

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
WATCHING BRIEF AT OLD ROAD  
SOUTH, KEMPSEY,  
WORCESTERSHIRE

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Illustrated by Carolyn Hunt

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## **Archaeological watching brief at Old Road South, Kempsey**

**James Goad, Liz Pearson and Erica Darch**

### **Part 1 Project summary**

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken at Old Road South, Kempsey, Worcestershire (NGR SO 855 487). It was undertaken on behalf of Westbury Homes (Holdings) Ltd. who intended to build new housing at no.15. The aims of the project were from the brief (AS 2002a) which aimed to determine if any significant archaeological site was present and if so indicate what its location, date and nature were.

The trenching revealed a number of features which were linear and curvilinear in form, as well as a series of circular and oval features, some of which were pits and post pits of a modern or post medieval date. Although excavated, the majority of the linear features yielded no dating material at all and the environmental sampling produced little information. In plan the features seem to form patterns reminiscent of enclosure ditches, though owing to the size of the areas exposed this can not be conclusively proven.

Sherds of Roman and medieval pottery were found in the topsoil and in a couple of features. These were only residual and probably derived from manuring.

Overall the results of this project can only prove activity on the site from the post-medieval and modern periods. Despite the lack of artefactual or environmental evidence in support of a prehistoric date for the ditches and pits, the general form of the features and the paucity of finds indicates that they are most likely to date from this period. Their exact layout could not be determined, but the ditches could indicate the presence of stock enclosures or something likely to be peripheral to a settlement.

## Part 2 Detailed report

### 1. **Background**

#### 1.1 **Reasons for the project**

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken at 15, Old Road South, Kempsey, Worcestershire NGR SO 855 487, on behalf of Westbury Homes (Holdings) Ltd. Westbury Homes intends the construction of a residential development and has submitted a planning application to Malvern Hills District Council (reference MH/00/1034), who considered that a site of archaeological interest was affected (WSM 27891).

#### 1.2 **Project parameters**

The project conforms to the *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (IFA 1999)

The project also conforms to a brief prepared by the Planning Advisory Section (AS 2002a) and for which a project proposal (including detailed specification) was produced (AS 2002b).

#### 1.3 **Aims**

The aims of the watching brief were to strip the area in question to locate any 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. Where appropriate full excavation of certain features would be required to determine the nature of the feature or to extract sufficient artefact or environmental remains.

### 2. **Methods**

#### 2.1 **Documentary search**

Prior to fieldwork commencing a search was made of the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR). In addition the following sources were also consulted:

##### *Cartographic sources*

- 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1887.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1905.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1930.

##### *Aerial photographs*

- National Library of Air Photo's – Kempsey parish, NGR 850488. Photos from SO 850480 and SO 851480.

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*Documentary sources*

- County histories (VCH III, 430-437)

## 2.2 **Fieldwork**

### 2.2.1 **Fieldwork strategy**

Fieldwork was undertaken between 24<sup>th</sup> September and 4<sup>th</sup> October 2002.

The original brief was to strip the entire area down to natural in order to reveal any archaeological features. However, after stripping had commenced it became apparent that the depth of the topsoil and subsoil was much more than originally thought. The sheer volume of soil that would have to be moved in a total strip, in an area of such a size, was impractical, and therefore an alternate plan of investigation was agreed.

Five trenches, amounting to just over 573m<sup>2</sup> in area, were excavated over the site area of 5857m<sup>2</sup>, representing a sample of just under 10%. The location of the trenches is indicated in Figure 6.

Deposits considered not to be significant were removed using a 360° tracked excavator, employing a toothless bucket and under archaeological supervision. All the trenches were spaced as evenly as possible over the area on an east to west alignment. Because the site had been topsoil stripped there were very large spoil heaps in places which prevented safe trenching immediately next to them. In one case a trench was kinked around a spoil heap to achieve the necessary area sample. 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, fieldwalking and topographic/earthwork 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 were retrieved by hand and retained in accordance with the service manual (CAS 1995 as amended).

### 2.3.2 **Method of analysis**

All hand-retrieved finds were examined. Artefacts were identified, quantified, dated and recorded on a Microsoft Access 1997 database. A *terminus post quem* (TPQ) date was assigned to each stratified context. The pottery was examined and recorded by fabric type according to the fabric reference series maintained by the Service (Hurst and Rees 1992).

