



Land West of Shottery, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, Phase 2 Archaeological Evaluation Report

July 2018

Client: Orion Heritage

Issue No: 1

OA Reference No: 7079

NGR: SP 18193 54640



Client Name: Orion Heritage
Document Title: Land West of Shottery, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire – Phase 2: Archaeological Evaluation Report
Document Type: Evaluation Report
Grid Reference: SP 18193 54640
Planning Reference: S09/02196/OUT
Site Code: STWS18
Invoice Code: STWSEV
Receiving Body: Warwickshire Museum
Accession No.: T/1299

OA Document File Location: X:\s\Shottery-Stratford upon Avon-Warwickshire\STWSEV2_FURTHER_EVAL TRENCHING_2018\Report

Issue No: 1
Date: 13/07/18
Prepared by: Lauren McIntyre (Project Officer)
Checked by: Stuart Foreman (Senior Project Manager)
Edited by: Stuart Foreman (Senior Project Manager)
Approved for Issue by: Dave Score (Head of Fieldwork)
Signature:



Disclaimer:

This document has been prepared for the titled project or named part thereof and should not be relied upon or used for any other project without an independent check being carried out as to its suitability and prior written authority of Oxford Archaeology being obtained. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for the consequences of this document being used for a purpose other than the purposes for which it was commissioned. Any person/party using or relying on the document for such other purposes agrees and will by such use or reliance be taken to confirm their agreement to indemnify Oxford Archaeology for all loss or damage resulting therefrom. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for this document to any party other than the person/party by whom it was commissioned.

OA South

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford
OX2 0ES

t. +44 (0)1865 263 800

OA East

15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridge
CB23 8SG

t. +44 (0)1223 850 500

OA North

Mill 3
Moor Lane Mills
Moor Lane
Lancaster
LA1 1QD

t. +44 (0)1524 880 250

e. info@oxfordarch.co.uk
w. oxfordarchaeology.com

Oxford Archaeology is a registered Charity: No. 285627



Land West of Shottery, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire – Phase 2

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Written by Lauren McIntyre

*With contributions from Lee Broderick and John Cotter, and
illustrations by Aidan Farnan and Charles Rousseaux*

Contents

Summary	vii
Acknowledgements	viii
1 INTRODUCTION.....	9
1.1 Scope of work.....	9
1.2 Location, topography and geology.....	9
1.3 Archaeological and historical background.....	9
Geophysical Survey	10
Previous evaluation results	10
Previous excavation results	10
1.4 Potential.....	11
2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY	12
2.1 Aims	12
2.2 Methodology.....	12
3 RESULTS	13
3.1 Introduction and presentation of results	13
3.2 General soils and ground conditions.....	13
3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits.....	13
3.4 Trench 2	13
3.5 Trench 3	13
3.6 Trench 5	14
3.7 Trench 6	14
3.8 Trench 7	14
3.9 Trench 8 (Plate 1)	14
3.10 Trench 9	14
3.11 Trench 10.....	14

3.12	Trench 11	14
3.13	Trench 12 (Plates 2 and 3)	14
3.14	Trench 13	15
3.15	Trench 14	15
3.16	Trench 15 (Plates 4 and 5)	15
3.17	Trench 16	15
3.18	Trench 17 (Plate 6)	15
3.19	Trench 18	15
3.20	Trench 19	15
3.21	Trench 20	15
3.22	Trench 21	15
3.23	Trench 23	15
3.24	Trench 24	16
3.25	Trench 26 (Plate 7)	16
3.26	Finds summary	16
4	DISCUSSION	17
4.1	Reliability of field investigation	17
4.2	Evaluation objectives and results	17
4.3	Interpretation	17
4.4	Significance	18
APPENDIX A	TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY	19
APPENDIX B	FINDS REPORTS	27
B.1	Pottery	27
B.2	CBM and Fired Clay	27
APPENDIX C	ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS	28
C.1	Animal Bone	28
APPENDIX D	BIBLIOGRAPHY	29
APPENDIX E	SITE SUMMARY DETAILS	30

List of Figures

Fig. 1	Site location map
Fig. 2	Trench layout
Fig. 3	Geophysics
Fig. 4	Plan of Trench 12
Fig. 5	Plan of Trench 26
Fig. 6	Sections of pit 1203 and posthole 2605

List of Plates

Plate 1	Trench 8, record shot
Plate 2	Trench 12, pit 1203
Plate 3	Trench 12, record shot
Plate 4	Trench 15, geotechnical pit 1504
Plate 5	Trench 15, record shot
Plate 6	Trench 17, record shot
Plate 7	Trench 26, record shot

A complete set of trench record photos is held in the site digital archive.

Summary

Between 2nd and 6th July 2018 Oxford Archaeology carried out an evaluation at land West of Shottery, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire. This is the second and final phase of evaluation trenching in relation to the Land West of Shottery development. The trenching covers the previously unavailable access road route to the west of Anne Hathaway's Cottage. Two previous phases of open area excavation have also been completed to investigate features discovered in the Phase 1 trenches.

A total of 26 trenches were excavated, following a geophysical survey. Extensive ridge and furrow (the result of long-term medieval/post-medieval open field agriculture) was apparent on the geophysical survey throughout the evaluation area, but does not survive as earthworks. Traces of plough furrows were visible in most of the trenches. One furrow produced ceramic building material dated to the 15th-18th centuries. The only other archaeological features uncovered by the evaluation were a pit and a posthole, both undated.

The scarcity of features and artefacts suggests that the site is unlikely to have been used significantly for domestic or funerary purposes at any period in its history.

Acknowledgements

Oxford Archaeology would like to thank Orion Heritage for commissioning this project. Thanks is also extended to who monitored the work on behalf of for their advice and guidance.

The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology by Stuart Foreman. The fieldwork was directed by Lee Sparks, supported by Tom Lawrence and Ines Matos Glover. Survey and digitizing was carried out by Ben Slader. Thanks are also extended to the teams of OA staff that cleaned and packaged the finds under the management of Leigh Allen, processed the environmental remains under the management of Rebecca Nicholson, and prepared the archive under the management of Nicola Scott.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by Orion Heritage to undertake a trial trench evaluation at the site of a proposed housing development by the developers Bloor Homes and Hallam Land Management.
- 1.1.2 The work was undertaken as a condition of Planning Permission (planning ref. S09/02196/OUT)/to inform the Planning Authority in advance of a submission of a Planning Application. The scope of work was established by Rob Bourn, Orion Heritage, in discussion with the District Planning Officer, and a written scheme of investigation was produced by OA detailing the Local Authority's requirements for work necessary to inform the planning process/discharge the planning condition. This document outlines how OA implemented the specified requirements.
- 1.1.3 This is the second and final phase of evaluation trenching in relation to the Land West of Shottery development. The trenching covers the previously unavailable access road route to the west of Anne Hathaway's Cottage. Two previous phases of open area excavation have also been completed to investigate features discovered in the Phase 1 trenches.

