

POTENTIAL REPLACEMENT PRIMARY SCHOOL WATER ORTON, WARWICKSHIRE

Archive Report For:
Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation

Prepared by

NETWORK ARCHAEOLOGY

For

PEAK ECOLOGY

Project Code: WOR14

On Behalf Of

Report number 17021

WILMOTT DIXON CONSTRUCTION

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Non-Technical Summary

During September 2017, Network Archaeology undertook archaeological trenched evaluation in advance of construction of a new primary school at Water Orton, Warwickshire (centred on NGR 417452 290956) (Figure 1). At the time of the evaluation the proposed development area was pasture intermixed with mature and semi-mature hedges and trees. Seven trenches were machine-excavated as part of the pre-planning application process (Figure 2).

The evaluation identified a number of possible ditches some of which related to field boundaries identified on 19th century mapping whilst others contained fragments of medieval pottery and were likely elements of an earlier system of enclosure, potentially dating from the 13th to 14th century AD. The evaluation also identified a small number of pit-like features within the southern portion of the PDA although no dating or purpose for these features could be established. A possible grid-system of open drainage trenches was also recorded over the southern side of the PDA.

The finds assemblage was small, comprising only a few sherds of pottery, bone and clay pipe, indicating that the discovered archaeology was located away from any focus of settlement activity.

A copy of this report will be uploaded to the OASIS database.

1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of this Report

This report presents the results of archaeological trenched evaluation undertaken in advance of construction of a primary school at Water Orton, Warwickshire (Figure 1).

1.2 Project Background

1.2.1 Proposed development and planning history

Pre-application advice was sought by Network Archaeology from John Robinson of Warwickshire County Archaeology Team (WCAT), who recommended that the archaeological evaluation should adopt the procedures set out in the Generic Archaeological Fieldwork Guidelines (February 2016).

The results of the evaluation will be submitted in support of the forthcoming planning application.

1.2.2 Location, description and natural environment

The proposed development area (PDA) is located on the south west side of the village of Water Orton, in the district of North Warwickshire, in-between the M6 and the M6 Toll/ M42, and c.10 km north east of Birmingham (NGR 417452 290956) (Figure 1).

The PDA occupies c. 2.6 ha within a sub-rectangular plot of land which rises gently from west to east from 75m to 80m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD). The plot boundaries are defined by a combination of earthworks, wooden fences, hedges and mature trees. The south side is further defined by Plank Lane, the east side by Christopher Way, and the west side by a stream (Figure 2).

Land-use within the PDA at the time of the evaluation was pasture and mature trees. Pasture extends to the north, south and west of the PDA while residential properties back onto the east side of the PDA.

The underlying bedrock is of the Mercia Mudstone Group with River Terrace Sand & Gravel mapped over the east half of the PDA. There are no mapped superficial deposits over the west half of the PDA (BGS 2016). Loamy soils with high groundwater are mapped within the PDA (Cranfield University 2016).

1.3 Archaeological Context

This section provides a brief overview of the history and known heritage assets in the vicinity (1km) of the PDA utilising Warwickshire County Councils HER, Heritage Gateway, the Archaeology Data Service and relevant records held at Warwickshire County Records Office.

The assets discussed here are relevant to the findings of the evaluation, a more thorough discussion of all known assets can be found in the written scheme of investigation (WSI) (Network Archaeology 2016).

1.3.1 Previous assessment

Previous desk-based assessment of an area of remnant farmland and estate grounds (Tame Valley Nature Park) at Park Hall, Water Orton, highlighted the medieval and post-medieval assets of Water Orton. The village is laid out in two parts, separated by a railway line, with the older portion of the village to the north and the more recent portion to the south (Jones, A. E., 1992).

1.3.2 Pre-Roman, Roman

No heritage assets dating from the pre-Roman or Roman periods have been identified within the vicinity of the PDA.

1.3.3 Medieval

No heritage assets dating to the medieval period have been identified within the PDA. A coin of Aethelred II (AD978-1016) (MWA 9772) and a Saxon brooch (MWA 9810) are recorded c. 1km southeast of the PDA.

