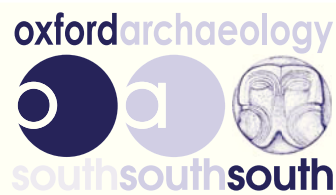


Land South of  
Bath Road  
Leonard Stanley  
Gloucestershire



**Archaeological  
Evaluation Report**



December 2013

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|-------|------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1     | Kevin Moon<br>(Project Supervisor) | Stuart Foreman<br>(Senior Project Manager) | Tim Allen<br>(Senior Project Manager) |  |

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Janus House

Osney Mead

Oxford OX2 0ES

t: +44 (0) 1865 263800

e: [info@oxfordarch.co.uk](mailto:info@oxfordarch.co.uk)

f: +44 (0) 1865 793496

w: [oxfordarchaeology.com](http://oxfordarchaeology.com)

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## Land south of Bath Road, Leonard Stanley

### *Archaeological Evaluation Report*

*Written by Kevin Moon and Stuart Foreman*

*with contributions from Jon Cotter and illustrated by Julia Collins and Leo Heatley*

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## **Summary**

*Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to undertake a trench evaluation of the 8.2 hectare site of a proposed residential development to the south of Bath Road, Leonard Stanley in Gloucestershire (NGR 380711, 203335).*

*No significant archaeological remains were identified in the 17 trenches excavated. The very few features and artefacts identified within the site are consistent with a long history of agricultural land-use throughout the medieval, post-medieval and modern periods. Any evidence for earlier activity may have been eroded by extensive ridge-and-furrow cultivation features, evidence for which is present throughout the site.*

*The trenching largely confirms the results of a previous geophysical survey (Stratascan 2013), which also failed to identify any obviously significant archaeological sites.*





## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to undertake a trial trench evaluation of the site of a proposed residential development to the south of Bath Road, Leonard Stanley in Gloucestershire (NGR 380711, 203335, Fig.1).
- 1.1.2 The evaluation was undertaken between 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> November 2013, in advance of submission of a planning application. Discussions between Paul Chadwick of CgMs and Charles Parry, Senior Archaeological Officer at Gloucestershire County Council (GCC), established the scope of work required. A Written Scheme of Investigation was prepared, detailing how OA would implement those requirements, and approved by GCC before the start of the evaluation.
- 1.1.3 All work was undertaken in accordance with Section 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), and 'saved' policies within the Stroud District Local Plan.
- 1.1.4 The archaeological fieldwork complied with the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (November 2013).

### 1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The site is situated on a valley floor between the settlements of Leonard Stanley and Kings Stanley at an approximate height of 52m above Ordnance Datum (AOD).
- 1.2.2 A minor watercourse forms the southern site boundary. The river Frome is situated 1.2 km north of the study site.
- 1.2.3 The area of proposed development currently covers approximately 8.2 hectares of open farmland, lying between Bath Road and Marsh Lane.
- 1.2.4 The geology of the area comprises mudstone of the Blue Lias Formation and the Charmouth Mudstone Formation (British Geological Survey online viewer, <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>). Superficial sand and gravel deposits (4th River Terrace Deposits) are recorded by BGS across the northern section of the DBA study site, but were not observed within the trenches.

### 1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 Definition of the evaluation scope of work was guided by a desk-based assessment (DBA, CgMs March 2013), which describes the archaeological and historical background to the site in detail, and the results of a geophysical survey (Stratascan 2013). This section is a summary based on those reports.
- 1.3.2 The assessment established that no designated or non-designated heritage assets lie within or close to the study site. Designated heritage assets within 1km of the study site are located a sufficient distance away and within existing urban development, such that their setting and significance will be unaffected by the proposed development (CgMs, 2013).
- 1.3.3 The assessment identified a low potential for as yet undiscovered heritage assets of late Prehistoric/Roman date within the study site. The study site is likely to have been an area of agricultural land from the medieval period, if not earlier.
- 1.3.4 Numerous archaeological evaluations and excavations have previously been undertaken in Leonard Stanley and Kings Stanley, with a concentration in the vicinity of the former site of St. Leonard's Priory (NHL1018606, DBA Appendix 1). However no previous investigations are recorded within the site itself or in immediately adjacent areas.



- 1.3.5 Mesolithic and Neolithic occupation sites have been found in the general area, including two Neolithic pits and flint tools found in the vicinity of St.George's Church, near the River Frome (HER6988, HER32435, HER28325), c 500m north of the site.
- 1.3.6 There is also evidence for Romano-British settlement in the form of a possible villa in the vicinity of St.George's Church (HER 32436).
- 1.3.7 The medieval settlements at Leonard Stanley (400m west of the site) and Kings Stanley (c 500m to the north) were both in existence prior to the Norman conquest. The main evidence for Saxon and early medieval activity in Kings Stanley again comes from the vicinity of St.George's Church (HER9394, HER32435), which is located near a crossing of the River Frome. The core of Leonard Stanley is focussed near the site of a Saxon chapel later incorporated into St.Leonard's Priory (NHL1018606, HER 303, NMR115106). The minor watercourse forming the south-eastern site boundary forms the parish boundary between Leonard Stanley and Kings Stanley, and may have done so since the early medieval period.
- 1.3.8 The site fell within the open fields of Leonard Stanley prior to enclosure in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century and may have been known as 'Mankley Field'. On the earliest available map, an estate plan dated c 1770, the fields are named as 'Mankley' and 'Maith Leas'. Ridge-and-furrow is clearly apparent throughout the site on the geophysical survey plot. Although there are no surviving earthworks within the site today, an aerial photograph of 1945 shows extant ridge-and-furrow covering the northern part of the site, and earthworks immediately to the south of the site have survived to the present.
- 1.3.9 As the two villages have expanded and become linked in the post-medieval and modern periods, the site has remained an island of undeveloped farmland.

#### **1.4 Acknowledgements**

- 1.4.1 The evaluation was carried out under the supervision of Paul Chadwick (CgMs Consulting) acting on behalf of Gladman Developments Ltd. Charles Parry, Senior Archaeological Officer at GCC, monitored the site on behalf of the local authority.
- 1.4.2 The Oxford Archaeology site team comprised Kevin Moon (Project Supervisor), Ashley Strutt and Alice Rose. Stuart Foreman was the OA Project Manager.



## 2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The aims of the evaluation were to:

- (i) determine the presence or absence of any archaeological remains which may survive;
- (ii) determine or confirm the approximate extent of any surviving remains;
- (iii) determine the date range of any surviving remains by artefactual or other means;
- (iv) determine the condition and state of preservation of any remains;
- (v) determine the degree of complexity of any surviving horizontal or vertical stratigraphy;
- (vi) assess the associations and implications of any remains encountered with reference to the historic landscape;
- (vii) determine the potential of the site to provide palaeo-environmental and/or economic evidence, and the forms in which such evidence may survive;
- (viii) determine the implications of any remains with reference to economy, status, utility and social activity;
- (ix) determine or confirm the likely range, quality and quantity of the artefactual evidence present.
- (x) 'ground truth' the various types of anomaly identified during the geophysical survey.

