary.	0.00-0.35m
201	Subsoil	Mid brown silty clay. Contains frequent gravel, occasional brick and charcoal flecks. Moderately compact but friable. Diffuse boundaries with [201] and [204] below.	0.30-0.60m
202	Colluvium	Mid red-brown sandy clay with frequent gravel. Compact but friable. Diffuse boundary with [201] above.	0.55m+
203	Alluvium	Mid-light yellow-brown clay with frequent gravel. Occasional manganese flecks at surface. Band within south-west end of trench. Compact. Diffuse boundaries.	0.55m+
204	Alluvium	Mid red-yellow clay. Diffuse boundary with [201] above and [205] below. Compact.	0.49-0.87m
205	Alluvium	Mid yellow-brown clay. Diffuse boundary with [204] above. Compact.	0.86m+

Feature/deposit description:

No archaeological features were identified within this trench. A single land drain was noted, cut into [202].

The clays [203 – 205] are considered to be alluvial. Sandy clay [202] within the upper, south-west end of the trench is of colluvial origin.

Trench 3

Maximum dimensions: Length: 51m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.40m

Orientation: NW/SE

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
300	Topsoil	Loose dark brown silty clay loam. Contains occasional sub-rounded pebbles, charcoal flecks, residual pottery and tile. Slightly diffuse boundary.	0.00-0.30m
301	Subsoil	Mid brown silty clay. Contains frequent gravel, occasional brick and charcoal flecks. Moderately compact but friable.	0.25-0.40m
302	Alluvium	Mid red-yellow clay. Compact.	0.40m+
303	Alluvium	Mid-light yellow-brown clay with frequent gravel. Occasional manganese flecks at surface. Wide band within mid trench. Compact.	0.40m+

Feature/deposit description:

No archaeological features were identified within this trench, although a single posthole was observed within the north-east end of Trench 4 adjacent.

The clays [302 and 303] are considered to be of alluvial origin.

Trench 4

Maximum dimensions: Length: 46m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.50m

Orientation: NE/SW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
400	Topsoil	Loose dark brown silty clay loam. Contains occasional sub-rounded pebbles, charcoal flecks, residual pottery and tile. Slightly diffuse boundary.	0.00-0.30m
401	Subsoil	Mid brown silty clay. Contains frequent gravel, occasional brick and charcoal flecks. Moderately compact but friable.	0.30-0.50m
402	Colluvium/drift	Mid red-brown sandy clay with frequent gravel. Compact but friable.	0.40m+
403	Alluvium	Mid-light yellow-brown clay with frequent gravel. Occasional manganese flecks at surface. Compact.	0.40m+
404	Posthole	Circular cut. Gradual break of slope and shallow sides to concave base. 0.30m diameter.	0.40-0.52m
405	Fill	Mid-dark brown silty clay. Compact. Contains very occasional charcoal and brick flecks.	0.40-0.52m

Feature/deposit description:

A single feature [404] was recorded at the north-east end of the trench. It was not observed to cut through the subsoil, but the soily-fill contained a fragment of brick or tile, indicating a recent date. A large irregular area of modern debris was recorded to the south-west. Nothing was observed in association in adjoining Trench 3.

Context [402] is considered to be either colluvium or natural drift. Clay [403] is of alluvial origin.

Trench 5

Maximum dimensions: Length: 48m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.60-0.80m

Orientation: NW/SE

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
500	Topsoil	Loose dark brown silty clay loam. Contains occasional sub-rounded pebbles, charcoal flecks, residual pottery and tile. Slightly diffuse boundary.	0.00-0.30m
501	Subsoil	Mid brown silty clay. Contains frequent gravel, occasional brick and charcoal flecks. Moderately compact but friable.	0.20-0.60m
502	Natural drift	Mid orange-brown sandy clay with frequent gravel. Compact.	0.40m+
503	Dump deposit	Brick fragments and large grey gravel chips in mid grey sandy clay. Thin band below [500] and above [501].	0.18-46m

Feature/deposit description:

No archaeological features were identified within this trench. Two modern service pipe trenches were recorded in the south-east half of the trench.

The band of hardcore [503] was noted to lie on a north-west to south-east alignment across the trench. It is considered to represent a former trackway, which ran across the site at this point.

Trench 6

Maximum dimensions: Length: 49.50m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.50m

Orientation: NE/SW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
600	Topsoil	Loose dark greyish brown silty clay loam. Contains occasional sub-rounded pebbles, charcoal flecks, residual pottery and tile. Slightly diffuse boundary.	0.00-0.35m
601	Subsoil	Dark greyish brown sandy clay. Contains occasional sub-rounded gravel, pebbles and frequent charcoal flecks. Moderately compact but friable.	0.35-0.44m
602	Natural drift/colluvium	Mid reddish brown sand. Contains occasional medium round pebbles. Moderately compact but friable	0.44m+
603	Alluvium	Light brownish green grey clay. Contains occasional round pebbles. Compact.	0.44m+
604	Alluvium	Light reddish brown clay. Compact.	0.32m+

Feature/deposit description:

A single flint flake was recovered from the surface of [602]. A small amount of residual post medieval and modern debris was recovered during machining from the spoil.

No archaeological features were identified within this trench. Two ceramic land drains were identified toward the north-east end of the trench.

Sand and gravel [602] at the upper south-west end of the trench is either natural drift or of colluvial origin. The clays [603 and 604] to the north-east are alluvial.