There is no mention of Water Orton in the Domesday book, the earliest possible reference being in 1329 when:

“Richard de Clodeshale settled 30 acres of land, 10 acres of meadow, and 60s. rent in 'Overton by Coleshill' (British History on-line).

It is thought that the medieval settlement of Water Orton (MWA 9540) existed to the north of the railway line around the area of the original 14th century Church of St Peter and St Paul (MWA 34), c.480m northeast of the PDA and continued to the south into the PDA. A possible medieval manor house (MWA 33) is also thought to be located within this area.

Find-spots of medieval pottery are recorded c.150m southeast of the PDA (MWA 7377) and also within the wider landscape to the south (MWA 9771) and north (MWA 39).

1.3.4 Post-medieval and early modern

No heritage assets dating to the post-medieval or early modern periods have been identified within the PDA.

The village of Water Orton expanded during these periods (MWA 9731) to encompass the area south of the railway line. The new Church of St Peter and St Paul (MWA 40), built in the 18th century to replace the original medieval example, is located c.250m northeast of the PDA. Further post-medieval buildings exist to the north (MWA 37 and MWA 38) and northeast (MWA 36) of the PDA.

Water Orton was constituted an ecclesiastical parish and a civil parish in 1871 and 1894, respectively. The parish of Water Orton was formerly in Aston juxta Birmingham Parish. The Kingsbury/Water Orton branch line of the Birmingham and Derby Junction Railway (MWA 424) opened in 1909 and the current railway line runs east to west c.300m to the north of the PDA.

1.3.5 Historical mapping

Analysis of historical Ordnance Survey maps illustrate that the general layout of the land occupied by the PDA has been unchanged since the late 19th century and indeed, many of the current boundaries follow the same orientation to those visible on the late 19th century mapping.

In the early 19th century, Water Orton was not referenced as a parish in itself, rather the area was part of a large parish known as Aston juxta Birmingham.

The OS map of Warwickshire from 1887 shows field divisions and dispersed trees within the PDA. In addition, on the southern boundary (Plank Lane) there appears to be several buildings and a pond. These features are also evident on OS editions from 1905, 1925 and 1945 (the 1887 and 1905 maps are identical as are 1925 and 1945). Currently, the pond area is obscured by trees and the remains of former buildings are evident as upstanding features, albeit collapsed and incomplete. These features are approximately 40m to the southwest of the proposed school buildings and are within the area marked 'nature area' within the design brief.

1.4 Aims and objectives

The primary purpose of the evaluation was to gather sufficient information:

- to generate a reliable predictive model of the location, extent, date, character, date, condition and quality of any archaeological remains within the PDA;
- to ascertain their significance, and,
- to determine the potential impact of development on any archaeological remains within the PDA.

The purpose of this report is to assist Warwickshire District Council in determining the planning application in the context National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

1.5 Methods

The evaluation was undertaken in accordance with the methodology laid out in the WSI (Network Archaeology 2016).

The trenches were located to sample an area of proposed building development on the east side of the PDA (Figure 2). The trenches varied in length from 20m to 50m and were 1.8m wide.

Trenches 3 and 5 were moved 6m and 5.5m to the west respectively from their originally proposed locations due to a design change since the compilation of the WSI, which resulted in the creation of a 10m buffer along the eastern boundary.

A full table of trench specifications is presented in Appendix B.

1.6 Resources

The evaluation was carried out by two single archaeologists over 5 days in September 2017.

2 Results

2.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the factual results of the evaluation. Throughout this section cut features and deposits are referred to by unique context numbers. A convention has been adopted whereby cut features and structures are referenced in **bold** type, whilst deposits such as fills and layers are referenced in plain type.

Each trench was assigned a unique block of one hundred numbers, for example, trench 1 was assigned the block 100 to 199 whilst trench 6 was assigned the block 600-699.

The soil stratigraphy, cut features and finds are summarised in sections 2.2, 2.3-2.9 and 2.10 respectively. A summary table of trench data is presented in Appendix B and a summary table of contexts is presented in Appendix C.

2.2 Stratigraphy

The general stratigraphy recorded in the trenches was topsoil (180 to 250mm thick) above subsoil (150-300mm thick) above the natural clayey gravel geology. The exception to this was a layer of cinders recorded in trench 6 (see 2.8 below).