1.2 Location, topography and geology

- 1.2.1 The site lies to the west of Shottery, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, centred on NGR SP 18193 54640 (Fig. 1).
- 1.2.2 The area of proposed development consists of c 7ha of agricultural land. Its southern and western limits are bounded by agricultural land and its northern and eastern limits are bounded by woodland and domestic residences. The nearest named road is Cottage Lane, which lies to its east.
- 1.2.3 The geology of the area is mapped as Pernarth Group Mudstone with Blue Lias and Charmouth Mudstone Formation along the western edge (British Geological Survey, 2018).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 Mesolithic flint artefacts have been found c 140m to the east of the southern block of the site and a Neolithic/Bronze Age round barrow c 650m to the west of the southern block of the site.
- 1.3.2 There are the remains of a Roman settlement dating to the 2nd-4th centuries, overlooking the River Avon, c 700m to the south-west. A second possible settlement has also been recorded c 700m to the west. Closer to the site a number of pottery sherds and tile fragments were found during a watching brief on a pipeline c 100m to the west of the northern block of the site. It is possible that settlement remains may extend into the northern block of the site.
- 1.3.3 Shottery was first mentioned in the 8th century and its name indicates it had Saxon origins. In the medieval period it was one of several hamlets forming the manor and parish of Old Stratford, a large estate which may have formed part of the holdings of

the Bishop of Worcester from as early as the 7th century AD until the Dissolution of the Monasteries in the 16th century. Shottery, as granted to Worcester early in the 8th century, was bounded on the west side of the Avon by West Grove (in Haselor), Billesley, and Bardon Hill, and stretched eastwards across the river as far down as its confluence with the Stour.

- 1.3.4 Settlement within Shottery is thought to have been concentrated in the area around the church and therefore it is unlikely that there would be any remains within the evaluation area. The medieval village lay to the north-east and south-east of the site. A geophysical survey conducted throughout the site (Northamptonshire Archaeology 2010) produced evidence of ridge-and-furrow cultivation in all of the fields surveyed, confirming that it was part of Shottery's medieval/post-medieval open field system and that it has probably been in agricultural use since at least the medieval period.
- 1.3.5 The enclosure of Shottery open fields was first proposed in 1769, but was delayed for 17 years until 1786 by the corporation of Stratford-upon-Avon. Much of the site remained in agricultural use during the post-medieval and modern period, although a rifle range was constructed in the southern block of the site in 1860. It was in use until around 1947, but it appears that there were no features within the site that were associated with the range. In addition, various field boundaries and a small structure shown on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map were also identified.

Geophysical Survey

- 1.3.6 Geophysical survey of part of the site was undertaken in 2010 by Northamptonshire Archaeology (Fig. 3). Substantial evidence for ridge and furrow was identified, but no features of potential significance were present.

Previous evaluation results

- 1.3.7 OA carried out the Phase 1 archaeological evaluation (Moon 2014) of the potential development area in fields to the north-west and south-east of the current phase of works. A total of 153 trenches were excavated.
- 1.3.8 The majority of trenches did not contain archaeological features. Where archaeological features were present in the northern fields, none contained viable dating evidence. Trenches in the southern fields revealed low-density but potentially significant archaeology. Due to a paucity of artefacts, most features could not be assigned to a broad archaeological period with confidence.
- 1.3.9 Plough furrows were present across the entire evaluation, as was expected from the results of the geophysical survey (Northamptonshire Archaeology 2010).

Previous excavation results

- 1.3.10 OA subsequently carried out three targeted excavations within the development area. The excavation areas were defined by the extent of the archaeological features identified in the previous evaluation trenches.
- 1.3.11 Phase 1 of the excavation, in 2015, covered an area of c 1.1ha and was located next to the Shottery Brook, within the southern field of the development area (Simmonds and Martin forthcoming).

- 1.3.12 The excavation revealed activity relating to the Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age, Roman and Anglo-Saxon periods, although ploughing from the medieval and post-medieval periods had caused significant truncation of the archaeological features, resulting in sparse preservation of features and small artefactual assemblages.
- 1.3.13 Prehistoric remains included evidence for a Mesolithic flint scatter, a middle Neolithic pit group associated with Peterborough ware and including a cremation burial, a Beaker pit and a plough-levelled barrow or ring ditch containing a central cremation and satellite burials. Radiocarbon dating placed these features at the early/middle Bronze Age transition.
- 1.3.14 The Roman features comprised ditched boundaries apparently forming the eastern extent of fields associated with an unidentified settlement located somewhere nearby.
- 1.3.15 Dispersed but significant Anglo-Saxon remains were represented by parts of two post-built buildings and one definite and two possible sunken-featured buildings. The Anglo-Saxon features were dated by artefacts (including pottery, fragments of two decorated bone combs and loomweights) as well as radiocarbon dates.
- 1.3.16 Phase 2 of the excavation (Sims 2018), comprising two areas totalling 0.81ha, also revealed extensive evidence of ridge and furrow, characteristic of long-term medieval and post-medieval activity. Twelve features were investigated and identified as tree-throw holes. No significant archaeological remains were identified in this phase.

1.4 Potential

- 1.4.1 Previous archaeological interventions coupled with geophysical survey indicate that there is moderate potential for remains dating from the prehistoric period, and low potential for other periods.

2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The project aims and objectives were as follows:

- i. To determine or confirm the general nature of any remains present;
- ii. To determine or confirm the approximate date or date range of any remains, by means of artefactual or other evidence;
- iii. To assess vulnerability/sensitivity of any exposed remains;
- iv. To determine the potential of the site to provide palaeoenvironmental and/or economic evidence;
- v. To provide sufficient information on the archaeological potential of the site to enable the archaeological implications of any proposed developments to be assessed;
- vi. To assess the impact of previous land use on the site;
- vii. To inform a strategy to avoid or mitigate impacts of any proposed development on surviving archaeological remains;
- viii. To disseminate the results through the production of a site archive for deposition with an appropriate museum and to provide information for accession to the Warwickshire HER.

2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 The evaluation consisted of 26 trenches measuring 30m long and c 2m wide. This is a total area of 0.1556 ha and represents a c 2.2% sample of the evaluation area (Fig. 2). The trench plan was designed to target geophysical anomalies identified by the previous magnetometer survey and provide even coverage of the proposed development area. Trenches were set out with GPS equipment.
- 2.2.2 Plough-disturbed soil horizons were removed by mechanical excavator fitted with a 2m-wide toothless bucket to expose archaeologically significant horizons or the surface of the solid geology, whichever was encountered first.
- 2.2.3 Trench 15 was only excavated to a length of 28m due to the southern end of the trench crossing a hedge/fence line.
- 2.2.4 A summary of OA's general approach to excavation and recording is included in Appendix A of the WSI. Standard methodologies for Geomatics and Survey, Environmental evidence, Artefactual evidence and Burials can also be found in Appendices B, C, D and E of the WSI respectively.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

- 3.1.1 The results of the evaluation are presented below, and include a stratigraphic description of the trenches that contained archaeological remains. The full details of all trenches with dimensions and depths of all deposits can be found in Appendix A. Finds data and spot dates are tabulated in Appendix B. Archaeological features are illustrated and selected photographs included at the end of the report. Photographic plates are selected to illustrate archaeological features and general soils and ground conditions encountered. A complete set of trench record photos is held in the site digital archive.
- 3.1.2 Context numbers reflect the trench numbers unless otherwise stated, e.g. pit 102 is a feature within Trench 1, while ditch 304 is a feature within Trench 3.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

- 3.2.1 Natural geology varied in colour and composition across the site, merging from patchy light to dark red-brown and yellow-brown sandy clay across most of the site, to grey-brown gravel in the south-eastern corner (trenches 16, 17, 19 and 22). The plough-disturbed subsoil varied in colour and composition with the natural geology and was overlain by topsoil.
- 3.2.2 Ground conditions throughout the evaluation were generally good, and the trenches remained dry throughout. The plough furrows were clearly distinguishable as such, with reference to the geophysical survey plot.
- 3.2.3 Occasional ceramic land drains were encountered.

3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

- 3.3.1 Archaeological features were present in two Trenches, 12 and 26. These are described below and discussed further in Section 4.
- 3.3.2 A total of 19 trenches were devoid of significant archaeological features, but did contain plough furrows. A further furrow was recorded in Trench 12. Trench 15 contained a straight-sided geotechnical pit. These features are described briefly below, with full soil descriptions and measurements given where furrows were excavated.
- 3.3.3 The remaining four trenches (1, 4, 22 and 25) were completely devoid of archaeological features. Descriptions of these are recorded in Appendix B, and will not be further discussed in this section.

