Archaeological evaluation at Lilley Brook Golf Course, Charlton Kings, Gloucestershire

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Contents

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Peter Lovett

With contributions by Jane Evans, Rob Hedge and Elizabeth Pearson

Illustrations by Carolyn Hunt

Summary

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Lilley Brook Golf Course, Charlton Kings, Gloucestershire (NGR SO 95976 19241). It was undertaken on behalf of Grassroots Planning Limited, for Lilley Brook Golf Course, who intend development of the site.

Eleven trenches were excavated across a field used for golf practice, this field sitting on the lower slopes of a hill. A colluvial deposit of varying thickness was observed across the site, but mainly on the western and central parts. This contained Iron Age pottery and earlier prehistoric flints, indicating that some forms of activity had occurred further up the hill in the ancient past. The *in situ* archaeological remains consisted of a later Iron Age or Roman ditch, that was probably associated with low level agricultural activity, and an undated pit and ditch. There was a series of truncated medieval furrows at the bottom of the slope in the north end of the field.

Report

1 Background

1.1 Reasons for the project

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Lilley Brook Golf Course, Charlton Kings, Gloucestershire (NGR SO 95976 19241). It was commissioned by Grassroots Planning Limited, on behalf of Lilley Brook Golf Course, who intend development of the site involving the introduction of inert material, for which a planning application has been submitted to Cheltenham Borough Council. The proposed development site is considered to include heritage assets/potential heritage assets, the significance of which may be affected by the application (HER 3774).

The project conforms to a generic brief prepared by Gloucestershire County Council (GCC 2015) and for which a project proposal (including detailed specification) was produced (WA 2016).

The project also conforms to the *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014a).

2 Aims

The aims of the evaluation brief were:

- to describe any heritage asset with archaeological interest;
- to assess the nature, importance and extent of any heritage asset;
- to assess the impact of the application on any heritage asset.

3 Methods

3.1 Personnel

The project was led by Peter Lovett (BSc (hons.)) who joined Worcestershire Archaeology in 2012 and has been practicing archaeology since 2004, assisted by Elspeth Iliff (BA (hons.); MSc), Tim Cornah (BA (Hons), MSc) and Andrew Walsh (BSc (hons); MSc; ACIfA; FSA Scot). The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Derek Hurst (BA (hons.); PG Dip). Illustrations were prepared by Carolyn Hunt (BSc (hons.); PG Cert; MCIfA). Elizabeth Pearson (MSc; ACIfA) contributed the environmental report, and Jane Evans (BA, MA, MCIfA), and Robert Hedge (MA Cantab) contributed the finds reporting.

3.2 Documentary research

An archaeological desk-based assessment (DBA) was previously undertaken on behalf of Grassroots Planning Limited (BaRAS 2016), where the excavation in 1939 of a probable Roman skeleton was noted during gravel extraction on land off Sandy Lane. This latter has been recorded on the HER as HER 3772.

3.3 Fieldwork strategy

A detailed specification has been prepared by Worcestershire Archaeology (WA 2016).

Fieldwork was undertaken between 21 February and 24 February 2017.

Eleven trenches, amounting to just over 990m² in area, were excavated over the site area of 4ha, representing a sample of 2%. The location of the trenches is indicated in Figure 2. Originally 14 trenches were intended for excavation, but three were located outside the development area, and so were not included. Following geophysical survey of the site (Stratascan 2016), trenches 1 and 2 were located to test the validity of anomalies detected. Trenches 2, 6, and 9 were located within an area defined on the HER as the probable location for a Roman burial excavated in 1939.

Deposits considered not to be significant were removed using a 360º 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 Worcestershire Archaeology practice (WA 2012). On completion of excavation, trenches were reinstated by replacing the excavated material.

3.4 Structural analysis

All fieldwork records were checked and cross-referenced. Analysis was effected through a combination of structural, artefactual and ecofactual evidence, allied to the information derived from other sources.

3.5 Artefact methodology, *by* Jane Evans and Rob Hedge

The finds work reported here conforms with the following guidance: for finds work (CIfA 2014b), for archive creation (AAF 2011) and for museum deposition (SMA 1993).

3.5.1 Artefact recovery policy

The artefact recovery policy conformed to standard Worcestershire Archaeology practice (WA 2012; appendix 2).

3.5.2 Method of analysis

All hand-retrieved finds were quantified and identified/dated to period where possible. A *terminus post quem* date was produced for each stratified context. All information was recorded on a *pro forma* Access database.

No artefacts from environmental samples were examined.

The pottery and ceramic building material was examined under x20 magnification, as appropriate, but was not recorded by detailed fabric

3.6 Environmental archaeology methodology, *by* Elizabeth Pearson

3.6.1 Project parameters

The environmental project conforms to relevant sections of the *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014); *Environmental Archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011), and *Environmental archaeology and archaeological evaluations* (AEA 1995).

3.6.2 Aims

The aims of the assessment were to determine the state of preservation, type, and quantity of environmental remains recovered, from the samples and information provided. This information was used to assess the importance of the environmental remains

3.6.3 Sampling policy

Samples were taken according to standard Worcestershire Archaeology (2014) practice. A single sample (of 20 litres) were taken from the site (Table 4).

3.6.4 Processing and analysis

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

The residue was scanned by eye and the abundance of each category of environmental remains estimated. A magnet was also used to test for the presence of hammerscale. The flot was scanned using a low power MEIJI stereo light microscope and plant remains identified using modern

reference collections maintained by Worcestershire Archaeology, and a seed identification manual (Cappers *et al* 2012). Nomenclature for the plant remains follows the *New Flora of the British Isles*, 3rd edition (Stace 2010).