Trench 7

Maximum dimensions: Length: 40m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.30-0.40m

Orientation: NW/SE

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
700	Topsoil	Loose dark brown silty clay loam. Contains occasional sub-rounded pebbles, charcoal flecks, residual pottery and tile. Slightly diffuse boundary.	0.00-0.27m
701	Subsoil	Mid brown silty clay. Contains frequent gravel, occasional brick and charcoal flecks. Moderately compact but friable.	0.20-0.39m
702	Alluvium	Mid red-yellow clay. Diffuse boundary with [701] above.	0.30m+
703	Alluvium	Mid-light yellow-brown clay with frequent gravel. Occasional manganese flecks at surface. Compact.	0.24m+

Feature/deposit description:

No archaeological features were identified within this trench.

The clays [702 and 703] are considered to be of alluvial origin.

Trench 8

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.40-0.50m

Orientation: NW/SE

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
800	Topsoil	Loose dark brown silty clay loam. Contains occasional sub-rounded pebbles, charcoal flecks, residual pottery and tile. Slightly diffuse boundary.	0.00-0.30m
801	Subsoil	Mid brown silty clay. Contains frequent gravel, occasional brick and charcoal flecks. Moderately compact but friable.	0.30-0.50m
802	Natural drift/colluvium	Mid red-brown sandy clay with frequent gravel. Compact but friable.	0.30m+

Feature/deposit description:

No archaeological features were identified within the trench. Two modern land drains were noted to cut into the sandy clay. [802] is either natural drift or of colluvial origin.

Trench 9

Maximum dimensions: Length: 48m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.40m

Orientation: NE/SW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
900	Topsoil	Loose dark brown silty clay loam. Contains occasional sub-rounded pebbles, charcoal flecks, residual pottery and tile. Slightly diffuse boundary.	0.00-0.30m
901	Natural drift/colluvium	Mid red-brown sandy clay with frequent gravel. Compact but friable.	0.30m+

Feature/deposit description:

No subsoil was identified within this trench. The ploughed topsoil lay directly over the natural clay.

No archaeological features were observed. Two land drains were noted, cut into the sandy clay. [901] is either natural drift or of colluvial origin.

Trench 10

Maximum dimensions: Length: 49.50m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.40m

Orientation: NW/SE

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1000	Topsoil	Loose dark brown silty clay loam. Contains occasional sub-rounded pebbles, charcoal flecks, residual pottery and tile. Slightly diffuse boundary.	0.00-0.30m
1001	Subsoil	Mid brown silty clay. Contains frequent gravel, occasional brick and charcoal flecks. Moderately compact but friable.	0.30-0.40m
1002	Natural drift/colluvium	Mid red-brown sandy clay with frequent gravel. Compact but friable.	0.40m+

Feature/deposit description:

Linear plough furrows were noted across the length of this trench, scored into the surface of natural matrix, on a north-east to south-west alignment. Root activity had caused frequent disturbance of the surface of [1002] toward the north-west end. A single land drain was also recorded cut into the natural clay.

No archaeological features were observed within the trench. [1002] is either natural drift or of colluvial origin.

Trench 11

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.80-3.50m Depth: 0.40m

Orientation: NE/SW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1100	Topsoil	Loose dark brownish grey sandy clay loam. Contains occasional sub-rounded pebbles, charcoal flecks, residual pottery and tile. Slightly diffuse boundary.	0.00-0.20m
1101	Subsoil	Dark brownish grey sandy clay. Compact.	0.20-0.40m
1102	Natural drift/colluvium	Mid brownish red clayey sand. Contains occasional small round pebbles.	0.40m+

Feature/deposit description:

The trench was extended to the south-west side, due to the recovery of a residual pot sherd. Nothing was identified within the extension.

No archaeological features were identified. Land drains were noted to cut into [1102] across the length of the trench. [1102] is either natural drift or of colluvial origin.

Trench 12

Maximum dimensions: Length: 35.50m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.40-0.50m

Orientation: NW/SE

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1200	Topsoil	Loose dark brown silty clay loam. Contains occasional sub-rounded pebbles, charcoal flecks, residual pottery and tile. Slightly diffuse boundary.	0.00-0.30m
1201	Subsoil	Mid red brown clay. Compact. No inclusions.	0.25-0.30m
1202	Alluvium	Mid yellow brown clay. Compact.	0.30m+
1203	Alluvium	Mid/light yellow brown clay.	0.30m+

Feature/deposit description:

A single land drain was noted to cut into the clay within the middle of the trench. It is unclear if the different clays represent alluvium or colluvium. The clays [1202 and 1203] are considered to be alluvial.

No archaeological features were recorded.

Trench 13

Maximum dimensions: Length: 41.50m Width: 1.60m Depth: 0.50m

Orientation: NE/SW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1300	Topsoil	Loose dark brown silty clay loam. Contains occasional sub-rounded pebbles, charcoal flecks, residual pottery and tile. Slightly diffuse boundary.	0.00-0.30m
1301	Subsoil	Mid brown silty clay. Contains frequent gravel, occasional brick and charcoal flecks. Moderately compact but friable.	0.30-0.50m
1302	Alluvium	Mid orange brown clay. Compact and cohesive.	0.50m+

Feature/deposit description:

No archaeological features were identified within this trench. The clay [1302] is considered to be alluvial.