3.4 Trench 2

- 3.4.1 Trench 2 contained a furrow. This was aligned NE-SW and was located in the western half of the trench.

3.5 Trench 3

- 3.5.1 Trench 3 contained three parallel furrows running approximately W-E; the central of these was excavated by hand (303). Furrow 303 was aligned NE-SW and measured >1.83m long and 0.17m wide. It contained a mid-brown clayey silt, containing

occasional small pebble inclusions (fill 304). One sherd of pottery and one fragment of ceramic building material (CBM) were recovered from fill 304. The pottery recovered from 304 was medieval in date (possibly 12th-14th centuries), while the CBM was dated to the 15th-18th century.

3.6 Trench 5

- 3.6.1 Trench 5 contained one furrow. This was aligned NE-SW and was located in the western half of the trench.

3.7 Trench 6

- 3.7.1 Trench 6 contained three furrows. These were all aligned approximately W-E across the trench. One furrow was in the north half of the trench, one in the centre of the trench, and one in the south half; the furrows were spaced evenly across the trench.

3.8 Trench 7

- 3.8.1 Trench 7 contained one possible furrow. This was aligned W-E, and located in the southern end of the trench. The horizons of this feature were very diffuse: an alternative interpretation of this feature is that it was a band in the natural.

3.9 Trench 8 (Plate 1)

- 3.9.1 Trench 8 contained one furrow. This was aligned NE-SW and ran from the centre of the trench into the eastern half of the trench.

3.10 Trench 9

- 3.10.1 Trench 9 contained two furrows. These were both aligned NE-SW. One was located in the western end of the trench, and the other in the eastern end.

3.11 Trench 10

- 3.11.1 Trench 10 contained one furrow. This was aligned NE-SW and located in the centre of the trench.

3.12 Trench 11

- 3.12.1 Trench 11 contained three furrows. All three were aligned approximately W-E, and were evenly spaced across the trench. One furrow was in the north end of the trench, one in the centre and one in the south end.

3.13 Trench 12 (Plates 2 and 3)

- 3.13.1 Trench 12 contained one pit and one furrow.
- 3.13.2 Pit 1203 was ovoid in shape, with moderate to shallow concave sides and a flat base, measuring 0.76m long, 0.6m wide and 0.1m deep (Figs 5 and 7). It contained a friable mid grey-brown sandy clay, containing occasional rounded pebble inclusions. No artefacts were present and the feature is undated.
- 3.13.3 The furrow was oriented NE-SW and was located in the centre of the trench.

3.14 Trench 13

- 3.14.1 Trench 13 contained one furrow. This was oriented NE-SW and was located in the west half of the trench.

3.15 Trench 14

- 3.15.1 Trench 14 contained one furrow. This was oriented approximately W-E, and was located in the western half of the trench.

3.16 Trench 15 (Plates 4 and 5)

- 3.16.1 Trench 15 contained one modern pit. Pit 1504 was straight-sided, extending beyond the limit of excavation to the west and east (Plate 1). The sides of the cut were moderate to shallow, with a concave base, measuring >1.8m long and 8m wide. It contained two fills: upper fill 1502, a mid-yellow brown silty clay and basal fill 1501, a mid red-brown redeposited clay. Both fills contained moderate quantities of modern glass and metal. This feature is likely to be a geotechnical pit.

3.17 Trench 16

- 3.17.1 Trench 16 contained four furrows. All four were oriented approximately W-E. One furrow was located in the north end of the trench, two in the centre of the trench, and one on the south end of the trench. These furrows were not evenly spaced.

3.18 Trench 17 (Plate 6)

- 3.18.1 Trench 17 contained two furrows. These were both oriented NE-SW, and were located in the east and west halves of the trench.

3.19 Trench 18

- 3.19.1 Trench 18 contained one furrow, oriented NE-SW and located in the south half of the trench.

3.20 Trench 19

- 3.20.1 Trench 19 contained two furrows. These were both oriented W-E. One was located in the north half of the trench and one in the south half.

3.21 Trench 20

- 3.21.1 Trench 20 contained three furrows. All three were oriented approximately W-E, evenly spaced and within the central two-thirds of the trench.

3.22 Trench 21

- 3.22.1 Trench 21 contained one furrow, oriented NE-SW and located in the west half of the trench.

3.23 Trench 23

- 3.23.1 Trench 23 contained one furrow. This was oriented NE-SW and located in the eastern half of the trench.

3.24 Trench 24

- 3.24.1 Trench 24 contained two furrows. Both of these were oriented W-E. One was located in the northern end of the trench. The second was located in the southern half of the trench.

3.25 Trench 26 (Plate 7)

- 3.25.1 Trench 26 contained one posthole and two areas of rooting. The two areas of rooting were assigned context numbers, but only for the purpose of finds retrieval.
- 3.25.2 Deposit 2603 was located in the centre of the trench and contained fragments of animal bone and pottery. Pottery from 2603 was post-medieval in date (18th-20th century).
- 3.25.3 Deposit 2604 was located in the west half of the trench and contained one sherd of pottery and three fragments of fired clay. Pottery from 2604 was post-medieval in date (c 1550-1700).
- 3.25.4 Sub-circular post hole 2605 was located to the immediate west of 2603. The sides of the cut were moderately sloped, with a concave base and measuring 0.31m long, 0.3m wide and 0.1m deep. It contained a firm mid to dark grey brown silty clay fill. No artefacts were recovered from this feature, so the date and precise function is unknown.

3.26 Finds summary

- 3.26.1 Detailed finds reports are presented below in Appendix B. Finds were only recovered from two trenches: Trench 3 and Trench 26. Unfortunately, the limited nature of the evidence available means that it is not possible to tell whether these are contemporary with the features or are residual, as they are from plough-disturbed contexts. The finds can be summarised as follows.
- 3.26.2 A small quantity of pottery was recovered (three sherds). Pottery from Trench 3 (furrow fill 304) comprised one sherd of very abraded shell tempered pottery, of medieval date. Two sherds of pottery were recovered from Trench 26: one flower pot rim from context 2603, and one sherd of black-glazed red ware from context 2604. Both of these sherds were post-medieval in date.
- 3.26.3 One fragment of CBM was also recovered from context 304. This was post-medieval in date. Three fragments of fired clay from context 2604 could not be dated.
- 3.26.4 Three fragments of animal bone were also recovered from context 2603. These could not be identified to species, but the largest fragment likely derived from a species of mammal.

4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Reliability of field investigation

- 4.1.1 The archaeological evaluation, in combination with the preceding geophysical survey, has provided a robust assessment of the archaeological potential of the site.
- 4.1.2 The evidence from the Phase 2 trenches is consistent with results from previous archaeological interventions and the current evaluation. The previous Phase 1 evaluation and subsequent excavations revealed a significant concentration of multi-period archaeological remains, which was centred 200m south of the present site, in close proximity to the Shottery Brook, which is likely to have acted as a focus for settlement since at least the Bronze Age. The present evaluation was located at a greater distance from the brook (300m) and revealed a low density of archaeological features, (Fig. 2).
- 4.1.3 Most of the identified archaeological features were plough furrows, which were detected by the previous geophysical survey. Furrows are much more likely to be detected by long, narrow trial or evaluation trenches than smaller features such as pits or postholes.
- 4.1.4 A paucity of artefacts meant that it was difficult to characterise or assign dates to the two potential archaeological features identified in Trenches 12 and 26. They could be agricultural features, or natural features such as tree throws.
- 4.1.5 In the instances where archaeological features were revealed, only representative samples of the revealed feature were excavated. No environmental samples were taken.