3.6.5 Discard policy

Samples will be discarded after a period of 6 months following submission of this report unless there is a specific request to retain them.

3.7 Statement of confidence in the methods and results

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

4 The application site

4.1 Topography, geology and archaeological context

A detailed appraisal of the site and its archaeological context is provided in the desk-based Assessment (BaRAS 2016).

4.2 Current land-use

The site is currently a practice area for the golf course.

5 Results

5.1 Structural analysis

The trenches and features recorded are shown in Figure 2. Select data from the context records are presented in Appendix 1.

5.1.1 Phase 1: Natural deposits

The natural geology consisted predominantly of a mid brownish yellow silty clay. In the south of the site, in trenches 5 and 7, there was a sandier sediment, with degraded mudstone patches, which was particularly evident the higher up the slope the trench went. In Trench 1, a dark blue clay gave the appearance of being a fill of a linear feature (107) (Plates 11 and 12). Upon excavation, it was revealed that this material ran underneath apparently clean *in situ* natural clay. It is, therefore, likely that this darker clay was a variation in the geology.

In the majority of trenches a colluvial deposit of varying thickness was observed. It began in the northern ends of trenches 5 and 7, coming down off the hill, and also in trenches 2, 6, and 9 in the west. It was thickest at the base of the slope, in Trench 3, where it was up to 0.9m thick (Plates 4 and 5). It continued to the north, and was also evident in Trench 10. The colluvium in the central and northern parts of the site was a mid greyish orange silty clay with blue mottling throughout, and contained moderate charcoal flecks, as well as heavily abraded pottery sherds. The colluvial material on the western side of site was much more like the subsoil, being a mid yellowish brown silty clay, with fewer finds or charcoal present. Both colluvial deposits sealed prehistoric features and possibly the medieval ones also, though the latter was less clear.

At the bottom of the colluvial deposit excavated in Trench 3 were a number of *in situ* pieces of wood (304). Initially, these were thought to be posts or stakes, but on further investigation it is likely that they were natural rooting preserved under the colluvium (Plates 6 and 7).

A subsoil of *c*.0.3m thick was present across the whole site.

5.1.2 Phase 2: Later prehistoric deposits

In Trench 9, a ditch measuring 0.68m deep and 2m wide was excavated (Fig 3; Plate 8). Aligned roughly east–west, it yielded worked flints and pottery sherds, and was filled with two similar

deposits derived through natural processes. Charcoal flecks and burnt clay were visible in the top of the deposit before excavation. This ditch was sealed beneath a colluvial layer.

5.1.3 Phase 3: Medieval deposits

Within Trench 10 were eight furrows, running roughly east to west (Plate 3). One of these (1009) was excavated, to test depth and for finds retrieval (Plate 13). It was 0.2m deep and 1.42m wide, with pottery being recovered from the fill. This fill was very similar in nature to the colluvium that sealed it (though the latter was less certain). It is possible that the furrows had been created by ploughing through the colluvium, but this could not be established during excavation.

5.1.4 Phase 4: Modern deposits

Ceramic land drains were observed in most trenches, cutting through the natural geology. A topsoil of *c*.0.3m thick covered the whole site.

5.1.5 Phase 5: Undated deposits

Three features were excavated that remained undated.

One was an oval pit in Trench 1 (104). It truncated the variation in natural described above, and contained a sterile and homogenous fill. It was 0.29m deep and 1.4m wide, with 1m of its length emerging from the edge of the trench (Plates 11 and 12).

The two other undated features were both in Trench 9. One was an irregularly shaped pit, 907, that was probably a tree bowl (Plate 9). The other was an east-west aligned ditch (909), with well-defined edges, but a sterile fill (Fig 3; Plate 10). It measured 0.35m deep and 0.78m wide. Whilst it was on the same general alignment as the prehistoric ditch to the north, its fill was decidedly different, as was the sharpness of its interface with the natural.

5.2 Artefact analysis, *by* Jane Evans and Rob Hedge

The artefactual assemblage recovered is summarised in Tables 1 and 2.

A very small assemblage of finds was recovered (Table 1) from four of the evaluation trenches (3, 6, 9 and 10). Artefacts included worked flint, very fragmentary and abraded pottery and fired clay. The small size and poor condition of the ceramic finds made identification difficult, precluding detailed fabric analysis and limiting the confidence with which the sherds could be dated. The finds are summarised below.

period	material class	material subtype	object specific type	count	weight(g)
prehistoric	stone	flint	chip	1	0.1
prehistoric	stone	flint	flake	3	22.9
prehistoric	stone	flint	flake fragment	1	0.9
prehistoric	stone	flint	notch	1	0.9
prehistoric	Stone	flint	retouched flake	1	7.1
?Iron Age	ceramic	earthenware	pot	8	14

?LIA/ERB	ceramic	earthenware	pot	5	12
Roman	ceramic	earthenware	pot	2	5
?Roman	ceramic	earthenware	pot	2	3
undated	ceramic	fired clay	fragment	9	13

Table 1: Quantification of the assemblage by period and material class

Summary artefactual evidence by period

The flint by Rob Hedge

Seven pieces of worked flint (31.9g) were recovered from trenches 3, 9, and 10. A wide variety of raw material sources were evident, including a white-patinated flint of fine grain and with chalky cortex, a dark-grey flint (also probably from a chalk source), and several mottled mid-grey flint of moderate quality probably sourced from river cobbles.