### 2.3.3 **Artefact analysis**

The material ranged in date from Roman to modern, and was mostly quite abraded. The largest group of material by weight was brick and tile. The tile was mostly flat roof tile of a long-lived type produced from the 13<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century. The brick was also probably late medieval or post-medieval in date, and many of the pieces were highly abraded. Most of the pottery recovered was of post-medieval (329g) or modern date (279g). There were two sherds of medieval pottery from context 109, both highly abraded rim sherds of oxidised glazed Malvernian ware (fabric 69), and one large but quite abraded base sherd of samian ware (fabric 43) that was unstratified. There was also an unstratified flint flake. The rest of the assemblage consisted of post-medieval and modern artefacts including clay pipe stem, vessel and window glass, concrete, an iron nail, iron fragments and flowerpot.

## 2.4 **Environment**

### 2.4.1 **Fieldwork and sampling policy**

The environmental sampling policy was as defined in the County Archaeological Service Recording System (CAS 1995 as amended). Samples of 10 litres were taken from fifteen contexts of unknown (possibly post-medieval) date (See Table 1).

### 2.4.2 **Processing and analysis**

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

The residues were scanned by eye and the abundance of each category of environmental remains estimated. The flots from eight samples were scanned using a low power EMT stereo light microscope and remains identified using modern reference collections housed at the County Archaeological Service.

## 2.5 **Results**

All samples were rich in unidentifiable woody root fragments. The only other plant remains were seeds tentatively identified as bryony (cf *Bryonia dioica*), a plant which grows in woodlands and hedgerows, in ditch 319, raspberry/bramble etc (*Rubus fruticosus/idaeus/caesius*) and unidentified charred cereal and grass grains in ditch 313. It is likely that the root material is modern contamination, as this material could not be expected to survive for long in the silty, loamy soils on this site. Moreover, previous to the evaluation, the land was partly covered in trees and shrubs, which is likely to have resulted in deep root contamination of the soils.

Small quantities of fragmented animal bone were found in several samples, while occasional slag was found in context 106, and hammerscale in contexts 205 and 402.

## 2.6 **Discussion**

There was minimal evidence for residues from human activities on this site in the form of fragmented animal bone, charred cereal grain and hammerscale. The latter is suggestive of smithing. However, there appears to be a high degree of root contamination of these features, and hence it is difficult to determine whether the small quantities of plant remains, animal bone and other remains are contemporary with the features, or intrusive.



**Table 1: list of environmental samples**

Context no	Sample no	Context type	Period	Sample vol	Volume processed	Reassessed	Flot assessed
106	1	ditch	UNDATED	10	10	Y	
115	3	ditch	UNDATED	10	10	Y	
205	2	ditch	UNDATED	10	10	Y	
207	5	ditch	UNDATED	10	10	Y	
219	4	ditch	UNDATED	10	10	Y	Y
305	14	ditch	UNDATED	10	10	Y	Y
307	13	ditch	UNDATED	10	10	Y	Y
309	12	ditch	UNDATED	10	10	Y	Y
311	11	ditch	UNDATED	10	10	Y	Y
313	10	ditch	UNDATED	10	10	Y	Y
317	6	ditch	UNDATED	10	10	Y	
319	8	ditch	UNDATED	10	10	Y	Y
321	7	ditch	UNDATED	10	10	Y	Y
402	15	ditch	UNDATED	10	10	Y	Y

## 2.7 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 soil in this area belongs to the Wick Series. These are deep, well-drained light loams developed in glaciofluvial deposits and classified with the typical brown earths. Profiles are weakly differentiated brown sandy loams in which the clay content increases with depth. Kempsey is situated in on a low river terrace where these soils are extensive. The topsoils are weakly structured slightly stony sandy loams, which pass to similar porous brownish subsoils (Beard *et al*, 1986).

The land in and around Kempsey is rich in archaeological deposits. To the south-west of the proposed development lie a group of large enclosures visible only as cropmarks, which are of probable late Iron Age and Romano-British date (WSM 02109, WSM 02111, WSM 02112). To the west of the site is a buried Iron Age promontory fort (WSM 02113) within which is the medieval parish church of St. Mary's (WSM 02123) along with the buried remains of the Bishop's Palace (WSM 07192). Close to the church are traces of Roman remains where urns and coins were found in 1835-6 (no WSM number assigned). A Roman roadside marker has also been recovered from the vicinity of the church (WSM 02121). This was engraved and dates from the 4<sup>th</sup> century AD. It's thought likely that it could have been placed along a road from that period, namely Old Road South, which passes through old Kempsey village. The road is also the possible location of a Roman camp (VCH III 430-437, no WSM number assigned).