Unless otherwise stated, the archaeology was sealed by the subsoil and cut the natural geology.

2.3 Trench 1

2.3.1 Summary

This trench, located in the northwest corner of the proposed development area, was 20m long and oriented west-northwest to east-southeast (Figures 2 and 3).

2.3.2 Archaeological findings

No archaeological features or deposits were identified within this trench.

2.4 Trench 2

2.4.1 Summary

This trench, located in the northeast corner of the PDA, was 50m long and oriented north-northeast to south-southwest (Figures 2 and 3).

2.4.2 Archaeological findings

A ditch (**203**), oriented broadly east to west, was recorded in the southern half of this trench (Figure 4a). It had moderate concave sides and a flat irregular base. The sole fill (204) contained no finds (Figure 4b).

2.5 Trench 3

2.5.1 Summary

This trench, located within the western portion of the PDA, was 20m long and oriented west-northwest to east-southeast (Figures 2 and 3). This trench was moved 6m to the west of its originally proposed position, due to stand-off required for the public footpath.

2.5.2 Archaeological findings

No archaeological features or deposits were identified within this trench.

2.6 Trench 4

2.6.1 Summary

This trench, located within the western portion of the PDA, was 50m long and oriented west-northwest to east-southeast (Figures 2 and 3).

2.6.2 Archaeological findings

A gully-like feature (**403**), oriented broadly east to west, was recorded in the eastern half of this trench (Figure 4c). It had moderately steep straight sides and a narrow concave base (0.65m wide x 0.36m deep). The sole fill (404) containing no finds (Figure 4d).

2.7 Trench 5

2.7.1 Summary

This trench, located in the eastern portion of the PDA, was 20m long and oriented north-northeast to south-southwest (Figures 2 and 3). This trench was moved 5.5m to the west of its originally proposed position, due to stand-off required for the public footpath.

2.7.2 Archaeological findings

A ditch (**503**), oriented west-southwest to east-northeast, was recorded towards the south end of this trench (Figure 4e). It had moderate to steep straight sides and a concave base (1.6m wide x

0.5m deep). The sole fill (504) produced a small quantity of pottery dating from the 11th to 14th century (Figure 4f). A sample of the fill (504) has been retained for future possible assessment.

2.8 Trench 6

2.8.1 Summary

This trench, located within the southwest portion of the PDA, was 20m long and oriented north-northeast to south-southwest (Figures 2 and 3).

2.8.2 Archaeological findings

Two features were identified within this trench, these being a ditch (**603**) and a pit-like feature (**605**) (Figure 4g).

The ditch (**603**) was oriented west-southwest to east-northeast. Its north side was moderate to steep and straight, its south side was shallow and irregular, and its base was flat (1.1m wide x 0.28m deep). The sole fill (604) contained no finds.

The pit-like feature (**605**), which was heavily truncated by ditch **603**, appeared sub-ovoid in plan and had near vertical sides and a flat base (0.28m wide x 0.26m deep). The sole fill (606) contained no finds.

In addition, a layer of cinders (607) measuring 0.1m thick was recorded in-between the topsoil (600) and the subsoil (601) within this trench (Figure 4h).

2.9 Trench 7

2.9.1 Summary

This trench, located in the southeast corner of the PDA, was 50m long and oriented west-northwest to east-southeast. This trench was extended by 2m at its northwest end to ascertain the form and orientation of a linear feature (Figures 2 and 3).

2.9.2 Archaeological findings

A total of 12 features, comprising nine linear features (**703, 710, 711, 712, 714, 715, 717, 718** and **719**) and three pit-like features (**705, 707** and **716**), were recorded in this trench (Figure 5a).