### 2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 The evaluation involved the excavation of 17 trial trenches, each measuring 50m by 2m, representing c 2% of the development area. The locations of the trenches are shown on Figure 2.
- 2.2.2 OA's general approach to excavation and recording, geomatics and survey, environmental investigation, artefactual evidence and burials are detailed in Appendices A, B, C, D and E of the WSI respectively (OA 2013).
- 2.2.3 The trenches were marked out with a GPS system to ensure accurate placement over geophysical anomalies. Trenches were positioned to avoid overhead power cables, buried water supply pipes and public footpaths. Further minor modifications to the originally planned layout were required in the field to avoid the public footpaths, which were found to be slightly inaccurately depicted on the OS base map.
- 2.2.4 Trenches were opened under close archaeological supervision using a tracked 13T mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. Potential archaeological features were hand cleaned and sample excavated. Sections and plans were recorded at a suitable scale (1:10, 1:20 or 1:50).
- 2.2.5 All features, fills and deposits were issued with a unique context number, and recorded on OA *pro forma* context record sheets. The very small quantity of finds recovered were bagged and labelled by context.
- 2.2.6 As no significant archaeological features were identified, no environmental samples were taken.



## 3 RESULTS

### 3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

3.1.1 The following section summarises the results of the evaluation. The general location of the trenches is shown on Figure 3, overlaid on the interpreted magnetometer survey results. More detailed plans, focussed on an area containing investigated archaeological features in Trench 8, is included as Figure 4, and feature sections are included as Figure 5. A selection of photographs illustrating the typical soil sequence and features in Trenches 5 and 8 are included as Plates 1 and 2. Archaeological descriptions are presented in summary in the context inventory (Appendix A). Artefacts recovered are noted in the trench descriptions below where they occurred. No animal bone was recovered, and no soil samples were taken.

### 3.2 General soils and ground conditions

3.2.1 The site was excavated under generally dry conditions with occasional rain. The trenches were generally well-drained. The topsoil was typically 0.25m thick, overlying c 0.2m of plough-disturbed subsoil. Plough furrows were visible in the majority of trenches as narrow parallel bands of slightly darker soil cut into the natural, which represent bands of deeper plough disturbance. The natural geology typically comprised light mottled orange/ grey clay, derived from weathering of the Charmouth Mudstone.

3.2.2 All features were cut into the natural geology and sealed by a relatively thin topsoil.

### 3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

3.3.1 Very few archaeological features or artefacts were encountered during the evaluation. The few features that were identified are interpreted as field boundaries or drains, associated with agricultural use of the fields. The trench investigation broadly confirms the results of the geophysical survey, which also failed to identify any obviously significant archaeological sites. The documentary and topographic evidence suggest that the site was part of the Leonard Stanley open field system during the medieval and post-medieval period.

3.3.2 Various undated, irregular pit-like features were interpreted in the field as possible root hollows or similar naturally occurring features, but the interpretations are usually very uncertain and some of these may result from human activity or animal burrowing. They are listed in the context inventory in Appendix 1, but not described in detail unless associated with evidence for human activity.

3.3.3 Modern land drains were noted in Trenches 1, 2, 7, 8, 11 and 12, but are not considered archaeologically significant or recorded in detail.

3.3.4 Numerous plough furrows were present throughout the site, although not obviously visible in all trenches. A selection were investigated to confirm their identification, but they were not regarded as significant archaeological features and the majority were not investigated or recorded in detail. The geophysical survey and aerial photographic evidence provides a sufficient record of the alignment and extent of the ridge and furrow. A single worn sherd of pottery with a date range of AD850-1200 was recovered from the base of a furrow in Trench 5, and was clearly redeposited. Trench 5 was excavated in an area where the geophysical survey suggested that no ridge-and-furrow was present, but furrows were in fact present throughout the trench. The investigated furrows have context numbers assigned, as listed in Appendix A, but are not included in the trench summaries below.



### **3.4 Trenches with no archaeological features**

3.4.1 Trenches 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 11, 12, 13 and 14 contained no discernible archaeological features at all (other than plough furrows and land drains), and are therefore not described further in this section (see Appendix A for trench and context details).

### **3.5 Trench 2 (see Fig. 2)**

3.5.1 This trench contained a single possible posthole (203). This was interpreted as an archaeological feature as it had a fairly regular circular shape (0.2m diameter), although a natural origin is also possible. It was very shallow (0.1m) and no artefacts were recovered from the fill (204), which was a very dark grey clay deposit.

### **3.6 Trench 8 (Figs 4 and 5)**

3.6.1 Trench 8 contained three shallow ditches on various alignments which did not appear to correspond with the ridge-and-furrow in this area. Ditch 803 was 0.15m deep and 0.86m wide, on a broadly W-E alignment. Ditch 805 was 0.15m deep and 0.86m wide on a NW-SE alignment. Ditch 807 was 0.07m deep and 0.35m wide, on a NW-SE alignment. The fills of all three features comprised a mid-greyish brown silty clay and no artefacts were recovered from any of them. These features are interpreted as drainage ditches as they were found near the small watercourse that forms the SE site boundary.

#### **3.6.2 Trenches 7, 10 and 12 (see Fig. 3)**

3.6.3 These trenches were placed to investigate a double linear feature on the interpreted geophysical survey plot (Fig. 3). Where investigated in Trenches 7 and 10, this proved to be a shallow linear feature (703, 1003) c 2.4m wide, the fill of which contained modern bricks but no other artefacts. No trace of the feature was found in Trench 12. No other archaeological features were identified in these trenches.

#### **3.6.4 Trench 15 (see Fig. 2)**

3.6.5 This trench contained one very shallow, irregular feature, 0.1m in diameter and only 0.1m deep, with charcoal in the fill and reddened sides. The irregular shape suggests that it is of natural origin, but the traces of burning suggest human activity. No artefacts were recovered from the fill. It may be a burnt out tree root hollow. The feature lies close to a former field boundary and the burning could derive from clearance of a hedgerow.

### **3.7 Finds summary**

3.7.1 Finds from the evaluation trenches were extremely sparse. A single worn pottery sherd was recovered from context 506 in Trench 5. Otherwise the only finds noted are modern bricks from a post-medieval/ modern former field boundary in Trenches 7 and 10 (not retained).

### **3.8 Environmental summary.**

3.8.1 No deposits suitable for palaeo-environmental sampling were discovered.



## 4 DISCUSSION

### 4.1 Reliability of field investigation

4.1.1 The trenching was carried out in good conditions for archaeological visibility. The trenching sample represents a 2% sample of the evaluation. In conjunction with the geophysical survey this is sufficient to be confident that there are no complex, extensive archaeological sites surviving within the development area. Isolated and discrete significant features, such as human burials or ephemeral prehistoric structures, can escape detection by both geophysical survey and trial trenching.

### 4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

4.2.1 The evaluation has successfully established that archaeological features and artefacts are very sparsely distributed within the site. The trenching results largely confirm the results of the geophysical survey, which also failed to identify any obviously significant archaeological sites within the development area.

4.2.2 The scarcity of artefacts is somewhat surprising given the comparative proximity of the site to areas of historic settlement in Leonard Stanley and Kings Stanley. Even in areas devoted to agriculture use, artefacts historically often found their way into the ploughsoil through the use of domestic refuse for manuring the fields. This is probably the means by which the late Saxon/early medieval sherd arrived in the furrow in Trench 5.