## 4. Description

The contexts used are in Table 2 with the environmental samples listed in Table 1. The trenches and features recorded are shown in Figures 6,7 and 8.

## 5. Discussion

All the archaeological features located in the area as a whole were found on the western side of the site within the sandy gravels, which predominated in this area. The area of clay, which was picked up in all the trenches from 40-50m distance from the road, was totally devoid of any features.

### **Possible prehistoric**

The layout of the features presents a pattern that hints at the existence of a number of unidentified enclosures (which are common in the land just outside the village as identified by aerial photography). The veracity of these features as prehistoric enclosures cannot be supported given the limited area exposed by the trenching, and the lack of dating evidence produced by the fieldwork.

However a hypothetical view of the features (for reference see Figures 7 and 8) could see an intersection of two enclosures occurring in trench 2B in the far south-west corner of the site. Ditch 116 has a possible continuation in ditch 218. Ditch 105 seems to have a continuation in 216 and possibly 204 in trench 2. No relationship between the two was determined by excavation. Ditch 320 has a possible termination or return in 401. However it is equally as likely that features such as 401 are pits and don't have much of a continuation under the edges of the trenches. An example of this was found at the western end of trench 3 which, whilst being extended, in part to reveal the continuation of linear 310, revealed the ditch to terminate after a couple of metres. The features seen at the western end of trench 3 could not be picked up in the west ends of trenches 4 and 5 due to their positioning further east.

The linear features observed in the trenches do hint at the existence of a series of enclosures, despite their total form being unresolved. In profile and section the linears are consistent with ditches. Charred plant remains and hammerscale within a few of them do indicate that there had been at least a low level of industrial and agricultural activity here, perhaps implying that the site was on the fringes of a settlement. Although no direct dating evidence exists for these features it seems most likely that they're probably of a prehistoric date. The very lack of artefactual material from these features is, in itself, consistent with many prehistoric sites across the country.

The ditches revealed here could have served a number of functions. The presence of hammerscale in them indicates industrial activity. These areas are commonly found on the periphery of settlements, so it can be assumed the ditches might have been located on the edge of a large settlement site. Perhaps it is reasonable to assume that they could have been stock enclosures or delineated areas for industrial activity.

### **Roman**

Like the medieval period the artefactual evidence is in the form of pottery. However this artefact was found in the topsoil and cannot be used as evidence of Roman settlement at this location.

### **Medieval**

The only evidence from this period is in the form of a sherd of medieval pot. However, this exists within a dated modern feature and is therefore residual.

### **Post-medieval to modern**

The assemblage of dateable artefactual material from this site was very limited in quantity and what features were dateable seemed to belong to the post-medieval and modern periods. These were limited to various circular and sub-circular features, mostly pits, which were mostly concentrated in the south-west corner of the site. These features have been used as

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domestic refuse dumps by domestic dwellings on the site. A vicarage stood on the northern part of the site in the 20<sup>th</sup> century as well as other houses which seemed to be over the area of linear and pit activity in question. A number of modern rubble filled pits were discovered as well as circular brick wells or soakaways. The material stripped from trenches 1 and 2 also contained over half a dozen domestic pet burials. Adjacent to one of the ditches in trench 2 was a deep, straight-sided feature with what was probably a post pit. The vertical sides make it seem unlikely that it was a simple domestic refuse pit and that it could have served a structural function. This could be associated with buildings on the site, which are apparent on early 20<sup>th</sup> century maps. Maps from the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries along with aerial photographs show a variety of buildings on the site located mainly in the south-west corner. The only remnant of the vicarage to be found was probably the brick-lined service located in trench 5.

Contexts 109, 111, 117 and 213 have a *TPQ* date of modern, while context 113 has a *TPQ* of post-medieval. Context 207 contained one small fragment of abraded tile, which could not be dated. The assemblage is too small to draw many conclusions, although there is little evidence for significant activity before the post-medieval period. The earlier pottery could originate from Roman and medieval sites nearby (AS 2002a), and may not represent Roman or medieval activity at the site. All the Roman and medieval material was found in deposits of later date, and was, therefore, residual.