Linear Features - Narrow

The linear features could be sub-divided into two distinct groups, these being;

- **Narrow linear features (703, 710, 711, 714, 715, 717 and 718)**, and
- **Wide linear features 712 and 719.**

The narrow linear features were oriented approximately north to south, spaced between 7-12m apart and approximately 0.5m wide. Two of these features at the west end of the trench (**717, 718**) appeared to align with ceramic land drains recorded in trench 4 to the north. One of the features in trench 7 (**703**) was excavated and recorded as having near-vertical sides and a flat base (0.35m deep). It did not contain a land drain. Its soil fill was a very dark grey soft slightly clayey silt with common small pebbles and charcoal flecks (704) from which a small assemblage of 17th-19th century pottery and clay pipe was recovered (Figure 5b).

Linear Features - Wide

Linear feature **712**, located close to the centre of the trench, was 1.05m wide and, although unexcavated, appeared to be filled with a moderately compact dark grey clayey silt from which two sherds of 19th to 20th century pottery and animal bone was recovered.

Linear feature **719**, located at the west end of the trench, was 1.7m wide and appeared to be filled with a mid to dark grey-brown friable slightly clayey sandy silt. This feature was also unexcavated.

Two service trenches (unexcavated), identified on account of mixed backfill and a cable, were recorded at the east end and towards the west end of trench 7.

Pit-like Features

Pit **705**, located in the eastern half of the trench, was ovoid in plan (Figure 5a). It had steep sides and a flat base (4.1m wide x 0.65m deep), and contained two fills (706 and 709), neither of which produced any finds (Figure 6d).

Pit **707**, located close to the centre of the trench, was circular in plan. It had shallow concave sides and a flat base (0.55m wide x 0.12m deep), and the sole fill (708) produced no finds (Figure 6c).

Pit **716**, located in the west half of the trench, appeared circular in plan (1.15m visible length x 2m wide). It was filled with a pale to mid grey fine friable slightly clayey silt which produced no finds. This feature, which was not excavated, was truncated by one of the narrow linears (**703**).

2.10 Finds summary

A summary table of the finds is presented below in Table 2.2 and a full finds catalogue can be found in Appendix D with specialist reports presented in Appendix E.

Table 2.1: Finds summary table

Material	Count	Weight	Specialist
Bone	1	7g	Dr Richard Moore
Pottery	9	74g	Sue Anderson
Clay pipe	1	1g	Dr Richard Moore

3 Interpretation and Discussion

The evaluation identified cut archaeological features on the eastern side of the PDA.

The linear feature (**203**) recorded in Trench 2 correlated with a boundary marked on historical mapping from the late 19th century (NLS 2017) and is likely the remnant of a former field boundary, relating to the present-day field system layout. A portion of this otherwise defunct boundary survives as a short section of overgrown hedge located immediately to the northeast of the trench.

The linear features recorded in trenches 5 (**503**) and 6 (**603**) aligned and were likely elements of the same ditch. Pottery recovered from ditch **503** indicates that it was in use during the 13th or 14th century. This ditch did not correlate with any former boundaries marked on historical mapping but it did follow the same broad orientation of the existing boundaries demarcating and dividing the PDA. This indicates that the existing system of enclosure may be based on a template laid out during the medieval period.

Trench 7 contained the greatest concentration of archaeological features, including ditches, pits and land drains. The unexcavated ditch-like features at the west end of the trench (**719**) and the east end of the trench (**712**), were oriented at approximate right-angles to the ditch recorded in trenches 5 and 6 and may have formed part of the same rectilinear system of enclosure. Pottery dating to the 19th/20th century, recovered from the surface of ditch-like feature **712**, may provide a *terminus ante-quem* for the use of the postulated rectilinear field system. However, it may also indicate that ditch-like feature **712** is a different feature altogether and post-dates the field system.

The 7 narrow linear features (**703, 710, 711, 714, 715, 717** and **718**) are assumed to be drainage features, possibly “Dutch” or open drains, on account of their grid-like configuration and the narrow trench-like form of the one which was excavated (**703**). Fragments of pottery and clay pipe suggest that the drainage system was installed during the 19th century.

The three pits recorded in trench 7 varied considerably in size. The largest, pit **705**, may have been a clay extraction pit, or a watering hole for livestock, given its location towards the southeast corner of the field. In contrast, the smallest pit (**707**) may have been a truncated posthole.

The remaining linear feature (gulley **403**), identified in trench 4, had an irregular shape in plan. While its orientation suggested that it may have been related to the postulated rectilinear field system of possible medieval date, it could equally have been a rainwater erosion channel.