4.2.3 Trenches 7, 10 and 12 investigated a linear feature on the geophysical survey plot, which corresponds with a roughly E-W aligned former historic field boundary shown on the 1770 Leonard Stanley estate map and 19<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> century OS maps. It is likely to be a medieval alignment in origin as it has a curved form (as depicted on the historic maps) and marks a change in alignment of the ridge and furrow on either side. It was also a land ownership boundary in 1770. Map regression indicates that the boundary was removed between 1972 and 1993.

4.2.4 There was a slight concentration of shallow undated ditches in Trench 8, which do not obviously follow the ridge-and-furrow alignments and differ in character from the modern land drains. Trench 8 lies adjacent to the small stream which forms the SE site boundary and the ditches may reflect historic attempts to drain that part of the field.

4.2.5 Numerous plough furrows were present throughout the site, although not obviously visible in all trenches. A selection were investigated to confirm their identification, but they were not regarded as significant archaeological features and the majority were not investigated or recorded in detail. The single sherd of pottery recovered from a furrow in Trench 5, which had a date range of AD850-1200, was worn, and so of limited value in establishing the date at which ridge-and-furrow cultivation began. The geophysical survey and aerial photographic evidence provides a sufficient record of the alignment and extent of the ridge and furrow in each field.

### 4.3 Interpretation

4.3.1 The very few features and artefacts identified within the site are consistent with a long history of agricultural land-use throughout the medieval, post-medieval and modern periods. Any evidence for earlier activity may have been eroded by extensive ridge-and-furrow cultivation features, which are apparent in the trenches, and on the geophysical survey and aerial photographs of the site.

### 4.4 Significance

4.4.1 No significant archaeological remains were identified during the evaluation trenching.



## APPENDIX A. TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

| Trench 1  |       |           |           |                       |       |      |
|---|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------|-------|------|
| <b>General description</b>  |       |           |           | <b>Orientation</b>    | NE-SW |      |
| Trench devoid of archaeology, apart from 2 plough furrows, which were subject to sample excavation to confirm interpretation. No artefacts recovered. Sediment sequence consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural light mottled orange/ blue-grey clay. |       |           |           | <b>Avg. depth (m)</b> | 0.45  |      |
|   |       |           |           | <b>Width (m)</b>      | 2     |      |
|   |       |           |           | <b>Length (m)</b>     | 50    |      |
| Contexts  |       |           |           |                       |       |      |
| context no  | type  | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment               | finds | date |
| 100   | Layer | -         | 0.28      | Topsoil               | -     | -    |
| 101   | Layer | -         | 0.22      | Subsoil               | -     | -    |
| 102   | Layer | -         | -         | Natural               | -     | -    |
| 103   | Cut   |           |           | Plough furrow (N-S)   | -     | -    |
| 104   | Fill  |           |           | Fill of 103           | -     | -    |
| 105   | Cut   |           |           | Plough furrow (N-S)   | -     | -    |
| 106   | Fill  |           |           | Fill of 105           | -     | -    |

| Trench 2   |       |           |           |                       |       |      |
|--|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------|-------|------|
| <b>General description</b>   |       |           |           | <b>Orientation</b>    | NE-SW |      |
| Trench contained one possible posthole. Sediment sequence consists of soil and subsoil overlying natural light mottled orange/ blue-grey clay. No artefacts recovered. |       |           |           | <b>Avg. depth (m)</b> | 0.42  |      |
|  |       |           |           | <b>Width (m)</b>      | 2     |      |
|  |       |           |           | <b>Length (m)</b>     | 50    |      |
| Contexts   |       |           |           |                       |       |      |
| context no   | type  | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment               | finds | date |
| 200  | Layer | -         | 0.3       | Topsoil               | -     | -    |
| 201  | Layer | -         | 0.12      | Subsoil               | -     | -    |
| 202  | Layer | -         | -         | Natural               | -     | -    |
| 203  | Cut   |           |           | Circular ?posthole    | -     | -    |
| 204  | Fill  |           |           | Fill of 203           | -     | -    |

| Trench 3   |      |           |           |                       |       |      |
|--|------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------|-------|------|
| <b>General description</b>   |      |           |           | <b>Orientation</b>    | W-E   |      |
| Trench devoid of archaeology. No artefacts recovered. Sediment sequence consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural light orange brown clay. |      |           |           | <b>Avg. depth (m)</b> | 0.4   |      |
|  |      |           |           | <b>Width (m)</b>      | 2     |      |
|  |      |           |           | <b>Length (m)</b>     | 50    |      |
| Contexts   |      |           |           |                       |       |      |
| context no   | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment               | finds | date |



| Trench 3 |       |   |     |         |   |   |
|----------|-------|---|-----|---------|---|---|
| 300      | Layer | - | 0.3 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 301      | Layer | - | 0.1 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 302      | Layer | - | -   | Natural | - | - |

| Trench 4   |       |           |           |                       |       |       |
|--|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------|-------|-------|
| <b>General description</b>   |       |           |           | <b>Orientation</b>    |       | NW-SE |
| Trench contained one irregular natural feature, a possible root hollow. No artefacts recovered. Sediment sequence consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural mottled orange brown clay. |       |           |           | <b>Avg. depth (m)</b> |       | 0.4   |
|  |       |           |           | <b>Width (m)</b>      |       | 2     |
|  |       |           |           | <b>Length (m)</b>     |       | 50    |
| Contexts   |       |           |           |                       |       |       |
| context no   | type  | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment               | finds | date  |
| 400  | Layer | -         | 0.2       | Topsoil               | -     | -     |
| 401  | Layer | -         | 0.2       | Subsoil               | -     | -     |
| 402  | Layer | -         | -         | Natural               | -     | -     |
| 403  | Cut   |           |           | Root hollow?          | -     | -     |
| 404  | Fill  |           |           | Fill of 403           | -     | -     |

| Trench 5   |       |           |           |                       |       |      |
|--|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------|-------|------|
| <b>General description</b>   |       |           |           | <b>Orientation</b>    |       | E-W  |
| Two linear features investigated appear similar to plough furrows, and are on a similar alignment to furrows in trenches 7 , although no ridge-and-furrow was apparent on the geophysics in this area. The furrows were subject to sample excavation to confirm interpretation. No artefacts recovered. Sediment sequence consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural light mottled orange/ grey clay. |       |           |           | <b>Avg. depth (m)</b> |       | 0.38 |
|  |       |           |           | <b>Width (m)</b>      |       | 2    |
|  |       |           |           | <b>Length (m)</b>     |       | 49   |
| Contexts   |       |           |           |                       |       |      |
| context no   | type  | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment               | finds | date |
| 500  | Layer | -         | 0.2       | Topsoil               | -     | -    |
| 501  | Layer | -         | 0.18      | Subsoil               | -     | -    |
| 502  | Layer | -         | -         | Natural               | -     | -    |
| 503  | Cut   |           |           | Plough furrow (N-S)?  | -     | -    |
| 504  | Fill  |           |           | Fill of 503           | -     | -    |
| 505  | Cut   |           |           | Plough furrow (N-S)?  | -     | -    |
| 506  | Fill  |           |           | Fill of 505           | -     | -    |