With most of these features concentrated in the south and east areas of the site its future preservation depends largely on where exactly the new housing is located. The sheer depth of the topsoil and subsoil over the area of archaeological sensitivity suggests that perhaps the trenching necessary for housing construction might have less of an impact on the archaeology than might otherwise have been the case.

## 6. **Publication summary**

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

*A watching brief was undertaken on behalf of Westbury Homes (Holdings) Ltd. at 15, Old Road South, Kempsey, Worcestershire (NGR SO 855487; WSM 31960). Trenching was undertaken at intervals across the site and located a variety of features which were located principally in the south and west parts of the site. The features found ranged from small circular and sub-ovular pits and postholes to long linear and curvilinear ditches that were probably ditches.*

*Only a limited amount of artefactual evidence was recovered. These generally took the form of brick, pot and tile from the pits and which were all dated to the post-medieval and modern periods. These are probably related to the structures recorded on maps dating from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century onwards. The linear features did not produce any artefactual evidence whatsoever which meant obtaining a date for them was impossible. The environmental evidence was fairly inconclusive except to state how much these features have been contaminated by modern root action. However it seems reasonable to assume that these features are from the prehistoric period, given that they are consistent in shape as ditches. They exist in an area in very close proximity to quite large-scale cropmarks that have been located on aerial photographs of the area. In addition to this the very lack of artefactual material in these features is quite consistent with other sites around the country from the period in question. Their function remains unclear but the possibility remains that they do represent portions of prehistoric enclosures.*

## 7. **The archive**

The archive consists of:

8	Fieldwork progress records AS2
2	Photographic records AS3
2	Colour transparency films
2	Black and white photographic films
1	Sample records AS17
3	Abbreviated context records AS40
14	Scale drawings
15	Quicksan environmental sheets
7	Flot records
1	Box of finds
1	Computer disk

The project archive is intended to be placed at:

Worcestershire County Museum

Hartlebury Castle

Hartlebury

Near Kidderminster

Worcestershire DY11 7XZ

Tel Hartlebury (01299) 250416

## 8. **Acknowledgements**

The Service would like to thank Westbury Homes (Holdings) Ltd for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project.

## 9. **Personnel**

Paul Williams and James Goad led the fieldwork. James Goad led the report preparation. The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Simon Woodiwiss. Paul Williams, James Goad and Marc Steinmetzer undertook the fieldwork. Finds analysis was by Erica Darch, environmental analysis by Elizabeth Pearson and illustration by Carolyn Hunt.

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## 11. **Abbreviations**

BSB	Break of slope to the base
BST	Break of slope from the top
WSM	Numbers prefixed with ‘WSM’ are the primary reference numbers used by the Worcestershire County Sites and Monuments Record.
WCRO	Worcestershire County Records Office.
NMR	National Monuments Record.
SMR	Sites and Monuments Record.

## Table 2: Trench descriptions

### Trench 1

Maximum dimensions: Length: 75m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.40-0.70m

Orientation: East-west

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
100	Unstratified finds and machine strip	Finds number and topsoil	
101	Topsoil	Greyish brown silty sandy loam. Roots present with occasional small rounded and sub rounded pebbles. Occasional brick and tile fragments. Frequent ashy patches and several cat burials.	0-0.40m
102	Subsoil	Orangey brown sandy silt. Moderate rounded and sub rounded inclusions. Occasional rooting and charcoal.	0.25-0.70m
103	Natural	Red gravel/pea grit with brick clay and sandy pockets. Glacial till.	0.30-0.70m
104	Ditch fill of 105	A dark orangey brown silty sand. Moderate round pebbles increasing to frequent/abundant at the lowest level. Many decayed stones that may be mistaken for fire-cracked. Very similar to subsoil except with generally less stones.	0.50-1.16m
105	Ditch cut, filled by 104	Runs approx. north-east to south-west.  BST-Sharp  Sides-Concave  BSB-Gradual  Base-Flat  0.70m in depth	0.50-1.18m
106	Ditch/gully fill of 107	Light greyish brown friable sandy clay with moderate small rounded stones.	