Few firm conclusions can be drawn due to the small size of the assemblage. However, although few diagnostic pieces were present, the assemblage is likely to reflect activity during at least two prehistoric phases. A notch from (904) is fashioned on the distal portion of a carefully prepared flake, bearing characteristics typical of Mesolithic or early Neolithic flintworking. By contrast, a crude hard-hammer flake from (301) has the hallmarks of later prehistoric flintworking, and so is likely to post-date the Later Neolithic.

The ceramic finds

The pottery included grog-tempered ware, probably dating to the late Iron Age or early Roman period and very vesicular sherds, presumably originally limestone tempered. Some of these were black fired and probably Iron Age, while others were thinner walled with oxidised surfaces, so probably Roman. Other Roman pottery comprised Severn Valley ware and a sherd of oxidised sandy ware.

context	material class	object specific type	count	weight(g)	period	start date	end date	*tpq* date range
301	flint	retouched flake	1	7.1	Later Neolithic to Iron Age	-3000	43	Later Neolithic to Iron Age
302	ceramic	pot	8	14	?Iron Age	-800	43	LIA/ERB
			2	4	?LIA/ERB	-100	43	
		fired clay	9	13	undated			
	flint	flake	1	13.2	prehistoric	-10,000	43	
			1	6.7	Mesolithic to early Neolithic	-10,000	-1500	
601	ceramic	pot	1	1	Roman	43	400+	Roman
903	ceramic	pot	3	8	?LIA/ERB	-100	43	LIA/ERB

	flint	chip	1	0.1	prehistoric	-10,000	43	
		flake fragment	1	0.9	prehistoric	-10,000	43	
904	flint	notch	1	0.9	Mesolithic to early Neolithic	-10,000	-3000	Mesolithic to early Neolithic
1001	flint	flake	1	3	prehistoric	-10,000	43	prehistoric
1004	ceramic	pot	1	4	Roman	43	400+	Roman
			2	3	?Roman	43	400+	

Table 2: Summary of context dating based on artefacts

Conclusions

The presence of worked flint hints at two phases of prehistoric activity in the wider landscape of the site. The pottery assemblage is very small and does not suggest significant occupation, but again suggests some level of activity in the late Iron Age to early Roman period.

Discard and retention

The flint assemblage justifies retention but the remaining finds are not significant and could be considered for discard if not required by the receiving museum.

5.3 Environmental analysis, *by* Elizabeth Pearson

Results are summarised in Tables 3 to 5.

Only uncharred remains were recorded, which consisted of mainly root fragments which are assumed to be modern and intrusive as they are unlikely to have survived in the soils on site for long without charring or waterlogging. No other identifiable remains were recovered from context (903) thought to be contemporary with the deposit, although a single flint chip was noted. This feature, therefore, has no potential for analysis of environmental remains, but some potential for recovering flint artefacts.

Context	Sample	Feature type	Period	Sample volume (L)	Volume (L) processed	Residue assessed	Flot assessed
903	1	Ditch	Late Prehistoric	20	10	No	No

Table 3: List of bulk samples

context	sample	charcoal	uncharred plant	artefacts	comments
903	1	occ	occ*	occ flint flake	* = probably intrusive

Table 4: Summary of remains from bulk samples

context	sample	preservation type	species detail	category remains	quantity/diversity	comment
903	1	?wa	unidentified stem fragments, unidentified herbaceous root fragments	misc	+/low	Probably intrusive

Table 5: Plant remains from context (903)

Key:

preservation	quantity
?wa = waterlogged or uncharred	+ = 1–10

6 Synthesis

The archaeological remains identified at Lilley Brook Golf Course show limited later prehistoric or Roman activity, indicative of low level agricultural practices rather than any domestic occupation on the site. The two ditches on the western side of the site probably pertain to field systems from this period. The series of parallel ditches seen in Trench 10 contained Roman pottery but this must have been intrusive, for these features had all the characteristics of medieval furrows.

Of most interest is probably the colluvial deposit that covers the western and central parts of the site. This material can be defined as a colluvium flow 'formed by the movement downslope of water-saturated sediment producing mudflow and debris flows (Waters 1992, 230-232). As such, it could contain artefacts from multiple periods, all now *ex situ*, and potentially in an inverted chronological order. The dearth of archaeological features from this site and the colluvial context of many of the finds would indicate that greater archaeological activity had taken place further up the slopes of the hill, rather than at its base where this site is situated.

The HER referred to the excavation in 1939 of a Roman burial from a gravel pit on land off Sandy Lane. It was hypothesised that this gravel pit was in the practice field of the golf course, partly due to an aerial photograph from the 1940s showing what might have been open pits on site (see Fig 2 where the main part of this area is demarcated by a green line). The modern disturbance identified in Trench 1 during this evaluation apparently correlates well with one such feature visible on the photograph (see Fig 4). However, there are good reasons to be doubtful about this being the location of a gravel pit. The geology of the evaluation site is entirely composed of clay, and the topographical location makes it unlikely that gravel/sand would be found here. In contrast, the 1st edition OS map (*c*. 1885) does show a 'sand pit' marked further to the north, on the west side of Sandy Lane, and geological mapping corroborates this by indicating a superficial deposit of Cheltenham Sand and Gravel here (BGS 2017).

The results of the evaluation were not sufficient to allow for an interrogation of the relevant research frameworks.