| Trench 6   |       |           |           |                       |       |      |
|--|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------|-------|------|
| <b>General description</b>   |       |           |           | <b>Orientation</b>    | W-E   |      |
| Trench devoid of archaeology. No artefacts recovered. Sediment sequence consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural mid orange brown clay. |       |           |           | <b>Avg. depth (m)</b> | 0.44  |      |
|  |       |           |           | <b>Width (m)</b>      | 2     |      |
|  |       |           |           | <b>Length (m)</b>     | 50    |      |
| Contexts   |       |           |           |                       |       |      |
| context no   | type  | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment               | finds | date |
| 600  | Layer | -         | 0.28      | Topsoil               | -     | -    |
| 601  | Layer | -         | 0.16      | Subsoil               | -     | -    |
| 602  | Layer | -         | -         | Natural               | -     | -    |

| Trench 7  |       |           |           |                       |                             |                       |
|---|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>General description</b>  |       |           |           | <b>Orientation</b>    | W-E                         |                       |
| Trenches 7 and 10 investigated a linear feature on the geophysical survey plot, which seems to be a roughly E-W former historic field boundary (shown on the 1770 Leonard Stanley estate map and 19 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> century OS maps). This proved to be a linear shallow cut feature c. 2.4m wide containing modern bricks. Trench otherwise devoid of archaeology. Sediment sequence consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural mid orange brown clay. |       |           |           | <b>Avg. depth (m)</b> | 0.4                         |                       |
|   |       |           |           | <b>Width (m)</b>      | 2                           |                       |
|   |       |           |           | <b>Length (m)</b>     | 50                          |                       |
| Contexts  |       |           |           |                       |                             |                       |
| context no  | type  | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment               | finds                       | date                  |
| 700   | Layer | -         | 0.3       | Topsoil               | -                           | -                     |
| 701   | Layer | -         | 0.1       | Subsoil               | -                           | -                     |
| 702   | Layer | -         | -         | Natural               | -                           | -                     |
| 703   | Cut   | 2.4       |           | Field boundary ditch  | -                           |                       |
| 704   | Layer | -         |           | Fill of 703           | Modern brick (not retained) | Post-medieval/ modern |

| Trench 8  |       |           |           |                       |       |      |
|---|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------|-------|------|
| <b>General description</b>  |       |           |           | <b>Orientation</b>    | NE-SW |      |
| Trench contained 3 ditches, one of which terminated within the trench. These were subject to sample excavation to confirm interpretation. No artefacts recovered. Sediment sequence consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural mottled orange brown / light grey clay. |       |           |           | <b>Avg. depth (m)</b> | 0.38  |      |
|   |       |           |           | <b>Width (m)</b>      | 2     |      |
|   |       |           |           | <b>Length (m)</b>     | 49    |      |
| Contexts  |       |           |           |                       |       |      |
| context no  | type  | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment               | finds | date |
| 800   | Layer | -         | 0.28      | Topsoil               | -     | -    |
| 801   | Layer | -         | 0.22      | Subsoil               | -     | -    |



| Trench 8 |       |      |      |               |   |   |
|----------|-------|------|------|---------------|---|---|
| 802      | Layer | -    | -    | Natural       | - | - |
| 803      | Cut   | 0.86 | 0.15 | Ditch (E-W)   | - | - |
| 804      | Fill  |      |      | Fill of 803   | - | - |
| 805      | Cut   | 0.68 | 0.18 | Ditch (NW-SE) | - | - |
| 806      | Fill  |      |      | Fill of 805   | - | - |
| 807      | Cut   | 0.07 | 0.35 | Ditch (SW-NE) | - | - |
| 808      | Fill  |      |      | Fill of 805   | - | - |

| Trench 9   |             |                  |                  |                       |              |             |
|--|-------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-------------|
| <b>General description</b>   |             |                  |                  | <b>Orientation</b>    | E-W          |             |
| Trench contained three irregular, probably natural, features. No artefacts recovered. Sediment sequence consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural light yellowish brown clay. Several furrows visible as bands of mid greyish brown clay, on a NE-SW alignment. Trench shortened to 42.5m to leave safe distance from overhead cables. |             |                  |                  | <b>Avg. depth (m)</b> | 0.38         |             |
|  |             |                  |                  | <b>Width (m)</b>      | 2            |             |
|  |             |                  |                  | <b>Length (m)</b>     | 42.5         |             |
| <b>Contexts</b>  |             |                  |                  |                       |              |             |
| <b>context no</b>  | <b>type</b> | <b>Width (m)</b> | <b>Depth (m)</b> | <b>comment</b>        | <b>finds</b> | <b>date</b> |
| 900  | Layer       | -                | 0.28             | Topsoil               | -            | -           |
| 901  | Layer       | -                | 0.1              | Subsoil               | -            | -           |
| 902  | Layer       | -                | -                | Natural               | -            | -           |
| 903  | Cut         |                  |                  | Root hollow?          | -            | -           |
| 904  | Fill        |                  |                  | Fill of 903           | -            | -           |
| 905  | Cut         |                  |                  | Root hollow?          | -            | -           |
| 906  | Fill        |                  |                  | Fill of 905           | -            | -           |
| 907  | Cut         |                  |                  | Root hollow?          | -            | -           |
| 908  | Fill        |                  |                  | Fill of 907           | -            | -           |

| Trench 10  |             |              |              |                       |              |             |
|--|-------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|-------------|
| <b>General description</b>   |             |              |              | <b>Orientation</b>    | NW-SE        |             |
| Like Trench 7, Trench 10 investigated a linear feature on the geophysical survey plot, which seems to be a roughly E-W former historic field boundary (shown on the 1770 Leonard Stanley estate map and 19 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> century OS maps). This proved to be linear shallow cut feature c. 2.4m wide containing modern bricks. OS maps indicate boundary removed between 1972 and 1993. Trench otherwise devoid of archaeology. Sediment sequence consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural mottled light orange / grey clay. |             |              |              | <b>Avg. depth (m)</b> | 0.42         |             |
|  |             |              |              | <b>Width (m)</b>      | 2            |             |
|  |             |              |              | <b>Length (m)</b>     | 50           |             |
| <b>Contexts</b>  |             |              |              |                       |              |             |
| <b>context</b>   | <b>type</b> | <b>Width</b> | <b>Depth</b> | <b>comment</b>        | <b>finds</b> | <b>date</b> |



| Trench 10 |       |     |      |                      |                             |                  |
|-----------|-------|-----|------|----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| no        |       | (m) | (m)  |                      |                             |                  |
| 1000      | Layer | -   | 0.3  | Topsoil              | -                           |                  |
| 1001      | Layer | -   | 0.12 | Subsoil              | -                           |                  |
| 1002      | Layer | -   | -    | Natural              | -                           |                  |
| 1003      | Cut   | -   |      | Field boundary ditch | -                           | Post-med/ modern |
| 1004      | Fill  |     |      | Fill of 1003         | Modern bricks. Not retained | Post-med/ modern |