4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

- 4.2.1 Section 2.1 detailed both the general and specific aims and objectives of the evaluation. Only two features were identified as being of potential archaeological interest, comprising one pit and one posthole, neither of which contained datable material.
- 4.2.2 The archaeology of the current site is difficult to date as it is unclear whether finds recovered from feature fills are contemporary with the features or whether they are residual. That said, all ceramic finds (pottery and CBM) date to either the medieval or post-medieval periods, with an absence of any finds which pre-date the 12th century.
- 4.2.3 Furrows were observed in the majority of trenches. These are all on approximately the same alignment (NE-SW or W-E). This is consistent with findings from the 2010 geophysical survey (Northamptonshire Archaeology 2010).

4.3 Interpretation

- 4.3.1 None of the features could be securely dated, and only the furrows could be characterised, so only a tentative site narrative can be extrapolated from the available evidence.

- 4.3.2 In contrast to the Phase 1 evaluation (south-eastern field) the Phase 2 trenches show a complete absence of prehistoric, Roman or Anglo-Saxon/early medieval finds and features.
- 4.3.3 Furrow 303 in Trench 3 contained CBM dated to the 15th-18th centuries, as well as residual pottery dated to the 12th-14th centuries. The remaining furrows on the site are undated. Furrows are produced by the long-term ploughing of strips in open fields. This method of agriculture is synonymous with the medieval and early post-medieval period in Britain (Kipfer 2000, 480). However, this method was actually in use from at least the post-Roman period, with several possible Roman examples in areas such as Hen Domen in Powys, Wales, and Gwithian in Cornwall (Aston 1985, 121). As the artefacts recovered from plough furrows are by definition in plough-disturbed contexts they are most likely to reflect the longest or latest periods of cultivation, rather than necessarily their period of origin. Finds from furrows may only reflect the date of the nearest artefact-rich habitation sites. On present evidence it is not possible to determine when the ridge-and-furrow at Shottery was first formed.
- 4.3.4 The only other archaeological features were a pit in Trench 12 and a posthole in Trench 26, both undated.

4.4 Significance

- 4.4.1 Finds and features (with the exception of furrows) were sparsely distributed amongst the trenches. This evaluation has shown that the site has low archaeological potential.
- 4.4.2 The presence of a substantial number of largely undated plough furrows indicates that open field agriculture was being practised, at any time from the post-Roman period until the post-medieval period. As poorly preserved and poorly dated, the furrows in this case are of low significance.

APPENDIX A

TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy clay with gravelly clay bands.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.51
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
100	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
101	Layer	-	0.28	Subsoil	-	-
102	Layer	-	-	Natural. Dark to mid red sandy clay with brown gravelly clay bands.	-	-

Trench 2						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of significant archaeology. Trench contained a NE-SW aligned furrow at western end of trench. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy clay.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.49
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
200	Layer	-	0.27	Topsoil	-	-
201	Layer	-	0.23	Subsoil	-	-
202	Layer	-	-	Natural. Dark to mid brownish red sandy clay.	-	-

Trench 3						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench devoid of significant archaeology. Trench contained three furrows, one to the South, one to the North and one in the center of the trench which was excavated and recorded. All furrows ran E-W. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy clay.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	2
					Avg. depth (m)	0.29
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
300	Layer	-	0.15	Topsoil	-	-
301	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
302	Layer	-	-	Natural. Mid to dark brownish red sandy clay.	-	-
303	Cut	1.83	0.17	E-W aligned furrow with shallow concave sides and an irregular, uneven base.	-	-
304	Fill	1.83	0.17	Mid brown clayey silt with small pebble inclusions.	Pot, CBM	Pottery: 12th-14th century? CBM: 15th-

						18th century
--	--	--	--	--	--	--------------

Trench 4						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy clay.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.33
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
400	Layer	-	0.19	Topsoil	-	-
401	Layer	-	0.14	Subsoil	-	-
402	Layer	-	-	Natural. Mid brownish red sandy clay.	-	-

Trench 5						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of significant archaeology. Trench contained NE-SW aligned furrow to the west of the trench. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy clay.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.27
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
500	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
501	Layer	-	-	Natural. Mid brownish red sandy clay.	-	-

Trench 6						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench devoid of significant archaeology. Trench contained three E-W aligned furrows, one to the north, one to the south and one centrally within the trench. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy clay.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.30
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
600	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil	-	-
601	Layer	-	0.13	Subsoil	-	-
602	Layer	-	-	Natural. Mid brownish red sandy clay.	-	-

Trench 7						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench devoid of significant archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of clay. Trench contained E-W aligned furrow to the south.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.42
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
700	Layer	-	0.23	Topsoil	-	-
701	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-

702	Layer	-	-	Natural. Mid to light brownish red clay	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Trench 8						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of significant archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of clay. Trench contained two furrows aligned NE-SW, one to the East and one to the West end of the trench.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.48
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
800	Layer	-	0.32	Topsoil	-	-
801	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
802	Layer	-	-	Natural. Mid brownish red and light yellowish brown clay.	-	-

Trench 9						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of significant archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of clay. Trench contained two furrows.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.30
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
900	Layer	-	0.15	Topsoil	-	-
901	Layer	-	0.14	Subsoil	-	-
902	Layer	-	-	Natural. Mid brownish red clay.	-	-

Trench 10						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench devoid of significant archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy clay. Trench contained a NE-SW aligned furrow.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.75
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1000	Layer	-	0.45	Topsoil	-	-
1001	Layer	-	0.30	Subsoil	-	-
1002	Layer	-	-	Natural. Dark reddish brown sandy clay with pebble inclusions.	-	-

Trench 11						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench devoid of significant archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of clay. Trench contained three furrows aligned NE-SW, on to the southern end, one to the northern end and one centrally within the trench.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.40

Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1100	Layer	-	0.27	Topsoil	-	-
1101	Layer	-	0.18	Natural. Mid to light yellowish brown clay.	-	-

Trench 12						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Trench contained a small pit at the east end and a furrow aligned NE-SW in the center. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy clay.				Length (m)	30	
				Width (m)	1.8	
				Avg. depth (m)	0.45	
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1200	Layer	-	0.27	Topsoil	-	-
1201	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-	-
1202	Layer	-	-	Natural. Dark reddish brown sandy clay with some pebble inclusions.	-	-
1203	Cut	0.66	0.10	Sub-circular pit with moderate to shallow concave sides and a flat base.	-	-
1204	Fill	0.66	0.10	Friable mid greyish brown sandy clay with occasional pebble inclusions.		

Trench 13						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Trench devoid of significant archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of clay. Trench contained a NE-SW aligned furrow towards the center.				Length (m)	30	
				Width (m)	1.8	
				Avg. depth (m)	0.32	
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1300	Layer	-	0.33	Topsoil	-	-
1301	Layer	-	-	Natural. Light brownish green clay.	-	-

Trench 14						
General description				Orientation	NE-SW	
Trench devoid of significant archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy clay. Trench contained an E-W aligned furrow towards the SW end.				Length (m)	30	
				Width (m)	1.8	
				Avg. depth (m)	0.42	
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1400	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
1401	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-	-
1402	Layer	-	-	Natural. Mid brownish red sandy clay with pebble inclusions.	-	-

Trench 15						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Trench contained modern truncation of a GeotTec pit with modern glass and metal. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of clay.					Length (m)	28
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.38
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1500	Layer	-	0.15	Topsoil	-	-
1501	Fill	-	-	Redeposited mid reddish brown natural clay. Fill of GeoTec pit 1504.	-	-
1502	Fill	-	-	Mid yellowish brown silty clay. Fill of GeoTec pit 1504.	-	-
1503	Layer	-	-	Natural. Mid brownish red clay and light yellow green clay.	-	-
1504	Cut	-	-	Cut of modern GeoTec pit. Shallow to moderate sides, concave base.		