7 Significance

The *in situ* archaeological resource at Lilley Brook Golf Course is limited to a later Iron Age or Roman ditch, probably associated with low level agricultural activity, and to the truncated bases of medieval furrows. Nothing of value was recovered from the environmental sampling, and the artefactual assemblage was not significant. The earlier prehistoric evidence (redeposited finds) was all contained within a colluvial deposit, and as such had been relocated from its original location.

The areas of the site where archaeological features were present were generally buried beneath layers of subsoil and colluvium. Therefore, they appear to have survived any later (eg medieval)

agricultural activity. There seems, therefore, little significance need be attached to these remains as now evaluated.

8 The impact of the development

8.1 Impacts during construction

The exact methods of the construction phase are not known to the author, but the depth of subsoil and colluvium over areas where archaeology was present does offer the prospect that the archaeological remains are deeply buried and so there could be some scope for preservation *in situ*.

8.2 Impacts on sustainability

The historic environment is a non-renewable resource and, therefore, cannot be directly replaced. However, mitigation through recording and investigation also produces an important research dividend that can be used for the better understanding of the area's history and contribute to local and regional research agendas (cf NPPF, DCLG 2012, section 141).

9 Publication summary

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

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken for Grassroots Planning Limited, on behalf of Lilley Brook Golf Course at Lilley Brook Golf Course, Charlton Kings, Gloucestershire (NGR SO 95976 19241)*.*

Eleven trenches were excavated across a field used for golf practice, the field sitting on the lower slopes of a hill. A colluvial deposit of varying thickness was observed across the site, mainly on the western and central parts. This contained Iron Age pottery and earlier prehistoric flints, indicating that some forms of activity had occurred further up the hill in the ancient past. The in situ *archaeological remains consisted of a later Iron Age or Roman ditch, that was probably associated with low level agricultural activity, and an undated pit and ditch. There was a series of truncated medieval furrows at the bottom of the slope recorded in the north end of the field.*

10 Acknowledgements

Worcestershire Archaeology would like to thank the following for their kind assistance in the conclusion of this project: Tim Clink (Chairman) and all of the groundsmen at Lilley Brook Golf Course, Matthew Kendrick (Grassroots Planning Ltd), and Charles Parry (Archaeologist for Gloucestershire County Council). Derek Hurst was responsible for the quality of the project.