107	Ditch/gully cut, filled by 106	BST-Gradual Sides-Concave BSB-Imperceptible Base-Flat Feature is probably highly truncated	
108	Well or soakaway	Obviously modern brick built structure	
109	Pit fill, filled of 110	Dark brown silty sandy clay with frequent charcoal. Rare rounded pebbles with occasional rooting.	
110	Large pit, filled by 109	About 3m wide and running under northern trench edge. Sides-Straight Cut from within the subsoil Depth of around 1.20m C18-19 material	
111	Fill of 112		
112	Filled by 111	Amorphous natural feature	
113	Fill of pit 114	Ashy greyish brown sandy loam with abundant round pebbles. Occasional bone inclusions and occasional brick and tile	
114	Pit, filled by 113	BST-Gradual Sides-Concave BSB-Gradual Base-Irregular Max. 0.30m in depth C19 finds	
115	Fill of linear 116	Firm reddish brown silty sand with abundant rounded and sub-rounded pebbles	

116	Linear feature, possibly a ditch. Filled by 115	Approximately north-west to south-east in orientation.  Sides-Concave  Base-Flat  No finds	
117	Fill of 118		
118	Natural feature. Filled by 117		
119	Fill of 120	Bricks, limestone with a corrugated iron covering and other debris including iron and asbestos	
120	Modern pit(?) or backfilled soakaway feature, filled by 119		

**Trench 2a**

Maximum dimensions: Length:73.20m                      Width:1.80m                      Depth: Variable

Orientation:                      East-west

Main deposit descriptions

Context	Classification	Description	Depth from ground surface (m)
200	Machine cut		
201	Topsoil	Greyish brown silty sand loam	0-0.30m
202	Subsoil	Orange brown sandy silt	0.30-0.50m
203	Natural	Sandy clay and sandy gravels	
204	Slightly curvilinear cut, filled by 221, 205 and 220	BST-Gradual  Sides-Irregular	0.20-0.85m



		BSB-Gradual Base-Concave	
205	Tertiary fill of ditch 204	Loose light brownish grey sandy clay with occasional small rounded stones and occasional medium sub-angular stones. Occasional fine rooting	0.20-0.70m
206	Post pit, filled by 207, 222, 223, 224	BST-Sharp Sides-Irregular BSB-Sharp Base-Concave Probable post setting of a post-medieval date	
207	Last fill in post pit 206	Friable light brown silty sand with moderate rounded small to medium stone inclusions	
208	Pit or ditch terminus, filled by 209	Semi-circular, running under southern trench edge BST-Gradual Sides-Concave BSB-Imperceptible Base-Concave 0.80m wide and 0.17m in depth	
209	Fill of 208	Friable mid yellowy brown sandy clay. 5% gravel inclusions	
210	Ditch terminus, filled by 211	BST-Gradual Sides-Concave BSB-Imperceptible Base-Flat 0.57m wide and .10m in depth	
211	Fill of ditch 210	Friable mid yellowy brown sandy clay. 5% gravel inclusions, 0.06m thick	

212	Modern feature, filled by 213		
213	Fill of modern feature 212		
214	Cut of modern feature, filled by 216		
215	Fill of modern feature 214		

**Trench 2b**

Main dimensions:        Length: 5m                                  Width: 5m

Orientation: n/a

Main deposit descriptions

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (m)
216	Cut of linear feature, filled by 217	1.80m wide on surface BST-Gradual Sides-Concave Probably cuts ditch 218	
217	Ditch fill of 216	Loose to friable mid brownish red sandy clay	
218	Curvilinear ditch cut, filled by 219	0.75m wide on surface 0.09m in depth	
219	Ditch fill of 218	Friable to loose mid brownish yellow sandy clay. Occasional small to medium gravel inclusions Occasional pea grit	

**Trench 3**

Main dimensions: Length: 57m Width: 1.90m

Orientation: East-west

Main deposit descriptions

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (m)
300	Machine cut		
301	Topsoil	Light brown silty sandy loam	0-0.21m
302	Subsoil	Reddish brown subsoil	0.21-0.68m
303	Natural	Sandy gravels	0.68m
304	Cut of linear, filled by 305.	On a north-north-east to south-south-west orientation. Truncated by ditch 306.  BST-Gradual  Sides-Concave  BSB-Gradual  Base-Concave	
305	Fill of ditch 304	Friable mid yellowy brown sandy clay	
306	North-west to south-east linear feature. Filled by 307	BST-Gradual  Sides-Concave  Truncates ditches 304 and 308	
307	Fill of ditch 306	Friable mid yellowy brown sandy clay	