Trench 14

Maximum dimensions: Length: 22m Width: 1.80-4.30m Depth: 0.30-0.50m

Orientation: NW/SE

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1400	Topsoil	Loose dark brown silty clay loam. Contains occasional sub-rounded pebbles, charcoal flecks, residual pottery and tile. Slightly diffuse boundary.	0.00-0.30m
1401	Subsoil	Mid brown silty clay. Contains frequent gravel, occasional brick and charcoal flecks. Moderately compact but friable.	0.30-0.50m
1402	Alluvium	Mid orange brown clay. Compact and cohesive.	0.30m+
1403	Posthole	Roughly circular cut. Gradual sides curving to a concave base. Diameter 0.37m. Filled by [1404].	0.30-0.40m
1404	Fill	Mid-light grey silty clay. Fill of [1403].	0.30-0.40m
1405	Root activity	Roughly oval cut. Irregular sides and base. Filled by mid grey silty clay.	0.30-0.35m

Feature/deposit description:

The trench was extended to the south-west side, to further define a possible posthole alignment. Only one posthole was noted. Adjacent disturbance was determined to be root activity. No other archaeological features were identified. The clay [1402] is considered to be alluvial.

Trench 15

Maximum dimensions: Length: 40m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.35-0.50m

Orientation: NE/SW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1500	Topsoil	Loose dark greyish brown silty clay loam. Contains occasional sub-rounded pebbles, charcoal flecks, residual pottery and tile. Slightly diffuse boundary.	0.00-0.20m
1501	Subsoil	Dark greyish brown sandy clay. Slightly diffuse boundary.	0.20-0.30m
1502	Natural drift/colluvium	Mid orange brown to mid brownish red sand. Contains occasional medium rounded pebbles.	0.30m+

Feature/deposit description:

No archaeological features were identified within this trench. It is unclear if the sand [1502] is natural drift or of colluvial origin.

Trench 16

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.80-2.80m Depth: 0.40m

Orientation: NW/SE

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1600	Topsoil	Loose dark greyish brown silty clay loam. Contains occasional sub-rounded pebbles, charcoal flecks, residual pottery and tile. Slightly diffuse boundary.	0.00-0.25m
1601	Subsoil	Dark greyish brown sandy clay. Slightly diffuse boundary.	0.25-0.40m
1602	Natural drift/colluvium	Mid orange brown – mid brownish red sand. Contains frequent medium round pebbles. Compact.	0.40m+
1603	Fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam. Contains plastic debris. Moderately compact. Fill of [1604].	0.40-0.60m
1604	Posthole	Sub-circular. Sharp break of slope with steep concave sides curving to concave base. Filled by [1603].	0.40-0.60m
1605	Fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam. Contains plastic debris. Moderately compact. Fill of [1606].	0.40-0.55m
1606	Posthole	Sub-circular. Sharp break of slope with steep concave sides curving to concave base. Filled by [1605].	0.40-0.55m
1607	Fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam. Contains plastic debris. Moderately compact. Fill of [1608].	0.40-0.55m
1608	Posthole	Sub-circular. Sharp break of slope with concave sides curving to concave base. Filled by [1607].	0.40-0.55m
1609	Fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam. Contains plastic debris. Moderately compact. Fill of [1610].	0.40-0.55m
1610	Posthole	Sub-circular. Sharp break of slope with steep concave sides curving to concave base. Filled by [1609].	0.40-0.55m

Feature/deposit description:

The trench was extended to the north-east side, to further define the posthole alignment. A total of 4 postholes were identified, in a linear NNW/SSE alignment. They were determined to be of 20th century origin as they contained plastic debris.

No archaeological features were identified. It is unclear if the sand [1602] is natural drift or of colluvial origin.

Trench 17

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.80-2.90m Depth: 0.40-0.60m

Orientation: NE/SW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1700	Topsoil	Loose dark brown silty clay loam. Contains occasional sub-rounded pebbles, charcoal flecks, residual pottery and tile. Slightly diffuse boundary.	0.00-0.30m
1701	Subsoil	Mid brown silty clay. Contains frequent gravel, occasional brick and charcoal flecks. Moderately compact but friable.	0.30-0.50m
1702	Natural drift/colluvium	Mid red-brown sandy clay with frequent gravel. Compact but friable.	0.30m+
1703	Posthole	Sub-circular. Sharp break of slope straight to a flattish concave base. Diameter 0.20m. Filled by [1704].	0.30-0.46m
1704	Fill	Mid-dark grey silty clay. Contains plastic debris and very occasional gravel. Fill of [1703].	0.30-0.46m

Feature/deposit description:

A single posthole was recorded toward the middle of the trench. A modern origin was determined as the fill contained plastic debris. The trench was widened to the south-west side, to determine the existence of further features adjacent. None were identified.

A number of land drains and plough furrows (on a roughly east-west alignment) were noted within the surface of the natural matrix.

No archaeological features were observed within the trench. It is unclear if the sandy clay [1702] is natural drift or of colluvial origin.

Trench 18

Maximum dimensions: Length: 51.50m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.40-0.50m

Orientation: NW/SE

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1800	Topsoil	Loose dark greyish brown silty clay loam. Contains occasional sub-rounded pebbles, charcoal flecks, residual pottery and tile. Slightly diffuse boundary.	0.00-0.24m
1801	Subsoil	Mid brown silty clay. Contains frequent gravel, occasional brick and charcoal flecks. Moderately compact but friable.	0.22-0.30m
1802	Natural drift/colluvium	Mid orange brown to dark brownish red sand. Compact. Contains frequent patches of medium round pebbles.	0.30m+

Feature/deposit description:

A number of modern land drains were noted within the north-west half of the trench.

No archaeological features were identified. It is unclear if the sand [1802] is natural drift or of colluvial origin.

Trench 19

Maximum dimensions: Length: 16m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.40m

Orientation: NW/SE

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1900	Topsoil	Loose dark brown silty clay loam. Contains occasional sub-rounded pebbles, charcoal flecks, residual pottery and tile. Slightly diffuse boundary.	0.00-0.30m
1901	Subsoil	Mid brown silty clay. Contains frequent gravel, occasional brick and charcoal flecks. Moderately compact but friable.	0.30-0.40m
1902	Natural drift/colluvium	Mid red-brown sandy clay with frequent gravel. Compact but friable.	0.40m+
1903	Alluvium	Mid orange brown clay. Compact.	0.40m+

Feature/deposit description:

A single band of root or plough disturbance was noted, cut into the surface of the natural matrix, toward the south-east end of the trench.