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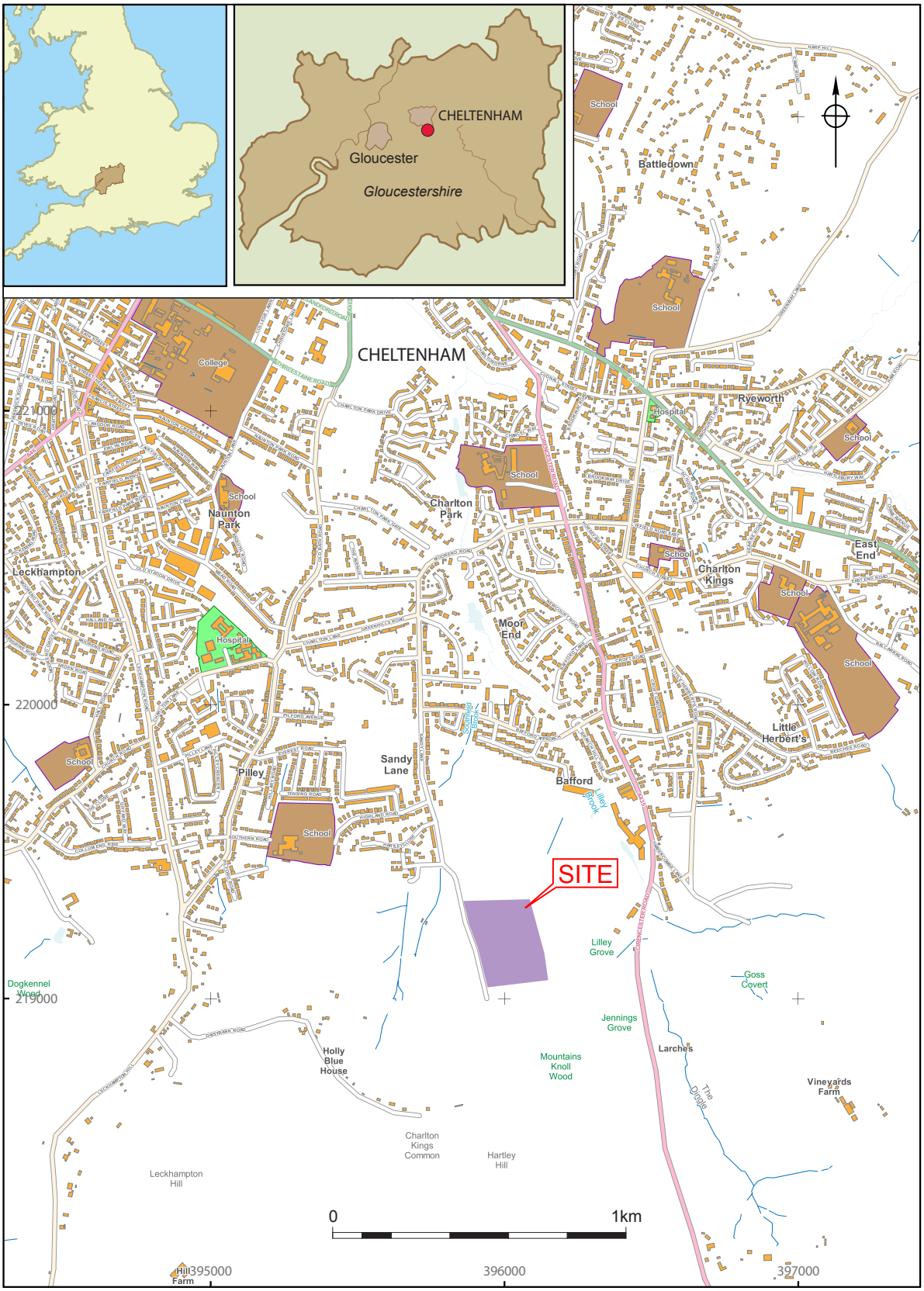
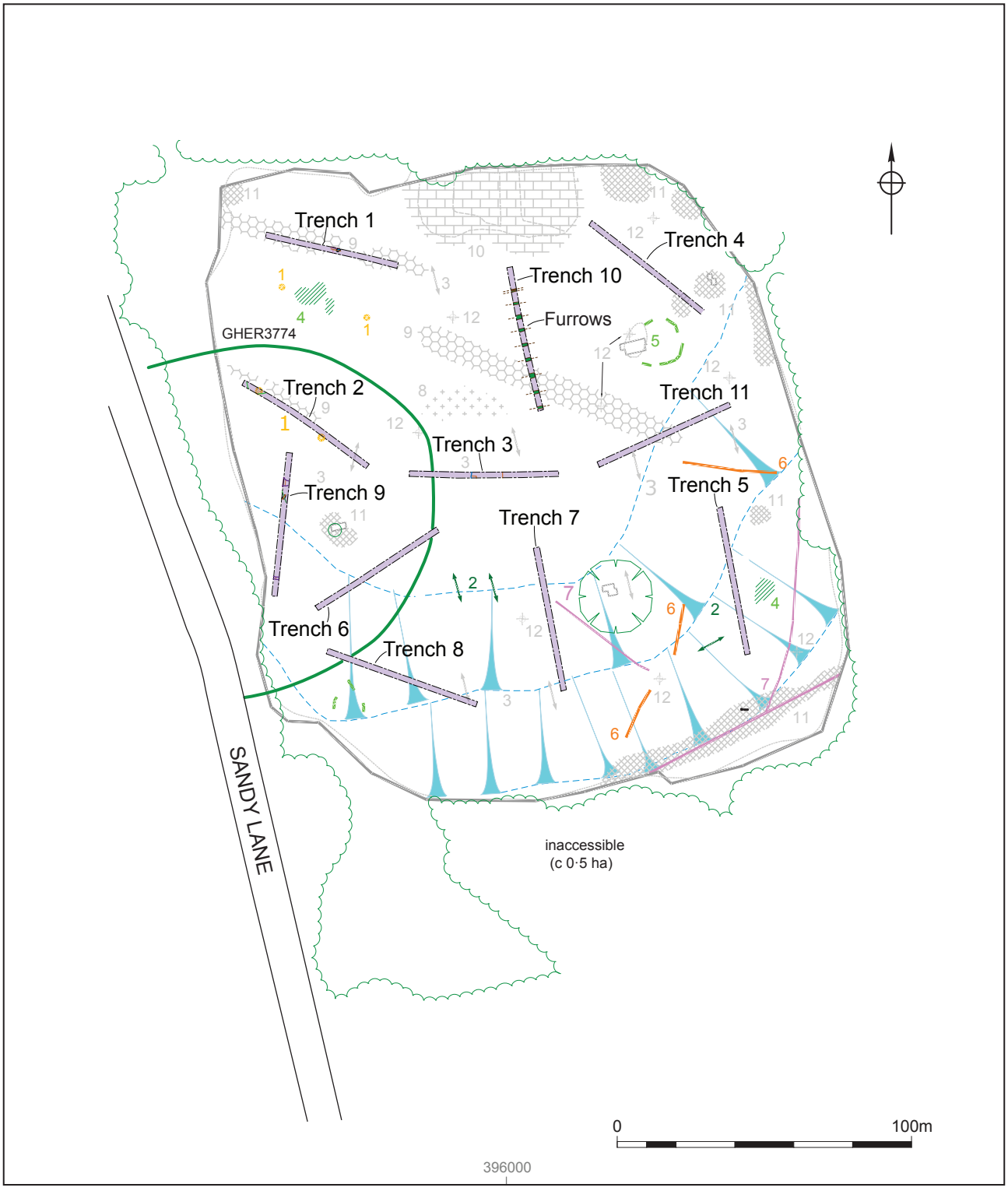
Figures