Trench 16						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench devoid of significant archaeology. Trench contained four furrows aligned broadly NE-SW and spread approximately every five meters along the trench. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of grey brown gravel.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.66
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
100	Layer	-	0.32	Topsoil	-	-
101	Layer	-	0.34	Subsoil	-	-
102	Layer	-	-	Natural. Dark greyish brown gravel.	-	-

Trench 17						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of significant archaeology. Trench contained two furrows aligned NE-SW at the East and West end of the trench. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of grey brown gravel.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.43
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
100	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
101	Layer	-	0.14	Subsoil	-	-
102	Layer	-	-	Natural. Dark greyish brown gravel.	-	-

Trench 18		
General description	Orientation	E-W
	Length (m)	30
	Width (m)	1.8

Trench devoid of significant archaeology. Trench contained a furrow aligned NE-SW towards the western end. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					Avg. depth (m)	0.59
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
100	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
101	Layer	-	0.24	Subsoil	-	-
102	Layer	-	-	Natural. Mid greyish brown silty clay, some pebble inclusions.	-	-

Trench 19						
General description					Orientation	N-W
Trench devoid of significant archaeology. Trench contained two furrows one towards the northern end and one towards the southern end. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of grey brown gravel. A modern ground investigation pit was also present in the center of the trench.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.53
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1900	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
1901	Layer	-	0.20	Subsoil	-	-
1902	Layer	-	-	Natural. Dark greyish brown gravel.	-	-

Trench 20						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench devoid of significant archaeology. Trench contained three furrows NE-SW, spread within the central two thirds of the trench. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy clay.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.44
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2000	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
2001	Layer	-	0.20	Subsoil	-	-
2002	Layer	-	-	Natural. Reddish brown sandy clay with gravel inclusions.	-	-

Trench 21						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of significant archaeology. Trench contained a NE-SW aligned furrow towards the western end. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy clay with gravel inclusions.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.38
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2100	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil	-	-
2101	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-	-

2102	Layer	-	-	Natural. Dark reddish brown sandy clay with gravel/pebble inclusions.	-	-
------	-------	---	---	---	---	---

Trench 22

General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of grey brown gravel.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.49
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2200	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
2201	Layer	-	0.23	Subsoil	-	-
2202	Layer	-	-	Natural. Dark greyish brown gravel.	-	-

Trench 23

General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of significant archaeology. Trench contained a NE-SW aligned furrow at the eastern end. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.63
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
100	Layer	-	0.46	Topsoil	-	-
101	Layer	-	0.14	Subsoil	-	-
102	Layer	-	-	Natural. Light grey silty clay with some pebble inclusions.	-	-

Trench 24

General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench devoid of significant archaeology. Trench contained two furrows, aligned E-W, one towards the northern end and one towards the southern end. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.65
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2400	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil	-	-
2401	Layer	-	0.31	Subsoil	-	-
2402	Layer	-	-	Natural. Mid brownish grey silty clay with some pebble inclusions.	-	-

Trench 25

General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of clayey silt.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.50

Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2500	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
2501	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-	-
2502	Layer	-	-	Natural. Dark greyish brown clayey silt, some pebble inclusions.	-	-

Trench 26						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench contained a small posthole, as well as two areas of rooting which yielded finds. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.30
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2600	Layer	-	0.15	Topsoil	-	-
2601	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
2602	Layer	-	-	Natural. Mid brownish grey silty clay.	-	-
2603	Fill	-	-	Rooting, numbered for finds retrieval	Animal Bone Pottery	18th-20th century
2604	Fill	-	-	Rooting, numbered for finds retrieval	Pottery	1550-1700
2605	Cut	0.30	0.10	Posthole with moderate to shallow concave shaped base.	-	-
2606	Fill	0.30	0.10	Moderate-firm (baked) mid to dark greyish brown silty clay.	-	-

APPENDIX B FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Pottery

By John Cotter

Context	Description	Date
304	1 very abraded shell-tempered sherd, 4g	?12th–14th century
2603	1 flower pot (PMR) rim sherd, 8g	18th–20th century
2604	1 sherd black-glazed red ware (PMBL), 4g	1550–1700

B.2 CBM and Fired Clay

By John Cotter

Context	Description	Date
304	CBM 1 worn, thick unglazed floor/quarry tile fragment in Malvernian fabric with granitic inclusions and 1 chip, 120g	15th–18th century
2604	3 small scraps of fired clay, 2g	-

APPENDIX C ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Animal Bone

By Lee Broderick

C.1.1 The finds assemblage is of low potential and requires no further work.

Context	Description
2603	1 large mammal indeterminate fragment, 2 indeterminate fragments, 4g

APPENDIX D BIBLIOGRAPHY

Aston, M, 1985 *Interpreting the Landscape: Landscape Archaeology and Local History*. London, Routledge.

British Geological Survey, 2018 Geology of Britain Viewer. Available at:
<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>

Kipfer, B A, 2000 *Encyclopedic Dictionary of Archaeology*. London, Kluwer Academic/Plenum Publishers.

Moon, K, 2014 *Land west of Shottery, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire*. Archaeological Evaluation Report, Oxford Archaeology.

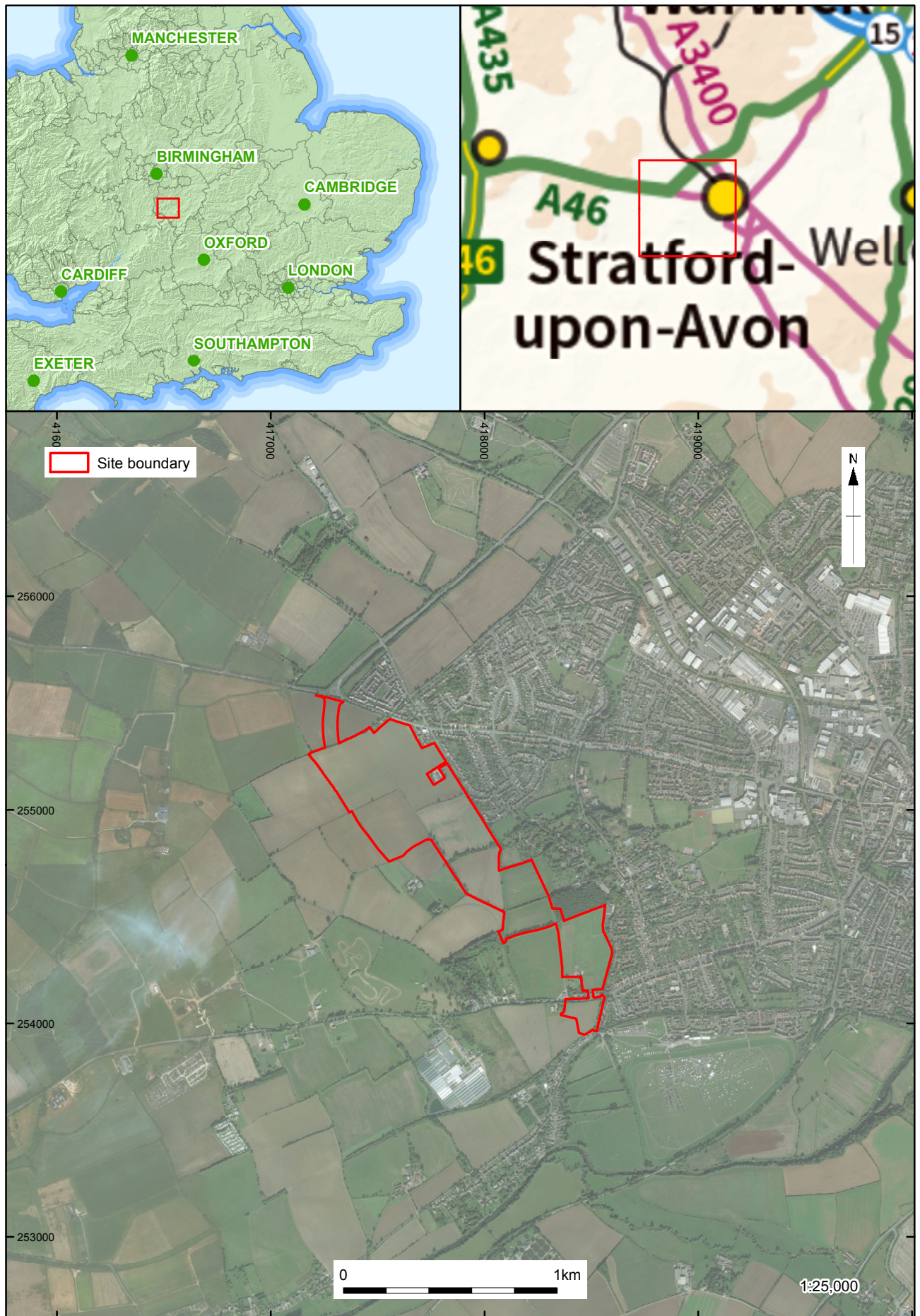
Northamptonshire Archaeology, 2010 *Geophysical Survey at land Adjacent to Ann Hathaway's Cottage, Shottery, Warwickshire*. Unpublished report.