4 Conclusion

The evaluation was successful in identifying, characterising and dating archaeological features and layers over the east side of the proposed development area and has further increased our knowledge and understanding of human activity within the environs of the village of Water Orton. Specifically, the evaluation has identified a number of cut archaeological features, including ditches, which might represent former field boundaries, potentially dating to the medieval period. The level of survival appears to be good. The evaluation has also identified pit activity of undetermined date and evidence of land drainage dating to the 19th century.

There is a moderate to high level of confidence in the factual results of this evaluation, and in the interpretations made, due to the clarity of the archaeology, the stratigraphic relationships, and the prevailing site conditions at the time of the fieldwork.

Based on the evaluation results, the findings appear to be of local importance, and therefore the significance of any adverse effects is considered low.

The evaluation has ensured the long-term survival of the data collected, through the compilation of a site archive, and this report.

5 Archive

The evaluation produced the following document archive, under the site code of WOR 14.

Table 5.1: Archive quantification

Archive component	Count
Number record	1
Trench indices	1
Trench records	7
Context indices	1
Context records	18
Sample indices	1
Sample sheets	1
Level registers	1
Drawing indices	1
Permatrace sheets	4
Photographic indices	2

Copies of this report will be submitted to the client, and to Worcestershire Councils Archaeological Team (WCAT). The report will also be uploaded to the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) and OASIS websites and a note will be submitted to the annual round-up of local archaeological work in Records of Buckinghamshire, and/or South Midlands Archaeology.

A copy of the OASIS data collection form can be found in Appendix A.

The project archive will be submitted to Warwickshire Museum, Market Place, Warwick CV34 4SA. An accession code has been requested from the recipient museum.

6 Acknowledgements

Network Archaeology would like to thank the following people and organisations for their assistance during the evaluation and the production of this report.

Table 6.1: Acknowledgements

Organisation	Name	Position	Contribution
WCAT	John Robinson	Senior Archaeological Officer	Documentation approval
Peak Ecology	Jessica Eades	Principal Ecologist	Background Information
Willmott Dixon	Graham Gibbs	Project Manager	Access and monitoring
External specialist	Sue Anderson	Pottery specialist	Pottery report
Network Archaeology	David Bonner	Technical Director	Project management
	Nigel Cavanagh	Project Officer	Evaluation
	Steve Thorpe	Project Officer	Evaluation Report writing
	Caroline Kemp	Finds Supervisor	Finds processing
	Jacqueline Churchill	Illustrations Officer	Illustrations
	Richard Moore	Project Manager	Finds Reports

7 Bibliography

7.1 Secondary sources

Reference	Year	Title	Published
AAF	2007	Archaeological Archives: A Guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation	
CIfA	2007	Archaeological Archives: A Guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation	
CIfA	2014a (Rev.)	Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology	
CIfA	2014b (Rev.)	Standards and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials	
CIfA	2014c (Rev.)	Standard and Guidance for an archaeological evaluation	
CIfA	2009	Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives	
Ferguson L.M. & Murray D.M.	1997	Archaeological Documentary Archives: Preparation, Curation and Storage, Paper 1,	Institute of Field Archaeologists' Manchester
Green, C W	1995	Water Orton Warwickshire In Times Past	
Historic England	1991	Exploring Our Past	London
Historic England	1997	English Heritage Archaeology Division Research Agenda (Unpublished draft)	London
Historic England	2009	Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment and MoRPHE Project Planning Note 3: Excavation	London
Historic England	2011	Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from sampling and recovery to post excavation (second edition) (Centre for Archaeology Guidelines)	London
Murphy, P.L. and Wiltshire, P.E.J.,	1994	A guide to sampling archaeological deposits for environmental analysis.	
Museums & Galleries Commission	1992	Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections	London
Network Archaeology	2006	Health, Safety and Welfare Policy	
Network Archaeology	2016	Potential replacement Primary School, Water Orton, Warwickshire. Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Trial-Trench Evaluation	Unpublished client report
Society of Museum Archaeologists	1995	Towards an accessible archaeological archive - the transfer of archaeological archives to museums: guidelines for use in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales	Society for Museum Archaeologists, London
UKIC	2001	Excavated Artefacts and Conservation	United Kingdom Institute for Conservation, Conservation Guidelines No. 1, revised