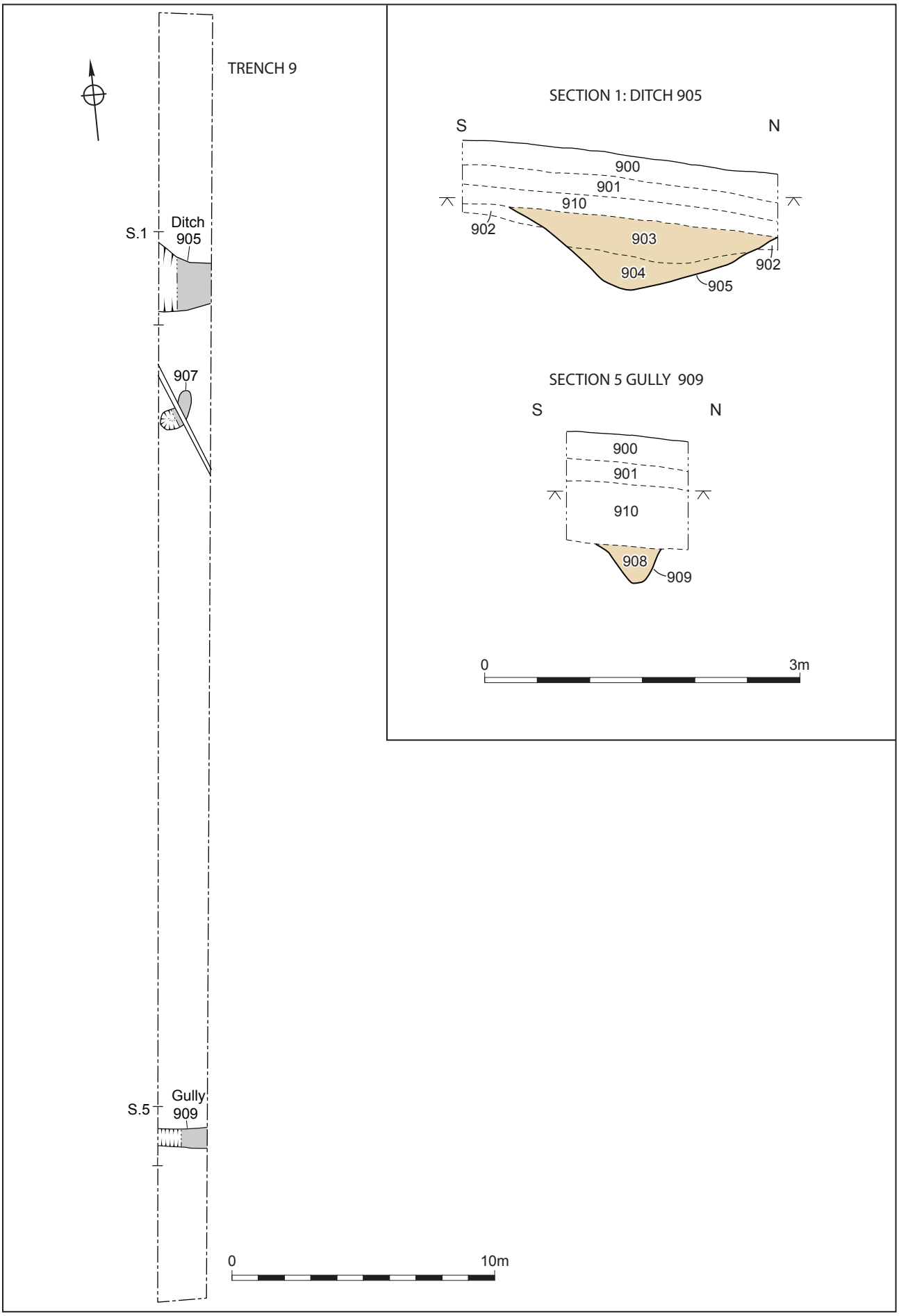
Location of the site

Figure 1



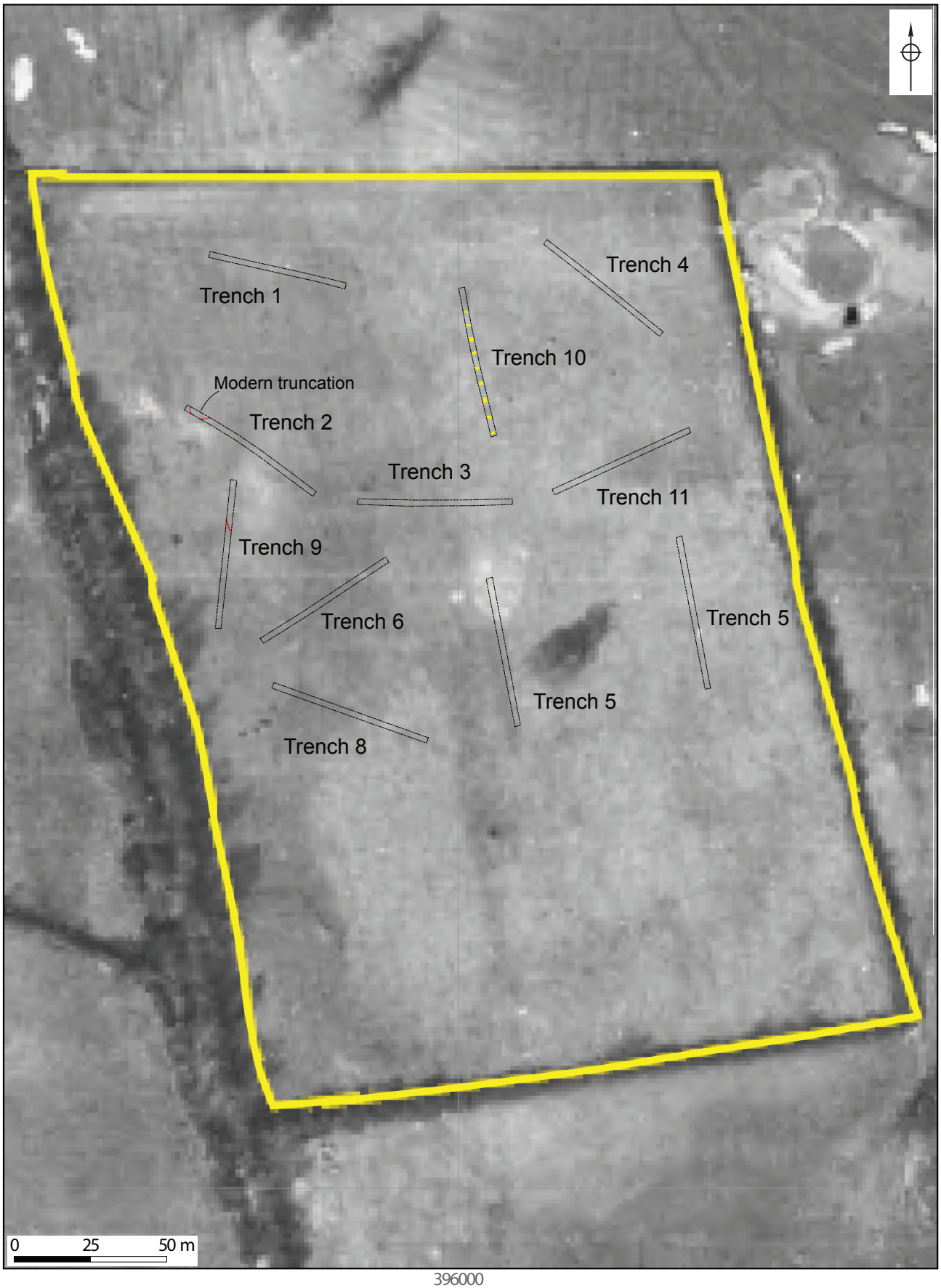
Trench location plan

Figure 2



Trench 9: plan and sections

Figure 3



Trench locations overlaid on aerial photograph of study site (RAF/106G/UK/1347/FV7379, taken 1 April 1946)

Figure 4

Plates

Plate 1 Trench 3, looking east (1m scales)

Plate 2 Trench 2, looking south-east (1m scales)

Plate 3 Trench 10, looking south (1m scales)

Plate 4 Trench 3 section with colluvium (lower 0.5m), looking north (1m scales)

Plate 5 Trench 3 section with colluvium (lower mottled blue and yellow deposit), looking south (1m scale)

Plate 6 Wood 304, looking west (0.5m scale)

Plate 7 Wood 304, looking west (0.2m scale)

Plate 8 Ditch 905, looking west (1m scale)

Plate 9 Pit 907, looking northeast (0.5m scale)

Plate 10 Ditch 909, looking west (1m scale)

Plate 11 Pit 104 and Linear 107, looking north (1m scales)

Plate 12 Pit 104, looking east (0.5m scale)

Plate 13 Furrow 1009, looking east (1m scale)

Appendix 1 Trench descriptions

Trench 1

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.8m Depth: 0.62m

Orientation: E-W

Context	Classification	Description	Depth /thickness
100	Topsoil	Firm mid yellow brown clay silt	0.24m
101	Subsoil	Firm mid yellow brown silty clay	0.25m
102	Natural	Firm mid brown yellow with blue mottling silty clay	
103	Fill	Firm mid yellow brown silty clay. Homogenuous fill of pit. Sterile, derived by natural processes.	0.29m
104	Cut	Oval pit of indeterminate function. Possibly of natural origin.	0.29m d
105	Fill	Firm light brown yellow with blue mottling silty clay. Fill of linear	0.47m
106	Fill	Firm dark blue grey silty clay	0.34m