308	North-east to south-west. Filled by 309	BST-Gradual Sides-Concave BSB-Gradual Base-Concave Truncated by ditch 306	
309	Ditch fill of 308	Friable mid yellowy brown sandy clay	
310	Ditch cut, filled by 311	BST-Sharp Sides-Concave No relationship with 312 ascertained in the section	
311	Fill of ditch 310	Friable mid yellowy brown sandy clay	
312	Linear ditch, filled by 313	BST-Sharp Sides-Concave BSB-Sharp Base-Flat Orientated north-east to south-west. Relationship with 310 undetermined	
313	Fill of ditch 312 above	Friable mid yellowy brown sandy clay	
314	Pit or ditch terminus, runs underneath southern edge of trench, filled by 315	BST-Sharp Sides-Concave BST-Gradual Base-Flat Semi-circular when viewed in plan. Approx. 1m wide	0.68-1.20m

315	Pit or ditch fill of 314	Friable mid to light yellowy brown sandy clay. Pea grit and gravel - occasional	0.68-1.20m
316	Pit cut/ natural feature, filled by 317	BST-Sharp Sides-Concave BSB-Gradual Base-Concave Sub-ovular pit	
317	Fill of pit 316	Light greyish brown sandy clay. Moderate stony inclusions towards base of deposit – small to medium sized rounded and sub-rounded stones. Slightly lighter grey in colour towards the base of the fill. Heavy rooting towards the top of the fill.	
318	Small ditch, filled by 319	BST-Gradual Sides-Straight BSB-Gradual Base-Concave Small north-east to south-west orientated linear, cut by 320	
319	Ditch fill of 318	Friable mid yellowy brown sandy clay. Occasional gravel inclusions	
320	An enclosure ditch, filled by 321	BST-Gradual Sides-Concave BSB-Gradual Base-Concave Truncates ditch 318. North-west to south-east orientation. A broad ditch 1.60m wide. Could 310 or 312 be the return?	

321	Fill of ditch 320	A friable light to mid yellow brown sandy clay. Occasional gravel inclusions	
322	Sub-ovular feature, filled by 323. Pit?	BST-Sharp Sides-Concave BSB-Gradual Base-Concave 1.10m wide and 0.45m deep	
323	Fill of 322	Friable mid yellowish brown sandy clay with occasional gravel	
324	Ditch terminus, filled by 325	BST-Sharp Sides-Concave BSB-Gradual Base-Concave Terminus of linear 310	
325	Fill of 324, same as 311	Light brownish grey silty sand. Occasional to moderate small rounded stones	
326	Modern brick feature, possible services access chamber		

#### Trench 4

Main dimensions: Length: 60m Width: 1.90m

Orientation: East-west

Main deposit descriptions

Context	Classification	Description	Depth from ground surface
401	Ditch cut/terminus, filled by 402	BST-Gradual Sides-Concave	0.60-1.03m

		BSB-Imperceptible Base-Flat 2.80m wide and 0.43m in depth	
402	Fill of 401	Friable mid yellowish brown sandy clay. Moderate stone inclusions	
403	Fill of 404	A friable light brownish grey sandy silt with occasional small rounded stone inclusions	
404	Tree bole, filled by 403	BST-Gradual Sides-Concave BSB-Imperceptible Base-Flat Rather irregular feature when viewed in plan	
405	Topsoil	Greyish brown silty sand loam	0-0.25m
406	Subsoil	Orange brown sandy silt	0.25-0.61m

**Trench 5**

Main dimensions: Length: 44.40m Width: 1.90m

Orientation: East-west

Main deposit descriptions

Context	Classification	Description	Depth from ground surface (m)
500	Topsoil	Greyish brown silty sandy loam. Moderate light rooting with occasional rounded and sub rounded stone inclusions	0-0.25m
501	Modern service	Brick-lined drain	

502	Subsoil	Orangey brown sandy silt with moderate rounded and sub-rounded inclusions. Occasional light rooting	0.25-0.60m
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