Walker, K.	1990	Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage.	United Kingdom Institute for Conservation, Archaeology Section (London)
Watkinson, D & Neal A. V	1998	First Aid for Finds	Rescue Publications, Hertford

7.2 Website sources

Reference	Title	Link
ADS, undated	Digital Archives from Excavation and Fieldwork: Guide to Good Practice Second Edition	http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/goodguides/excavation/ [Accessed 29/09/2017]
British Geological Survey, undated	Geology of Britain viewer	http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html [Accessed 29/09/2017]
British History On-line		
Cranfield University/NSSI, undated	Soilscapes Viewer	https://www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes/ [Accessed 29/09/2017]
Heritage Gateway		http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/Gateway/Results.aspx [Accessed 29/09/2017]
NLF (National Library of Scotland)	Map Images	http://maps.nls.uk/ [Accessed 29/09/2017]
Warwickshire County Council	On-line HER	http://timetrail.warwickshire.gov.uk/searchSimple.aspx [Accessed 29/09/2017]

OASIS Submission Form

TO BE COMPLETED FOLLOWING ACCEPTANCE OF REPORT

Catalogue of Trench Specifications

Trench 1			Trench 5		
Length	20m		Length	20m	
Width	1.8m		Width	1.8m	
Max depth	0.42m		Max depth	0.55m	
Min depth	0.35m		Min depth	0.4m	
Easting 1			Easting 1		
Northing 1			Northing 1		
Easting 2			Easting 2		
Northing 2			Northing 2		
Archaeology (Y/N)	N	Archaeology (Y/N)	Y		
Finds (Y/N)	N	Finds (Y/N)	Y		

Trench 2			Trench 6		
Length	50m		Length	20m	
Width	1.8m		Width	1.8m	
Max depth	0.5m		Max depth	1m	
Min depth	0.45m		Min depth	0.5m	
Easting 1			Easting 1		
Northing 1			Northing 1		
Easting 2			Easting 2		
Northing 2			Northing 2		
Archaeology (Y/N)	Y	Archaeology (Y/N)	Y		
Finds (Y/N)	N	Finds (Y/N)	N		

Trench 3			Trench 7		
Length	20m		Length	50m	
Width	1.8m		Width	1.8m	
Max depth	0.55m		Max depth	0.5m	
Min depth	0.45m		Min depth	0.3m	
Easting 1			Easting 1		
Northing 1			Northing 1		
Easting 2			Easting 2		
Northing 2			Northing 2		
Archaeology (Y/N)	N	Archaeology (Y/N)	Y		
Finds (Y/N)	N	Finds (Y/N)	Y		

Trench 4		
Length	50m	
Width	1.8m	
Max depth	0.5m	
Min depth	0.4m	
Easting 1		
Northing 1		
Easting 2		
Northing 2		
Archaeology (Y/N)	Y	
Finds (Y/N)	N	