| Trench 11  |       |           |           |                |       |       |
|--|-------|-----------|-----------|----------------|-------|-------|
| General description  |       |           |           | Orientation    |       | NE-SW |
| Trench contained one irregular natural feature, a possible root hollow. No artefacts recovered. Sediment sequence consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural mottled orange brown/ grey clay. |       |           |           | Avg. depth (m) |       | 0.38  |
|  |       |           |           | Width (m)      |       | 2     |
|  |       |           |           | Length (m)     |       | 49    |
| Contexts   |       |           |           |                |       |       |
| context no   | type  | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment        | finds | date  |
| 1100   | Layer | -         | 0.19      | Topsoil        | -     | -     |
| 1101   | Layer | -         | 0.19      | Subsoil        | -     | -     |
| 1102   | Layer | -         | -         | Natural        | -     | -     |
| 1103   | Cut   |           |           | Root hollow?   | -     | -     |
| 1104   | Fill  |           |           | Fill of 403    | -     | -     |

| Trench 12  |       |           |           |                |       |       |
|--|-------|-----------|-----------|----------------|-------|-------|
| General description  |       |           |           | Orientation    |       | NW-SE |
| Trench devoid of archaeology. No artefacts recovered. Sediment sequence consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural mottled orange brown/ blue grey clay. Ridge-and-furrow visible on roughly E-W alignment. |       |           |           | Avg. depth (m) |       | 0.46  |
|  |       |           |           | Width (m)      |       | 2     |
|  |       |           |           | Length (m)     |       | 49    |
| Contexts   |       |           |           |                |       |       |
| context no   | type  | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment        | finds | date  |
| 1200   | Layer | -         | 0.28      | Topsoil        | -     | -     |
| 1201   | Layer | -         | 0.18      | Subsoil        | -     | -     |
| 1202   | Layer | -         | -         | Natural        | -     | -     |

| Trench 13   |  |  |  |                |  |       |
|---|--|--|--|----------------|--|-------|
| General description   |  |  |  | Orientation    |  | SW-NE |
| Trench devoid of archaeology. No artefacts recovered. Sediment sequence consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural mottled orange brown/ blue grey clay. Ridge-and-furrow visible on roughly |  |  |  | Avg. depth (m) |  | 0.35  |
|   |  |  |  | Width (m)      |  | 2     |



| <b>Trench 13</b> |       |           |           |         |                   |      |
|------------------|-------|-----------|-----------|---------|-------------------|------|
| E-W alignment.   |       |           |           |         | <b>Length (m)</b> | 50   |
| <b>Contexts</b>  |       |           |           |         |                   |      |
| context no       | type  | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds             | date |
| 1300             | Layer | -         | 0.25      | Topsoil | -                 | -    |
| 1301             | Layer | -         | 0.1       | Subsoil | -                 | -    |
| 1302             | Layer | -         | -         | Natural | -                 | -    |

| <b>Trench 14</b>   |       |           |           |              |                       |      |
|--|-------|-----------|-----------|--------------|-----------------------|------|
| <b>General description</b>   |       |           |           |              | <b>Orientation</b>    | N-S  |
| Trench contained one wide, shallow irregular feature, a possible root hollow. No artefacts recovered. Sediment sequence consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural mottled orange brown/ grey clay. Ridge and furrow not obviously visible. |       |           |           |              | <b>Avg. depth (m)</b> | 0.46 |
|  |       |           |           |              | <b>Width (m)</b>      | 2    |
|  |       |           |           |              | <b>Length (m)</b>     | 50   |
| <b>Contexts</b>  |       |           |           |              |                       |      |
| context no   | type  | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment      | finds                 | date |
| 1400   | Layer | -         | 0.26      | Topsoil      | -                     | -    |
| 1401   | Layer | -         | 0.2       | Subsoil      | -                     | -    |
| 1402   | Layer | -         | -         | Natural      | -                     | -    |
| 1403   | Cut   | 1.4       | 0.14      | Root hollow? | -                     | -    |
| 1404   | Fill  |           |           | Fill of 1403 | -                     | -    |

| <b>Trench 15</b>   |       |           |           |              |                       |      |
|--|-------|-----------|-----------|--------------|-----------------------|------|
| <b>General description</b>   |       |           |           |              | <b>Orientation</b>    | W-E  |
| Trench contained one shallow, irregular natural feature, with charcoal and reddened sides a possible burnt root hollow. No artefacts recovered. Sediment sequence consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural mottled orange brown/ grey clay. |       |           |           |              | <b>Avg. depth (m)</b> | 0.44 |
|  |       |           |           |              | <b>Width (m)</b>      | 2    |
|  |       |           |           |              | <b>Length (m)</b>     | 50   |
| <b>Contexts</b>  |       |           |           |              |                       |      |
| context no   | type  | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment      | finds                 | date |
| 1500   | Layer | -         | 0.24      | Topsoil      | -                     | -    |
| 1501   | Layer | -         | 0.2       | Subsoil      | -                     | -    |
| 1502   | Layer | -         | -         | Natural      | -                     | -    |
| 1503   | Cut   | 0.88      | 0.2       | Root hollow? | -                     | -    |
| 1504   | Fill  |           |           | Fill of 1503 | -                     | -    |
| 1505   | Fill  |           |           | Fill of 1503 | -                     | -    |



| <b>Trench 16</b>   |             |                  |                  |                       |              |             |
|--|-------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-------------|
| <b>General description</b>   |             |                  |                  | <b>Orientation</b>    | W-E          |             |
| Trench contained one SE-NW possible ditch. This is probably a furrow as on same alignment as ridge and furrow, but fairly distinct in plan. A shallow irregular natural feature was also identified as a possible root hollow. No artefacts recovered. Sediment sequence consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural mottled orange brown/ grey clay. Trench shortened slightly to avoid footpath. |             |                  |                  | <b>Avg. depth (m)</b> | 0.61         |             |
|  |             |                  |                  | <b>Width (m)</b>      | 2            |             |
|  |             |                  |                  | <b>Length (m)</b>     | 50           |             |
| <b>Contexts</b>  |             |                  |                  |                       |              |             |
| <b>context no</b>  | <b>type</b> | <b>Width (m)</b> | <b>Depth (m)</b> | <b>comment</b>        | <b>finds</b> | <b>date</b> |
| 1600   | Layer       | -                | 0.36             | Topsoil               | -            | -           |
| 1601   | Layer       | -                | 0.25             | Subsoil               | -            | -           |
| 1602   | Layer       | -                | -                | Natural               | -            | -           |
| 1603   | Cut         | 0.6              | 0.19             | Ditch or furrow cut   | -            | -           |
| 1604   | Fill        |                  |                  | Fill of 1603          | -            | -           |
| 1605   | Cut         | 0.62             | 0.12             | Root hollow?          | -            | -           |
| 1606   | Fill        |                  |                  | Fill of 1605          | -            | -           |

| <b>Trench 17</b>   |             |                  |                  |                       |              |             |
|--|-------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-------------|
| <b>General description</b>   |             |                  |                  | <b>Orientation</b>    | N-S          |             |
| Trench contained one SE-NW possible ditch. This is probably a furrow as on same alignment as ridge and furrow, but fairly distinct in plan. No artefacts recovered. Sediment sequence consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural mid yellowish brown clay. Excavation depth reduced over modern NW-SE aligned service, in southern 10m of trench. |             |                  |                  | <b>Avg. depth (m)</b> | 0.46         |             |
|  |             |                  |                  | <b>Width (m)</b>      | 2            |             |
|  |             |                  |                  | <b>Length (m)</b>     | 50           |             |
| <b>Contexts</b>  |             |                  |                  |                       |              |             |
| <b>context no</b>  | <b>type</b> | <b>Width (m)</b> | <b>Depth (m)</b> | <b>comment</b>        | <b>finds</b> | <b>date</b> |
| 1700   | Layer       | -                | 0.26             | Topsoil               | -            | -           |
| 1701   | Layer       | -                | 0.2              | Subsoil               | -            | -           |
| 1702   | Layer       | -                | -                | Natural               | -            | -           |
| 1703   | Cut         | 1.4              | 0.14             | Ditch or furrow cut   | -            | -           |
| 1704   | Fill        |                  |                  | Fill of 1703          | -            | -           |



## APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS

### B.1 Pottery

*By John Cotter*

B.1.1 A single sherd of early medieval pottery was recovered from the base of a furrow in Trench 5. It is worn, and so probably of little value in dating the ridge-and-furrow. The sherd is of low archaeological potential.

| Context | Description  | Date         |
|---------|--|--------------|
| 506     | Single worn body sherd oolitic limestone-tempered ware, 3g | 850- 1200 AD |



## APPENDIX C. REFERENCES

CgMs, 2013 Land off Bath Road, Leonard Stanley, Gloucestershire. Archaeological Desk-based Assessment.

OA, 2013 Land off Bath Road, Leonard Stanley, Gloucestershire, Project Design for an Evaluation. Oxford Archaeology for CgMs

Stratascan, 2013 Land off Bath Road, Leonard Stanley, Gloucestershire. Geophysical Survey Report. Stratascan for CgMs



## APPENDIX D. SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

**Site name:** Land off Bath Road, Leonard Stanley, Gloucestershire

**Site code:** LEON13

**Grid reference:** NGR 380711, 203335

**Type:** Evaluation

**Date and duration:** 11<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> November 2013

**Area of site:** 8.2 Ha

**Summary of results:** Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to undertake a trench evaluation on the site of a proposed residential development on land to the south of Bath Road, Leonard Stanley in Gloucestershire.

No significant archaeological remains were identified in the 17 trenches excavated. The very few features and artefacts identified within the site are consistent with a long history of agricultural land-use throughout the medieval, post-medieval and modern. Any evidence for earlier activity may have been eroded by extensive ridge-and-furrow, evidence for which is present throughout the site.

The trenching largely confirms the results of a previous geophysical survey by Stratascan in 2013, which also failed to identify any obviously significant archaeological sites.

**Location of archive:** The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with the Stroud District Museum in due course.





X:\Leonard Stanley, Gloucestershire\_LEONEV\010Geomatics\03 GIS\current\001\_projects\LEONEV\_Fig1\_181113.mxd\gary.jones\18/11/2013

Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2013  
 Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping,  
 Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community

Figure 1: Site location map

X:\Leonard Stanley, Gloucestershire\_LEONEV\010\Geomatics\02 CAD\001\current\LEONEV\_current\_051213.dwg(Figure 2)\*LEON13\*LEONEV\*Leonard Stanley, Gloucestershire\*leo.heatley\* 06 Dec 2013

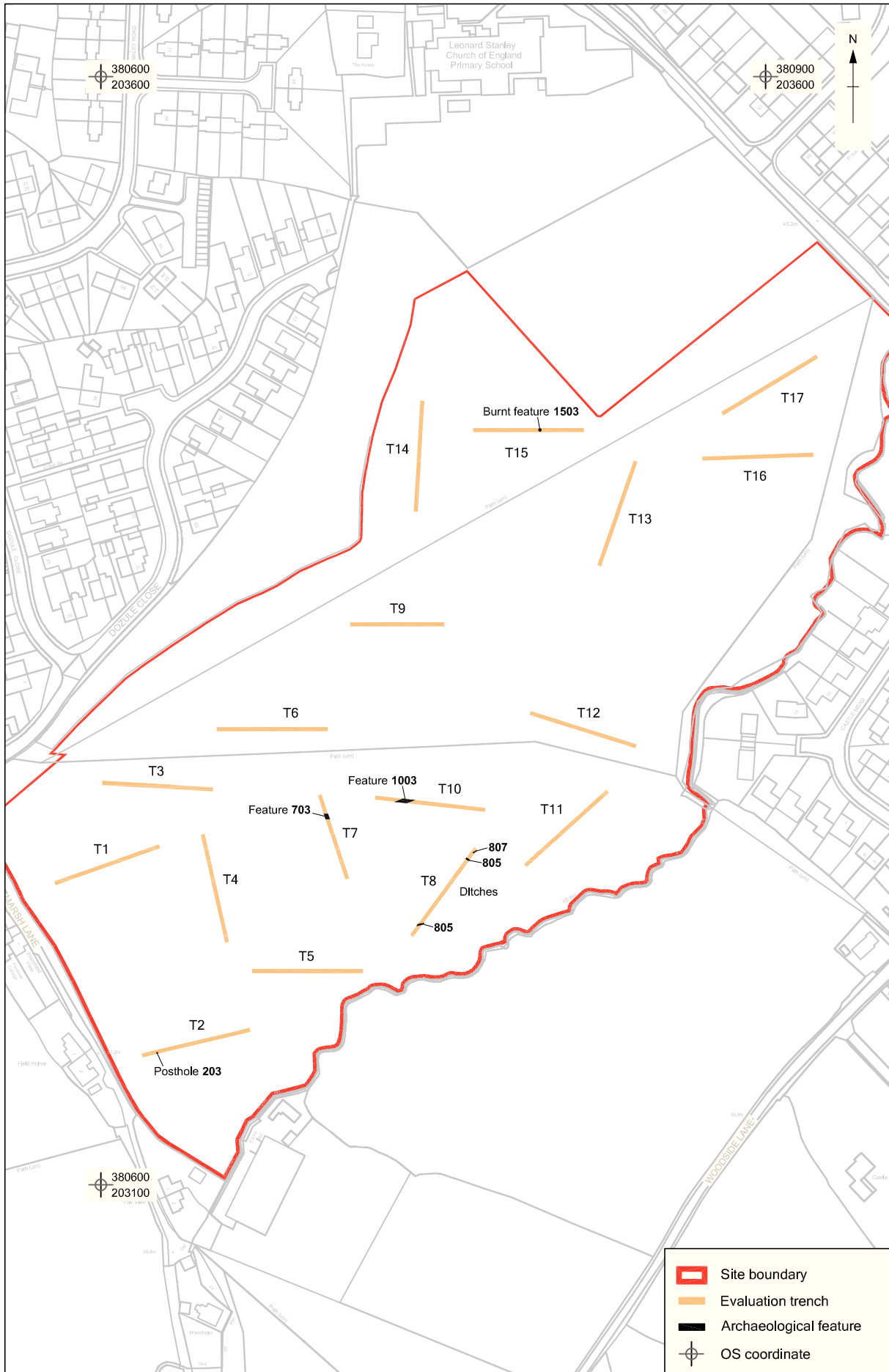
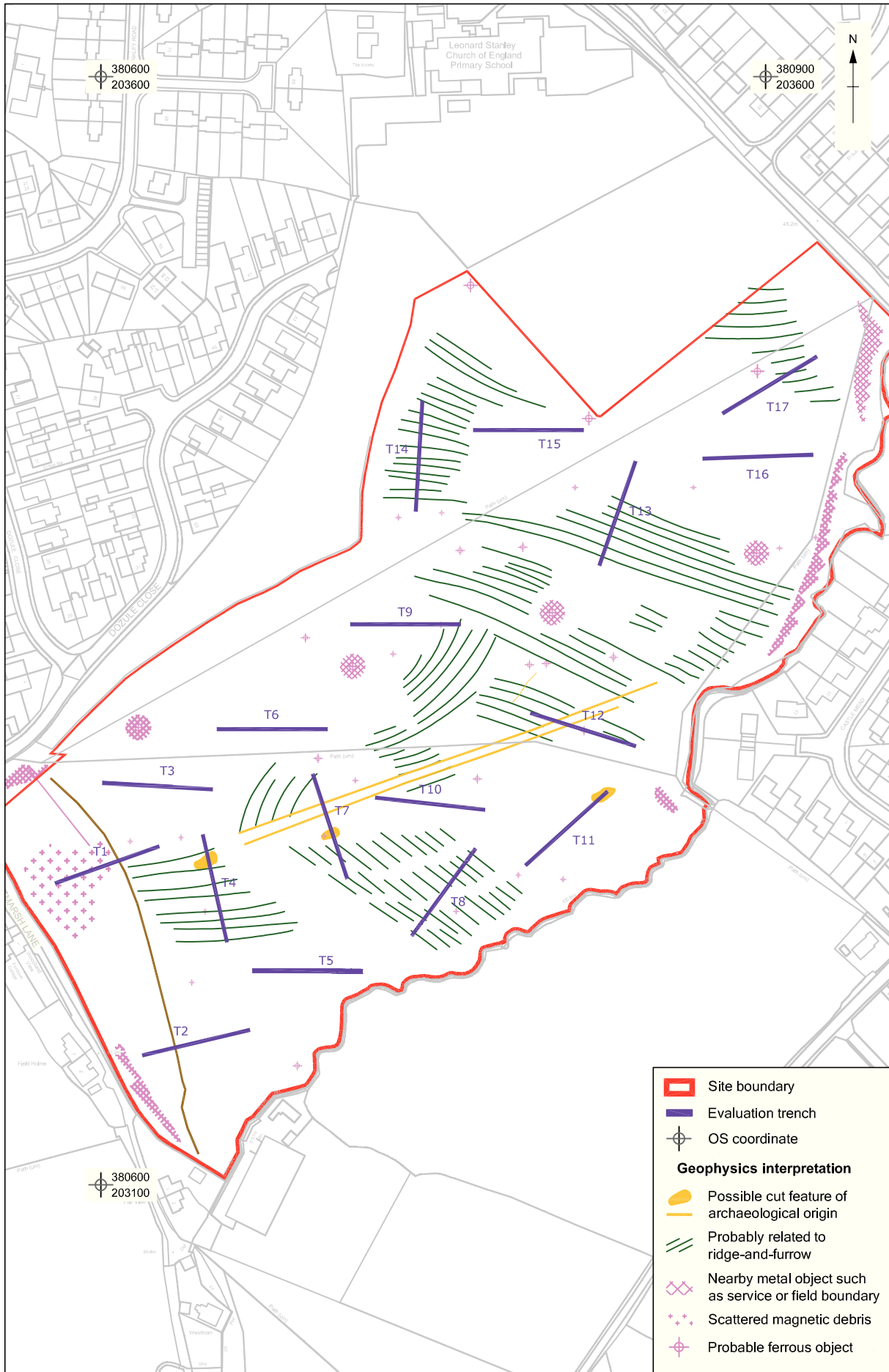