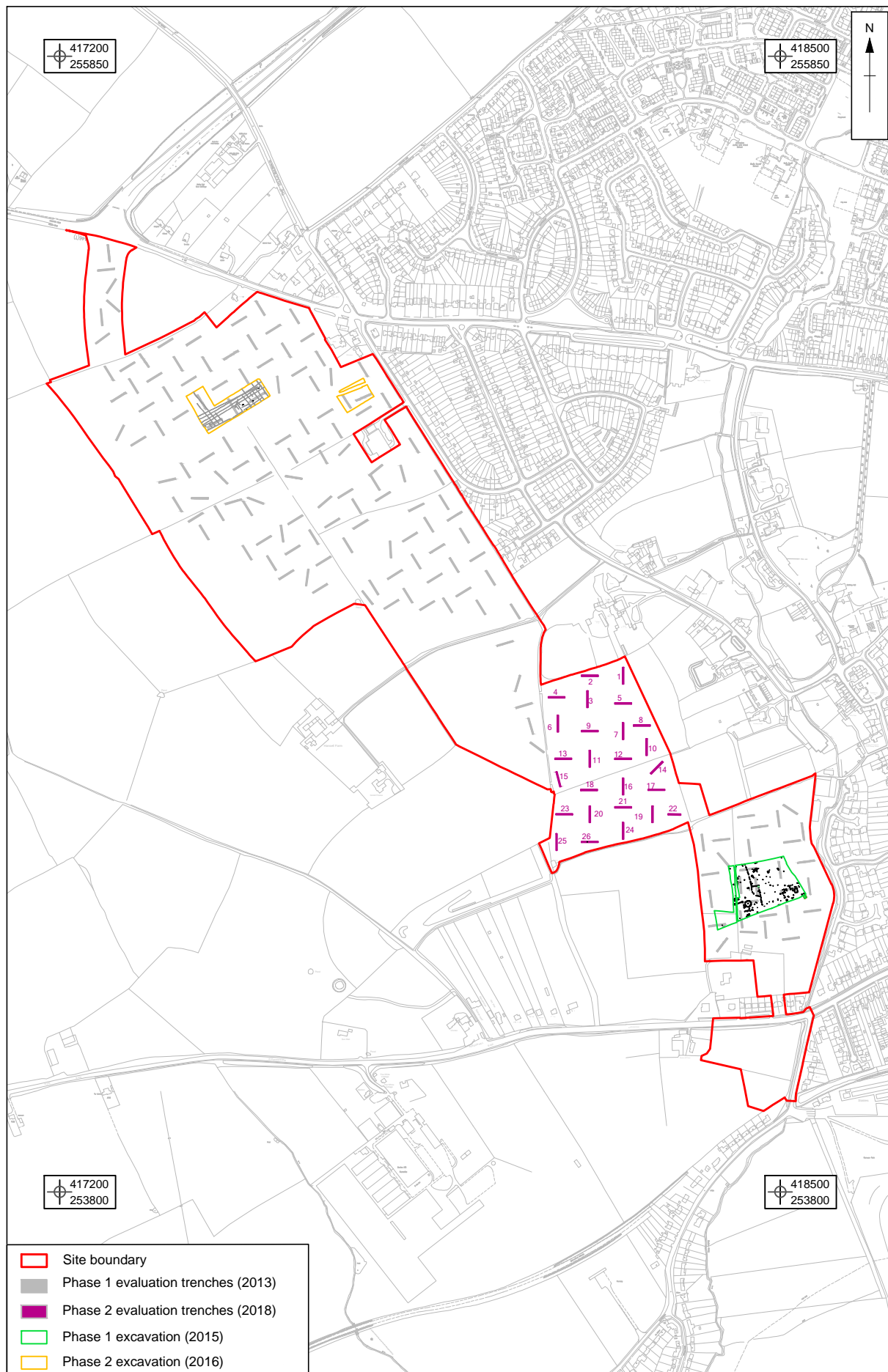
Sims, M, 2018 *Shottery Phase 2, Archaeological Excavation Report*. Oxford Archaeology.

Simmonds, A, and Martin, T, Forthcoming Prehistoric activity and burials, Roman field boundaries and an Anglo-Saxon settlement at Shottery, Stratford-upon-Avon, *Transactions of the Birmingham and Warwickshire Archaeological Society*.

APPENDIX E SITE SUMMARY DETAILS

Site name:	Land West of Shottery, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, Phase 2
Site code:	STWS18
Grid Reference	SP 18193 54640
Type:	Archaeological Evaluation Trenching
Date and duration:	2nd-6th July 2018, 5 days
Area of Site	0.1556ha
Location of archive:	The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with Warwicksire Museum in due course, under the following accession number: T/1299.
Summary of Results:	<p>This is the second and final phase of evaluation trenching in relation to the Land West of Shottery development. The trenching covers the previously unavailable access road route to the west of Anne Hathaway's Cottage. Two previous phases of open area excavation have also been completed to investigate features discovered in the Phase 1 trenches.</p> <p>A total of 26 trenches were excavated, following a geophysical survey. Extensive ridge and furrow (the result of long-term medieval/post-medieval 'open field' agriculture) was apparent on the geophysical survey throughout the evaluation area, but does not survive as earthworks. Traces of plough furrows were visible in many of the trenches. One furrow produced ceramic building material dated to the 15th-18th centuries. The only other archaeological features uncovered by the evaluation were a pit and a posthole, both undated.</p> <p>The scarcity of features and artefacts suggests that the site is unlikely to have been used significantly for domestic or funerary uses at any period in its history.</p>