107	Cut	Artificial linear feature excavated to test a variation in the natural. An outside chance it is the remnants of a channel filled by a redeposited natural but no seen elsewhere on site.	0.34m

Trench 2

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.8m Depth: 0.7m

Orientation: NW-SE

Context	Classification	Description	Depth /thickness
200	Topsoil	Firm mid yellow brown clay silt	0.25m
201	Subsoil	Firm mid yellow brown silty clay	0.35m

202	Natural	Firm mid brown yellow silty clay	

Trench 3

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.8m Depth: 0.6 – 1.56m

Orientation: E-W

Context	Classification	Description	Depth /thickness
300	Topsoil	Firm mid yellow brown clay silt	0.3m
301	Subsoil	Firm mid yellow brown silty clay	0.3m
302	Colluvium	Firm mid greyish orange silty clay with blue mottling silty clay. Thick spread of colluvium that sits at the bottom of the slope.	0.9m
303	Natural	Firm mid brown yellow silty clay	
304	Wood	Four possible wood posts, probably roots. A, B, C, D	

Trench 4

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.8m Depth: 0.55 – 0.85m

Orientation: NW-SE

Context	Classification	Description	Depth /thickness
400	Topsoil	Firm mid yellow brown clay silt	0. 4m
401	Subsoil	Firm mid yellow brown silty clay	0.25m
402	Natural	Firm mid brown yellow with blue mottling silty clay	

Trench 5

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.8m Depth: 0.54 – 0.92m

Orientation: N-S

Context	Classification	Description	Depth /thickness
500	Topsoil	Firm mid yellow brown clay silt	03m
501	Subsoil	Firm mid yellow brown silty clay	0.4m
502	Colluvium	Mid yellow brown with blue mottling silty clay Colluvium at northern end of trench, last 15m at bottom of slope	0.32m
503	Natural	Firm mid brown yellow with blue mottling silty clay	