Figure 2: Trench location plan

X:\Leonard Stanley, Gloucestershire\_LEONEV\010\Geomatics\02 CAD\001\current\LEONEV\_current\_051213.dwg(Figure 3)\LEON\13\LEONEV\Leonard Stanley, Gloucestershire\leo.heatley\* 05 Dec 2013



Geophysics interpretation supplied by Stratascan

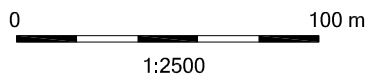


Figure 3: Trench locations overlaid on interpreted geophysical survey plot

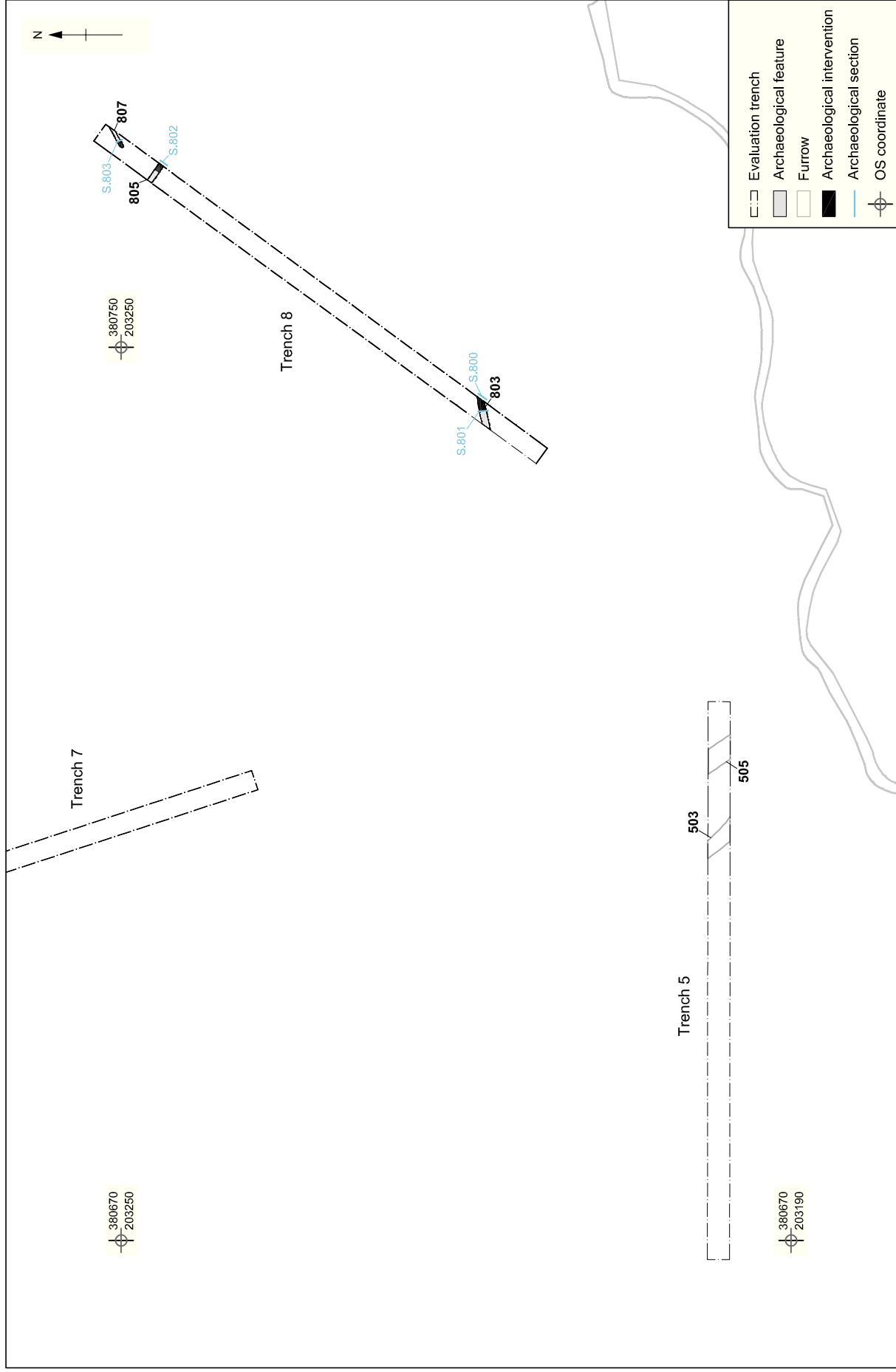


Figure 4: Trench 8, detailed plan

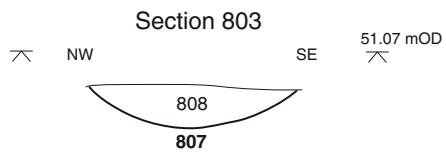
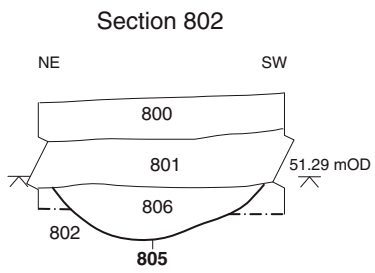
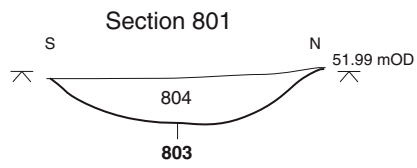
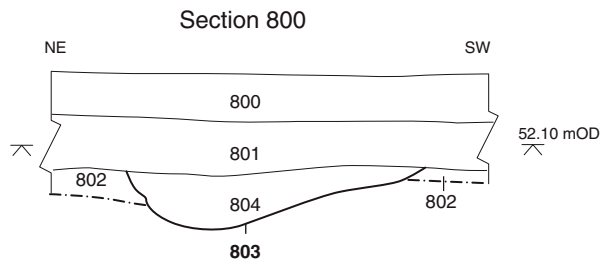


Figure 5: Sections



Plate 1 Trench 8 general view



Plate 2: Trench 8, ditch 803



Plate 3: Trench 6, general view showing ridge-and-furrow traces

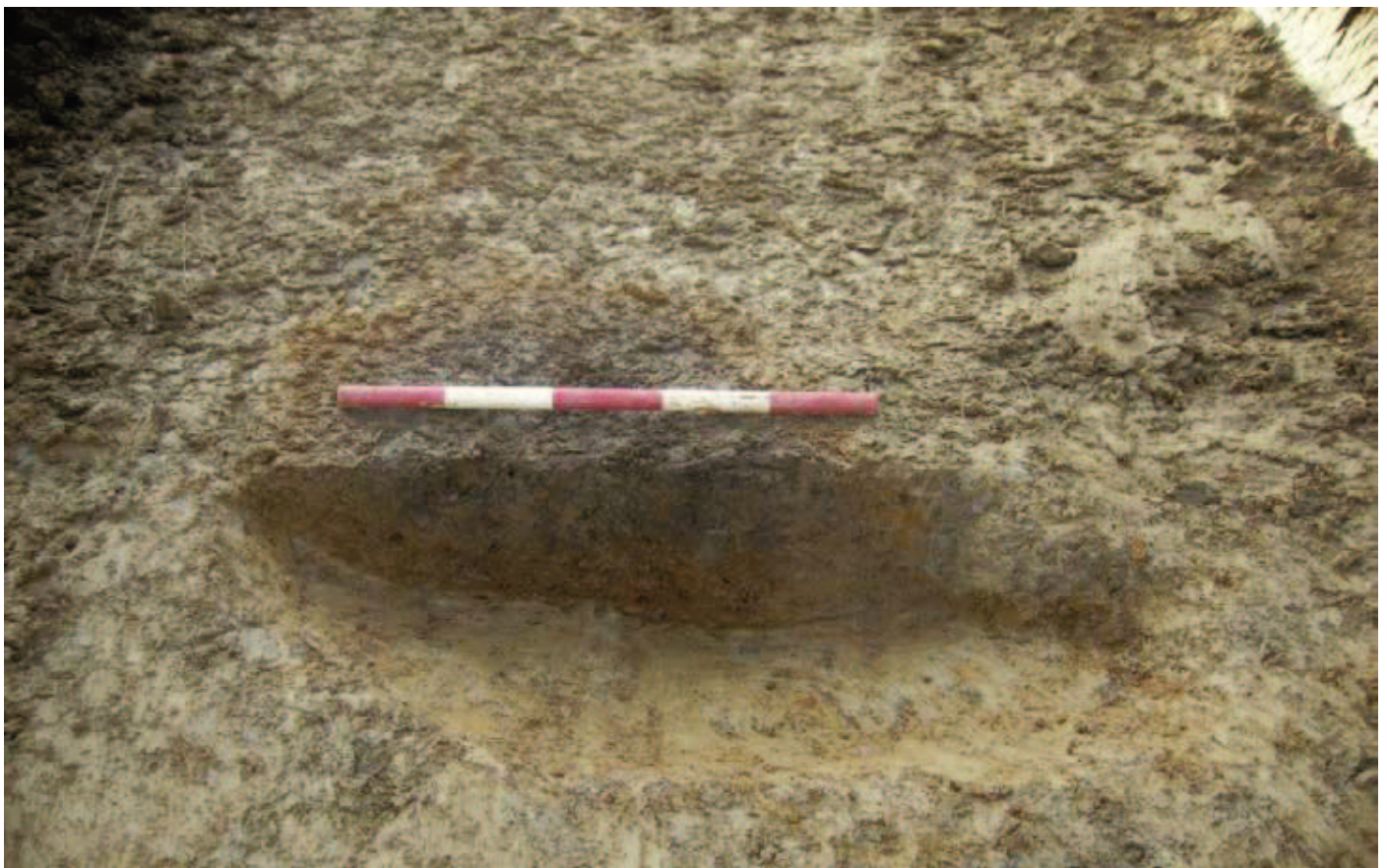


Plate 4: Trench 15, burnt root hollow 1503







**Head Office/Registered Office/  
OA South**

Janus House  
Osney Mead  
Oxford OX2 0ES

t: +44 (0) 1865 263 800  
f: +44 (0) 1865 793 496  
e: [info@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto:info@oxfordarchaeology.com)  
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>

**OA North**

Mill 3  
Moor Lane  
Lancaster LA1 1QD

t: +44 (0) 1524 541 000  
f: +44 (0) 1524 848 606  
e: [oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto: oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com)  
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>

**OA East**

15 Trafalgar Way  
Bar Hill  
Cambridgeshire  
CB23 8SQ

t: +44 (0) 1223 850 500  
e: [oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto: oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com)  
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>



**Director:** Gill Hey, BA PhD FSA MIFA  
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