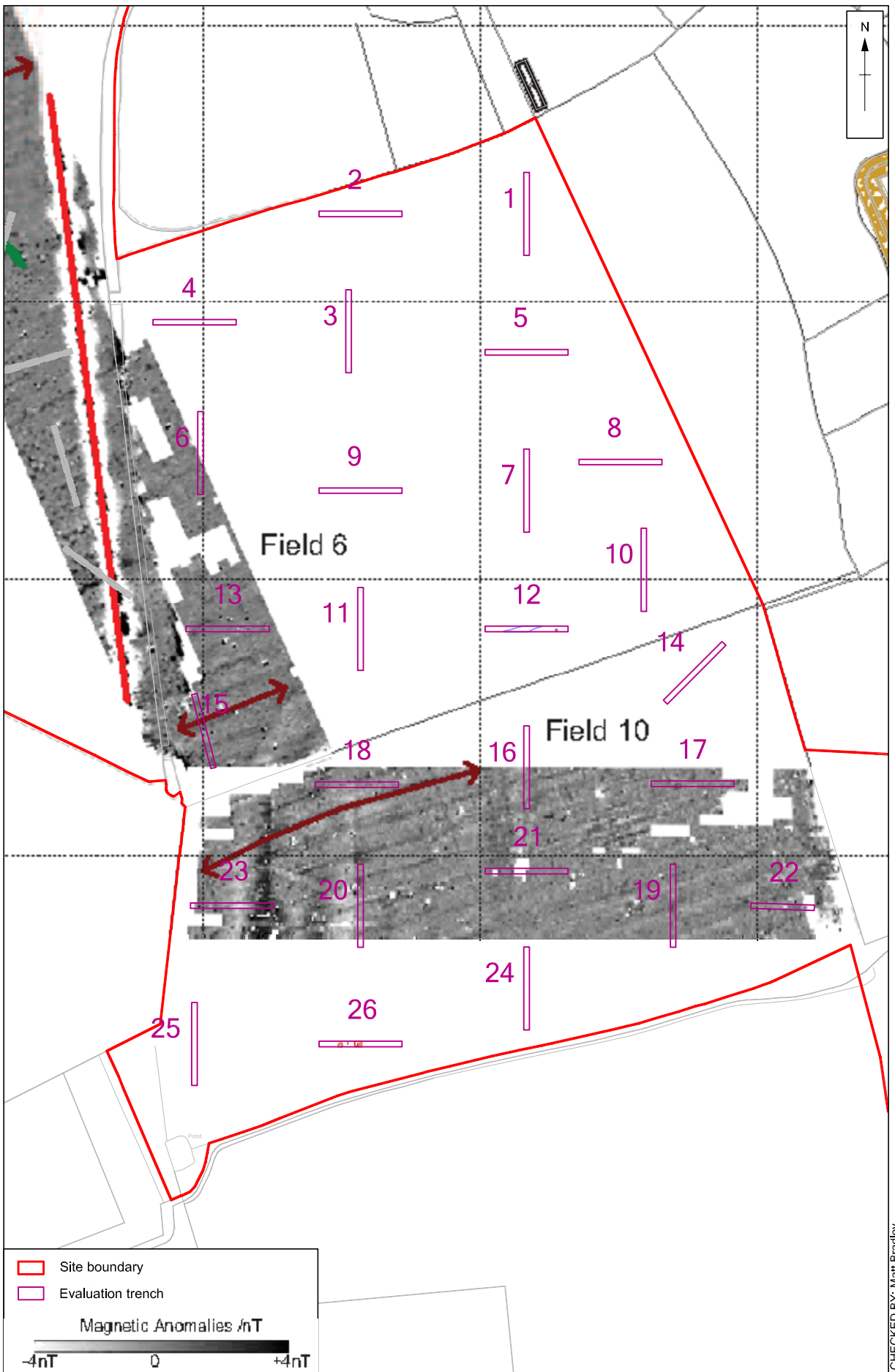
CHECKED BY: Matt Bradley

0 500m

Survey Data supplied by :
Ben Slader

Scale at A4 1:10,000

Figure 2: Trench layout



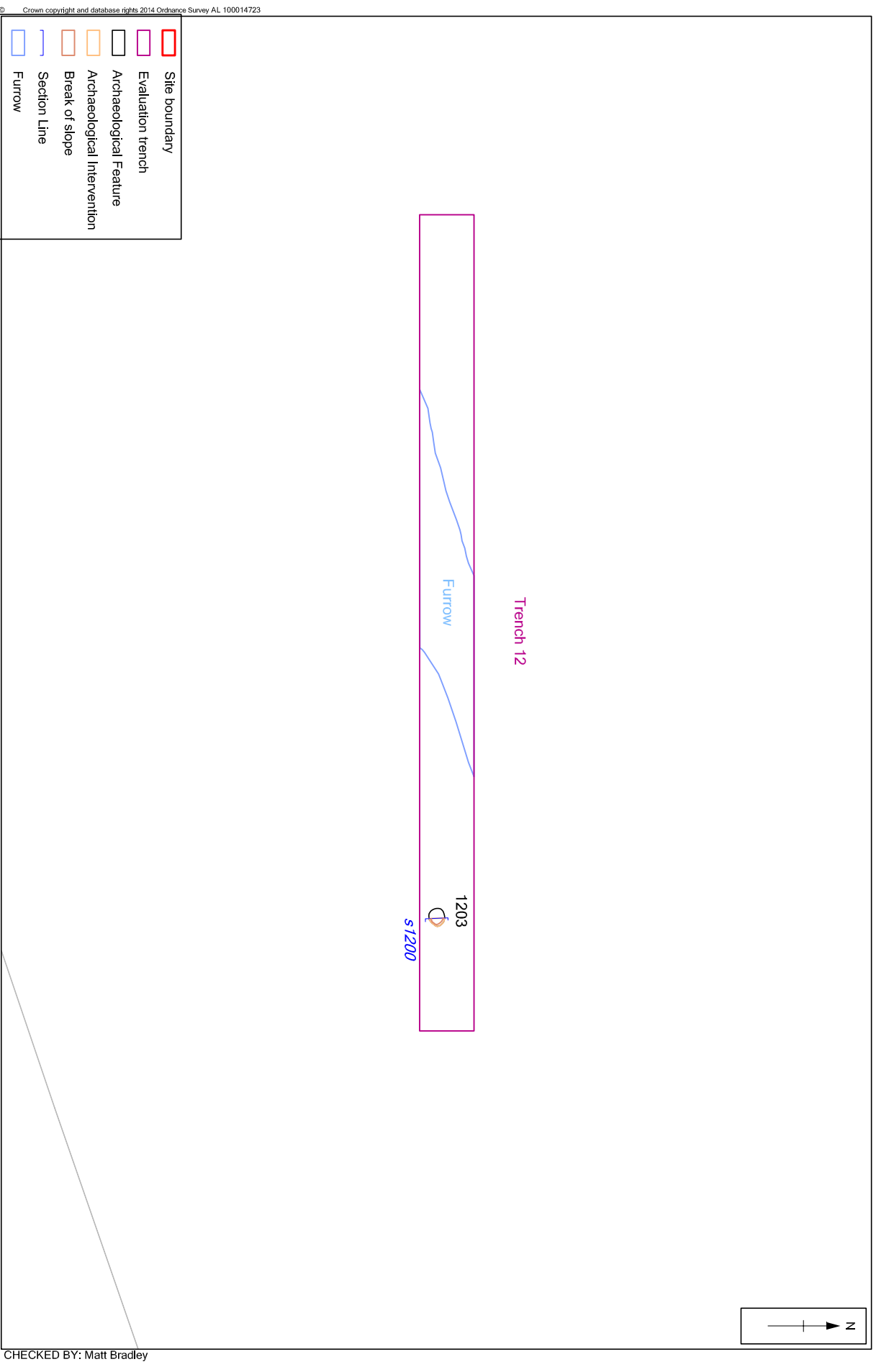
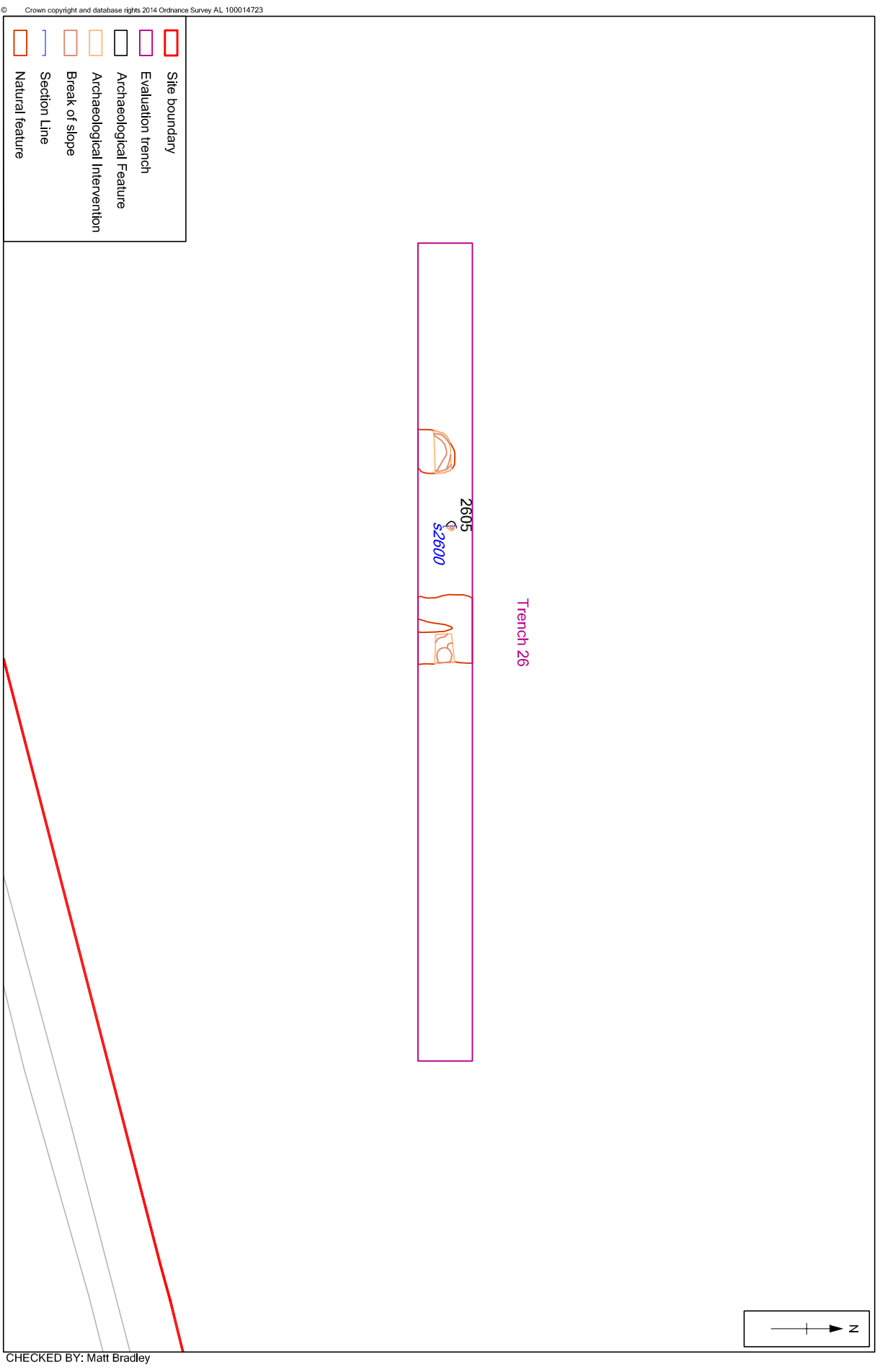