Clay [1903] is considered to be alluvial. It is unclear if the sand [1902] is natural drift or of colluvial origin.

No archaeological features were identified.

Trench 20

Maximum dimensions: Length: 49m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.30-0.50m

Orientation: NE/SW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
2000	Topsoil	Loose dark brown silty clay loam. Contains occasional sub-rounded pebbles, charcoal flecks, residual pottery and tile. Slightly diffuse boundary.	0.00-0.40m
2001	Subsoil	Mid brown silty clay. Contains frequent gravel, occasional brick and charcoal flecks. Moderately compact but friable.	0.30-0.40m
2002	Alluvium	Mid red orange clay. Contains frequent gravel. Compact.	0.30m+

Feature/deposit description:

A series of narrow linear bands, aligned NNE/SSW within the surface of the natural were interpreted to be plough furrows.

No archaeological features were identified within the trench. The clay [2002] is considered to be alluvial.

Trench 21

Maximum dimensions: Length: 29m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.33-0.40m

Orientation: NW/SE

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
2100	Topsoil	Loose mid-dark brown silty clay loam. Contains occasional sub-rounded pebbles, charcoal flecks, residual pottery and tile. Slightly diffuse boundary.	0.00-0.38m
2101	Natural drift/colluvium	Mixed mid orange sandy clay with occasional pebble gravel and mid orange red clay with frequent pebble gravel.	0.33m+

Feature/deposit description:

Two ceramic land drains were noted toward the south-east end of the trench.

No archaeological features were observed within the trench. The mixed material [2101] is considered to be either natural drift or colluvium.

Trench 22

Maximum dimensions: Length: 23m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.27-0.38m

Orientation: NE/SW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
2200	Topsoil	Mid brown silty clay loam. Contains occasional sub-rounded pebbles, charcoal flecks, residual pottery and tile. Moderately compact. Slightly diffuse boundary.	0.00-0.33m
2201	Natural drift/colluvium /alluvium	Mixed light orange clay and dark red sandy clay. Contains occasional small sub-rounded pebbles. Occasional charcoal flecks at surface.	0.27m+

Feature/deposit description:

Two modern ceramic land drains and a modern topsoil filled posthole lay within the south-west half of the trench.

No archaeological features were identified. Mixed matrix [2201] is considered to represent alluvial material to the north-east and natural drift or colluvium to the south-west.

Trench 23

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50.50m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.30-1.22m

Orientation: NE/SW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
2300	Topsoil	Loose dark brown silty clay loam. Contains occasional sub-rounded pebbles, charcoal flecks, residual pottery and tile. Slightly diffuse boundary.	0.00-0.30m
2301	Alluvium	Mid-light brown clay. Compact and cohesive. Very diffuse boundary with [2302] below.	0.30-0.60m
2302	Alluvium	Mid-light yellow brown clay. Compact and cohesive. Very diffuse boundary with [2301] above and [2303] below.	0.55-1.22m
2303	Alluvium	Mid-light red grey clay. Compact and cohesive. Very diffuse boundary with [2302] above.	1.20m+

Feature/deposit description:

The different clays were identified within a sondage excavated adjacent to the Brook.

The trench was widened on the north-west side due to the recovery of a small quantity of pottery during initial stripping. No archaeological features were observed. The clays [2301 – 2303] are considered to be alluvial.

Trench 24

Maximum dimensions: Length: 49m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.50m

Orientation: NE/SW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
2400	Topsoil	Loose dark brown silty clay loam. Contains occasional sub-rounded pebbles, charcoal flecks, residual pottery and tile. Slightly diffuse boundary.	0.00-0.30m
2401	Subsoil	Mid brown silty clay. Contains frequent gravel, occasional brick and charcoal flecks. Moderately compact but friable. Only existed in	0.30-0.50m
2402	Natural drift/colluvium	Mid red-brown sandy clay with frequent gravel, occasionally in patches. Compact but friable.	0.30m+

Feature/deposit description:

An irregular area of modern disturbance was noted within the south-west end of the trench. The subsoil [2401] only existed in the north-east end of trench.

No archaeological features were identified within the trench. Matrix [2402] is considered to be either natural drift or colluvium.

Trench 25

Maximum dimensions: Length: 51m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.50m