Trench 6

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.8m Depth: 0.6 – 1.6m

Orientation: NE-SW

Context	Classification	Description	Depth /thickness
600	Topsoil	Firm mid yellow brown clay silt	0.3m
601	Subsoil	Firm mid yellow brown silty clay	0.5m
602	Colluvium	Mid yellow brown with blue mottling silty clay Colluvium washing down slope. Extant in southern 30m before ending. Deepest at southern end.	0.5m
603	Natural	Firm yellow and blue silty clay	

Trench 7

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.8m Depth: 0.38 – 1.06m

Orientation: N-S

Context	Classification	Description	Depth /thickness
700	Topsoil	Firm mid yellow brown clay silt	0.36m
701	Subsoil	Firm mid yellow brown silty clay	0.3m
702	Colluvium	Mid yellow brown with blue mottling silty clay Colluvium at northern end of trench, in last 7m of trench at bottom of slope	0.52m
703	Natural	Firm yellow and blue silty clay Silty degraded mudstone in southern 10m of trench before becoming thicker clay as seen elsewhere	

Trench 8

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.8m Depth: 0.54 – 1.13m

Orientation: NW-SE

Context	Classification	Description	Depth /thickness
800	Topsoil	Firm mid yellow brown clay silt	0.3m
801	Subsoil	Firm mid yellow brown silty clay	0.67m
802	Colluvium	Mid yellow brown silty clay	0.15m
803	Natural	Firm mid yellow and blue mottling silty clay	

Trench 9

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.8m Depth: 0.78m

Orientation: N-S

Context	Classification	Description	Depth /thickness
900	Topsoil	Firm mid yellow brown clay silt	0.27m
901	Subsoil	Firm light yellow brown silty clay	0.21m
902	Natural	Firm light orangey yellow silty clay	
903	Fill	Compact mid purple brown with yellow green mottling silty clay Upper fill of ditch derived from natural processes. Minimal amount of pot and flint, with some charcoal suggests activity in area Fill of ditch 905	0.39m
904	Fill	Compact mid purple brown with yellow green mottling silty clay Lower fill of ditch, similar in nature to deposit above but slightly different shade. Derived via natural processes. Flint recovered from very base of fill. Fill of ditch 905	0.32m
905	Cut	Probable later prehistoric ditch. Substantial in size, with some material remains. Possibly enclosure but no other features in area to corroborate this. Maybe field system/boundary.	0.68m
906	Fill	Firm mid yellow grey and reddish brown mottling silty clay Mixed fill derived from natural processes. Probably a tree bowl Fill of pit 907	0.39m
907	Cut	Irregularly shaped pit, probably a tree bowl. Truncated by a modern land drain through middle.	0.39m
908	Fill	Firm mid yellow brown clay silt Fill of gully 909	0.35m
909	Cut	Well defined ditch, of uncertain date or function. Probably of an agricultural purpose	0.35m

Context	Classification	Description	Depth /thickness
910	Colluvium	Firm dark yellow brown silty clay Thick deposit of colluvium. Much cleaner than that seen further down the hill, more like a subsoil.	0.6m

Trench 10

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.8m Depth: 0.76m

Orientation: E-W

Context	Classification	Description	Depth /thickness
1000	Topsoil	Firm mid yellow brown clay silt	0.24m
1001	Subsoil	Firm mid yellow brown silty clay	0.18m
1002	Colluvium	Mid yellow brown silty clay	0.38m
1003	Natural	Firm mid yellow and blue mottling silty clay	
1004	Fill	Fill of furrow 1005. Unexcavated. See 1008 for soil description	
1005	Cut	Furrow. Unexcavated	
1006	Fill	Fill of furrow 1007. Unexcavated. See 1008 for soil description	
1007	Cut	Furrow. Unexcavated	
1008	Fill	Mod compact mid yellowy grey sandy clay Fill of furrow 1009. Probably medieval furrow fill. Seems to be partially composed of colluvial-like material, not surprising as it will have ploughed through it.	0.2m
1009	Cut	East-west aligned furrow	0.2m
1010	Fill	Fill of furrow 1011 Unexcavated. See 1008 for soil description	
1011	Cut	Furrow. Unexcavated	
1012	Fill	Fill of furrow 1013. Unexcavated. See 1008 for soil description	
1013	Cut	Furrow. Unexcavated	

1014	Fill	Fill of furrow 1015. Unexcavated. See 1008 for soil description	
1015	Cut	Furrow. Unexcavated	
1016	Fill	Fill of furrow 1017. Unexcavated. See 1008 for soil description	
1017	Cut	Furrow. Unexcavated	
1018	Fill	Fill of furrow 1019. Unexcavated. See 1008 for soil description	
1019	Cut	Furrow. Unexcavated	

Trench 11

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.8m Depth: 0.62m

Orientation: NE-SW

Context	Classification	Description	Depth /thickness
1100	Topsoil	Firm mid yellow brown clay silt	0.3m
1101	Subsoil	Firm mid yellow brown silty clay	0.23m
1102	Natural	Firm mid yellow brown with blue mottling becoming bright brown yellow in west half silty clay with degraded mudstone	

Appendix 2 Technical information

The archive

The archive consists of:

3	Context records AS1
1	Photographic records AS3
65	Digital photographs
5	Scale drawings
4	Trench record sheets AS41
1	Box of finds
1	CD-Rom/DVDs
1	Paper index of the digital archive
1	Copy of this report (bound hard copy)

The project archive is intended to be placed at:

The Wilson
Clarence Street
Cheltenham
GL50 3JT
Tel: 01242 237 431