Figure 4: Plan of Trench 12



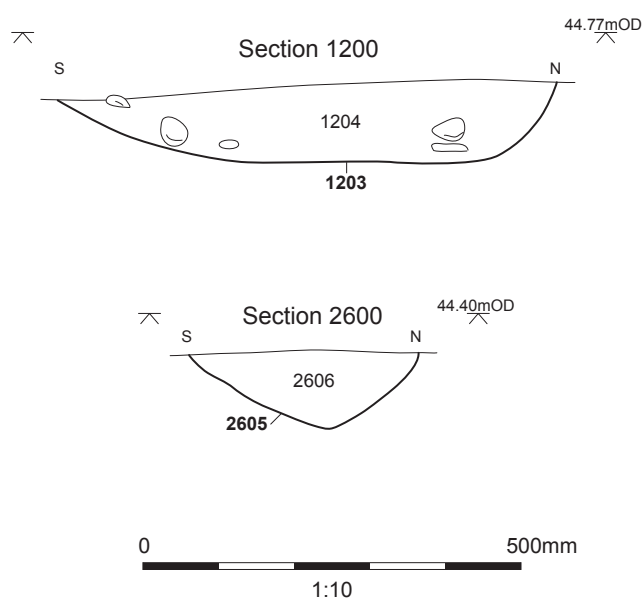


Figure 6: Sections of Pit 1203 and post hole 2605



Plate 1: Trench 8, record shot



Plate 2: Trench 12, pit 1203



Plate 3: Trench 12, record shot



Plate 4: Trench 15, geotechnical pit 1504



Plate 5: Trench 15, record shot



Plate 6: Trench 17, record shot

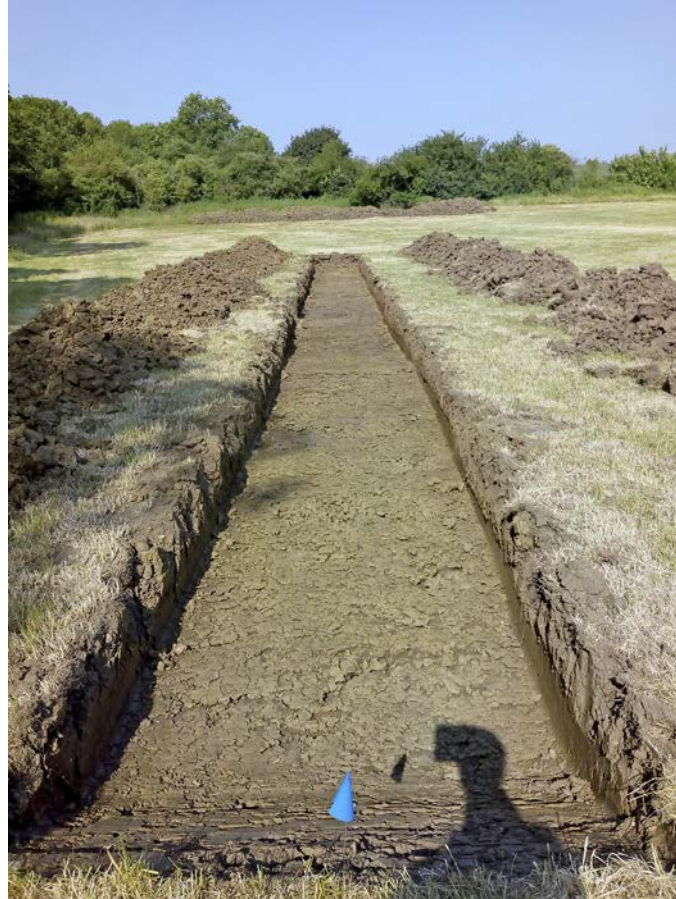


Plate 7: Trench 26, record shot



**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
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 MCifA
*Oxford Archaeology Ltd is a
Private Limited Company, N^o: 1618597
and a Registered Charity, N^o: 285627*