Orientation: E/W

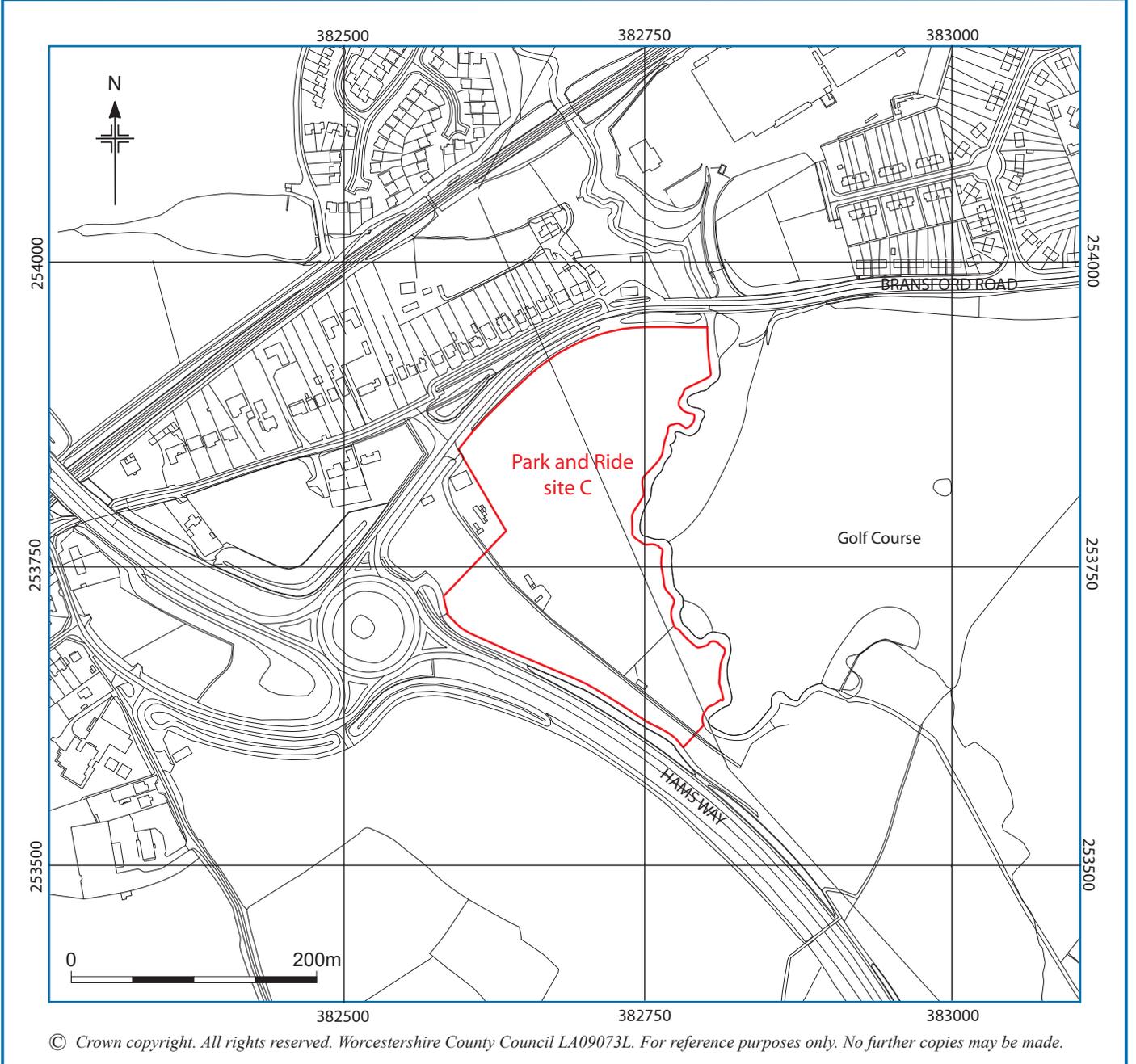
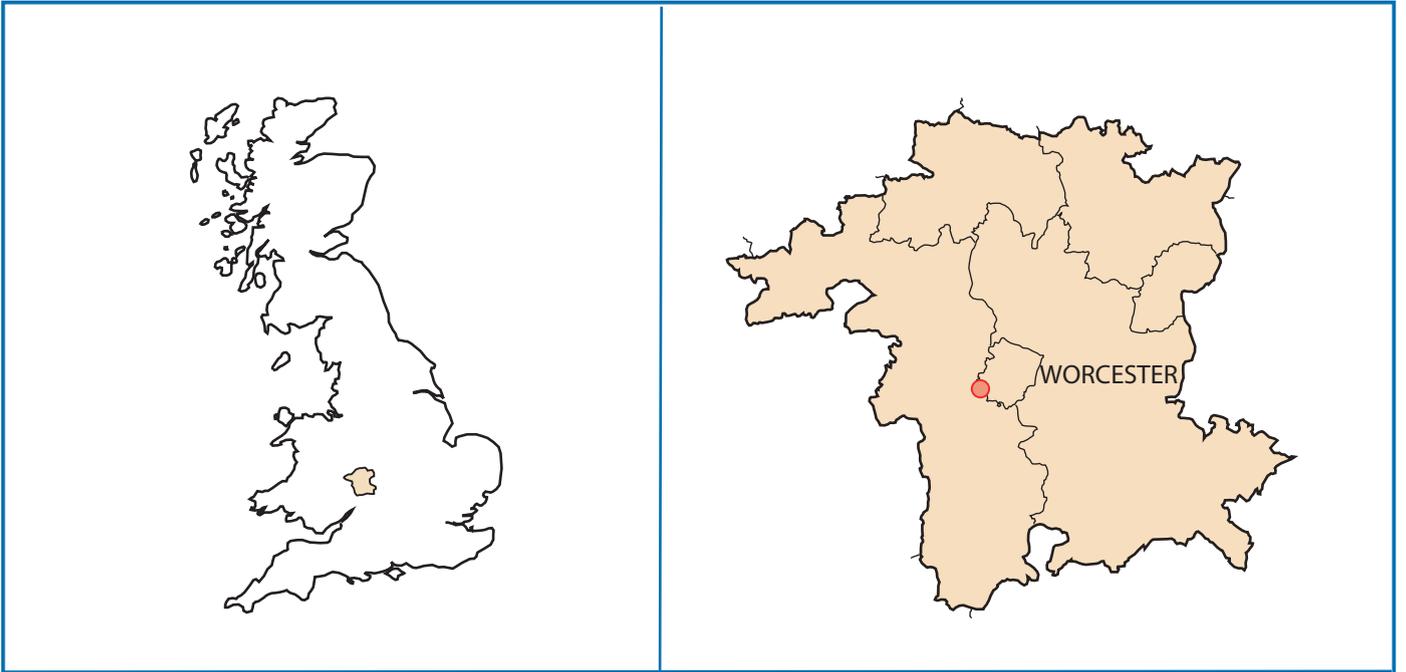
Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
2500	Topsoil	Loose dark greyish brown silty clay loam. Contains occasional sub-rounded pebbles, charcoal flecks, residual pottery and tile. Slightly diffuse boundary.	0.00-0.25m
2501	Subsoil	Dark brownish grey sandy clay. Contains occasional small sub-rounded gravel, medium pebbles, frequent charcoal flecks.	0.25-0.40m
2502	Natural drift/colluvium	Mid orange brown to mid brownish red mixed sandy clay and clayey sand. Contains occasional medium sub-rounded pebbles.	0.35m+m

Feature/deposit description:

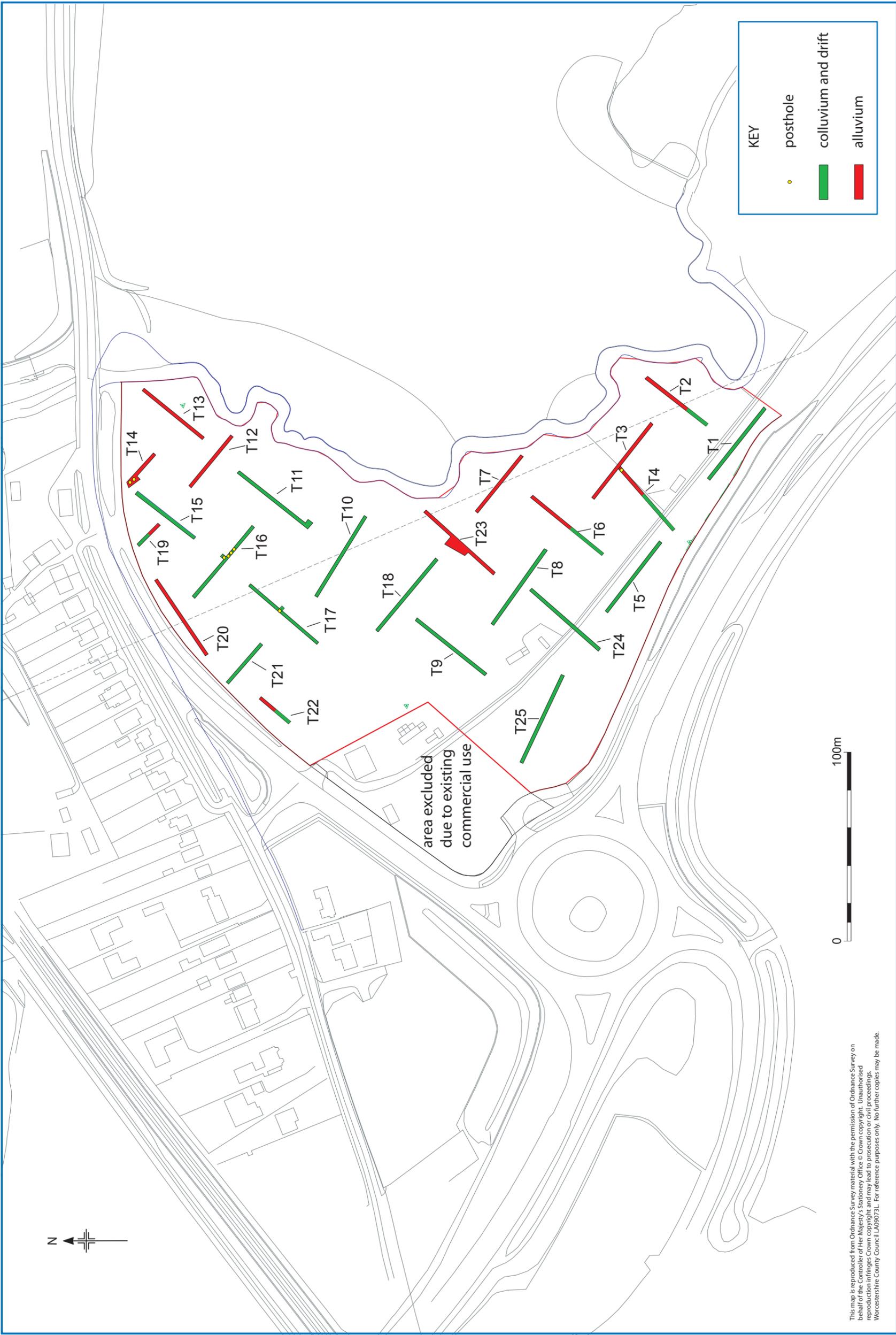
A number of modern features were identified, cut into the natural matrix: a pea gravel filled borehole toward the east end; a land drain and indeterminate activity within the western half of the trench.

No archaeological features were observed. It is unclear if the mixed matrix [2502] is natural drift or of colluvial origin.



Location of the site.

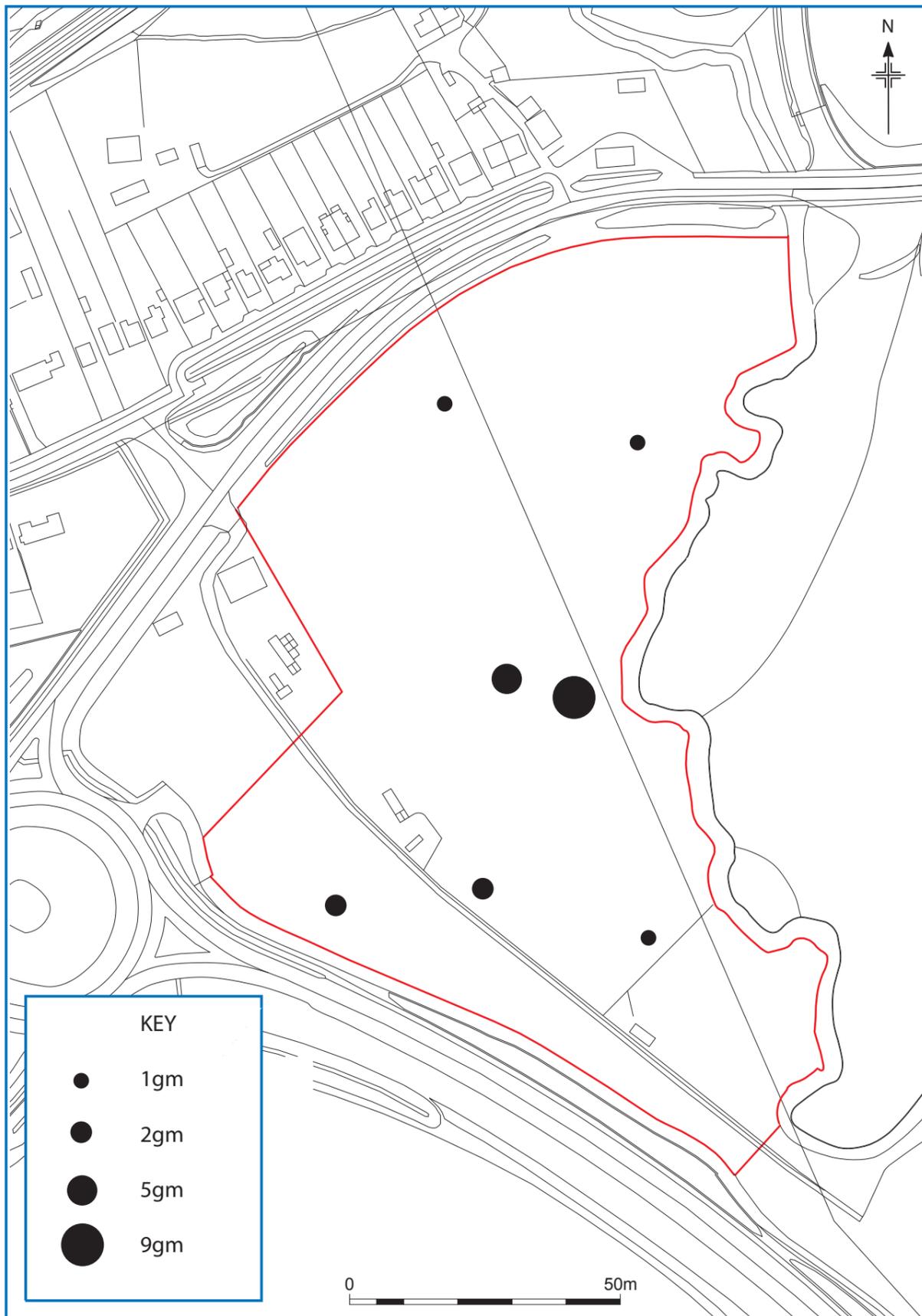
Figure 1



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Trench location plan.

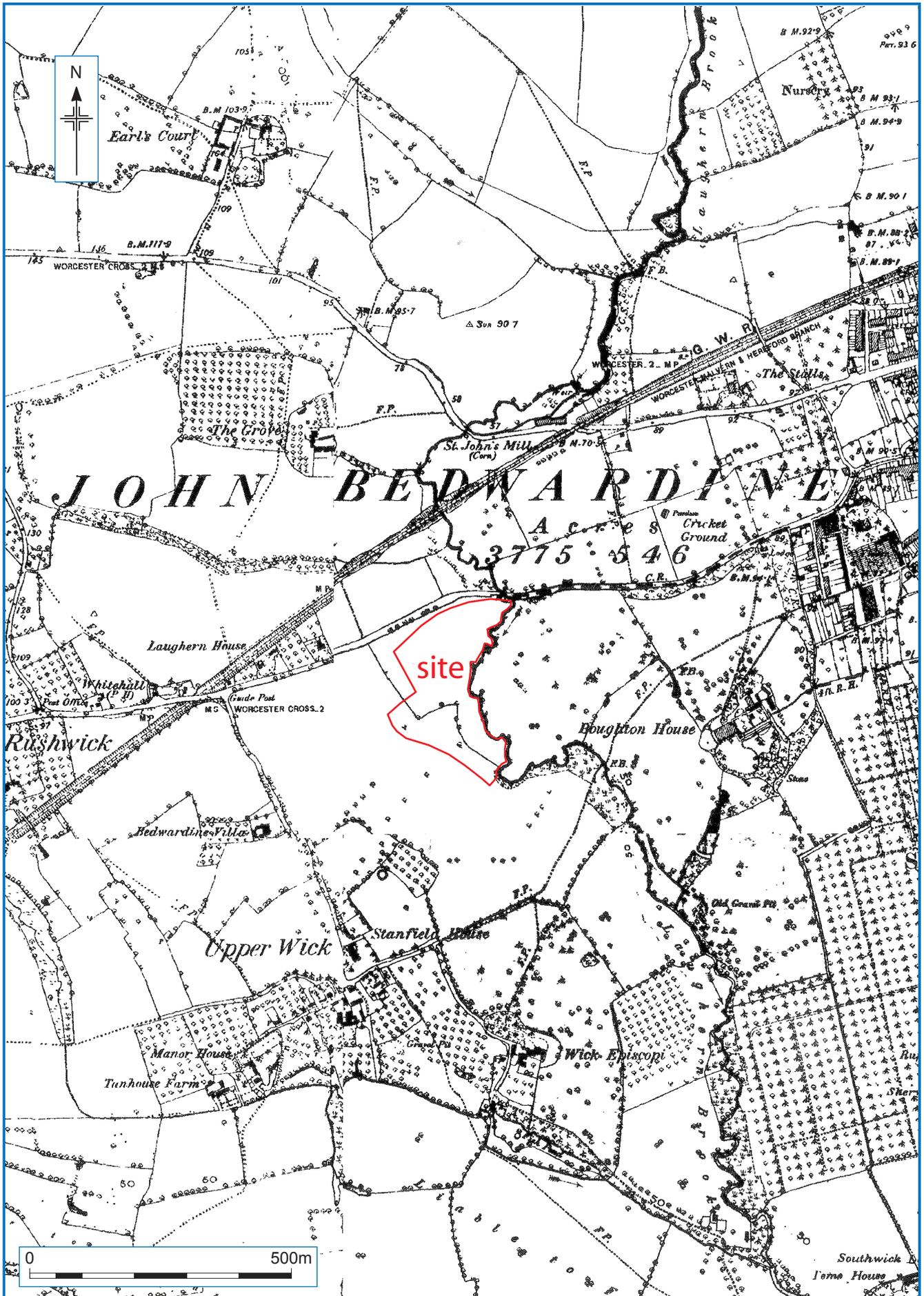
Figure 2



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Distribution of Romano-British pottery and tile by weight.

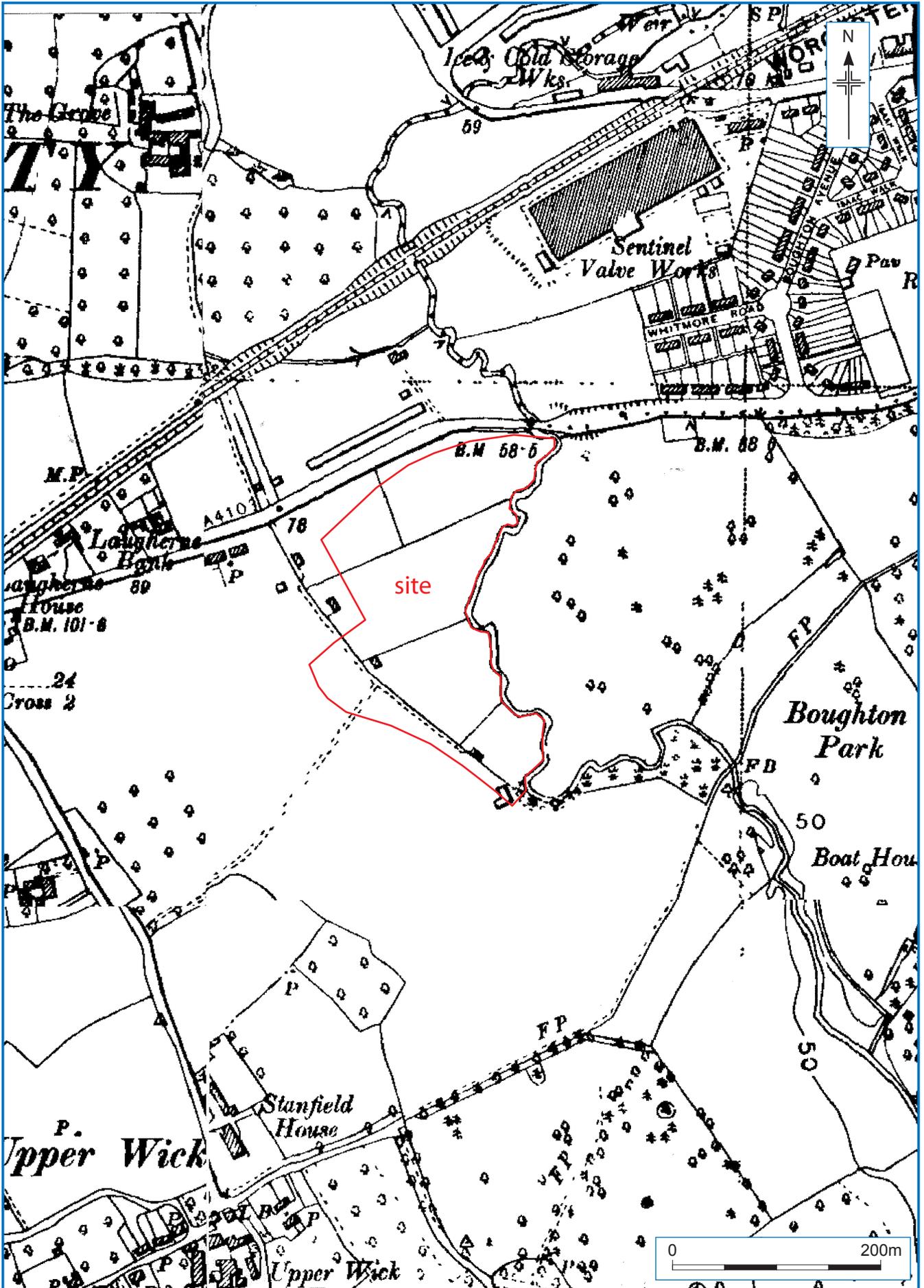
Figure 3



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Extract from 1st edition Ordnance Survey (1887).

Figure 4



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Extract from 1938 6" Ordnance Survey.

Figure 5