Summary Table of Contexts

Trench	Context	Type	Fill of	Same as	Dimensions (m)	Description	Interpretation	Findings
1	100	Layer		200	0.2m average thick	Loose pale grey friable silt with occasional rounded and sub-angular pebbles	Topsoil	None
	101	Layer		201	0.18m thick	Mid orange-brown soft slightly sandy clayey silt with frequent rounded and sub-angular pebbles	Subsoil	None
	102	Layer		202	n/a	Compact, dry pale yellow to pale orange sandy clay with frequent small angular and sub-angular pebbles	Natural	None
2	200	Layer		300	0.2m average thick	Loose, friable pale to mid grey fine silt with occasional small rounded and sub-angular pebbles	Topsoil	None
	201	Layer		301	Up to 0.2m thick	Pale grey friable silt with common small angular and sub-angular pebbles	Subsoil	None
	202	Layer		302	n/a	Compact, dry pale yellow to pale orange sandy clay with frequent small angular and sub-angular pebbles	Natural	None
	203	Cut		n/a	2.6m wide x 0.44m deep	Linear cut oriented broadly WSW-ENE with moderate concave sides and a flat irregular base	Ditch	None
	204	Fill	203	n/a	0.44m thick	Pale to mid grey-brown friable slightly sandy silt with occasional small rounded pebbles and rare charcoal flecks	Sole fill of ditch	None
3	300	Layer		400	0.2m average thick	Soft friable pale to mid grey silt with occasional rounded and sub-angular pebbles	Topsoil	None
	301	Layer		401	Up to 0.28m thick	Soft pale grey friable silt with moderate small rounded and sub-angular pebbles and charcoal flecks	Subsoil	None
	302	Layer		402	n/a	Dry, compact pale yellow to mid orange friable sandy clayey gravel	Natural	None
4	400	Layer		500	0.2m average thick	Loose, friable pale to mid grey fine silt with occasional small rounded and sub-angular pebbles	Topsoil	None
	401	Layer		501	Up to 0.2m thick	Friable pale grey slightly sandy silt with common rounded and sub-angular pebbles and charcoal flecks	Subsoil	None
	402	Layer		502	n/a	Compact, dry pale yellow to pale orange sandy clay with frequent small angular and sub-angular pebbles	Natural	None
	403	Cut		n/a	0.65m wide x 0.36m deep	Linear cut oriented broadly SW-NE turning slightly NNE with steep concave sides and a concave base	Possible ditch	None
	404	Fill	403	n/a	0.36m thick	Soft dark grey-brown friable silt with moderate small rounded and sub-angular pebbles and rare charcoal flecks	Sole fill of possible ditch	None
5	500	Layer		600	0.18m thick	Loose, friable pale to mid grey fine silt with occasional small rounded and sub-angular pebbles	Topsoil	None
	501	Layer		601	0.34m thick	Mid brown-grey sandy silt with frequent small rounded and sub-angular pebbles	Subsoil	None
	502	Layer		602	n/a	Compact, dry pale yellow to pale orange sandy clay with frequent small angular and sub-angular pebbles	Natural	None

Trench	Context	Type	Fill of	Same as	Dimensions (m)	Description	Interpretation	Findings
5	503	Cut		603	1.6m wide x 0.5m deep	Linear oriented broadly WSW-ENE with moderate to steep concave sides and a concave base	Ditch	None
	504	Fill	503	604	0.5m thick	Mid grey sandy silt with common small pebbles	Sole fill of ditch	Pottery
6	600	Layer		700	0.2m thick	Soft, friable pale to mid grey silt with common small pebbles	Topsoil	Pottery
	601	Layer		701	0.3m thick	Soft, friable mid grey slightly sandy silt with frequent rounded and sub-angular pebbles	Subsoil	None
	602	Layer		702	n/a	Compact, dry pale yellow to pale orange sandy clay with frequent small angular and sub-angular pebbles	Natural	None
	603	Cut		503	1.1m wide x 0.28m deep	Linear oriented broadly WSW-ENE with moderate to steep concave sides and a flat base	Ditch	None
	604	Fill	603	504	0.28m thick	Soft, friable mid grey-brown silt with common rounded and sub-angular pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks	Sole fill	None
	605	Cut		n/a	0.28m wide x 0.26m deep	Ovoid cut with a near vertical edge and flat base	Possible pit	None
	606	Fill	605		0.26m thick	Pale to mid grey-brown friable silt with occasional small rounded pebbles and sparse charcoal flecks	Sole fill	None
7	700	Layer		100	Up to 0.25m thick	Soft, friable mid grey slightly clayey silt with occasional small pebbles	Topsoil	None
	701	Layer		101	0.15m thick	Friable pale to mid grey loose silt with common small rounded and sub-angular pebbles	Subsoil	None
	702	Layer		102	n/a	Compact, dry pale yellow to pale orange sandy clay with frequent small angular and sub-angular pebbles	Natural	None
	703	Cut			0.52m wide x 0.35m deep	Linear oriented broadly east to west with vertical sides and a flat base	Possible ditch or former drain	None
	704	Fill	703		0.35m thick	Very dark grey soft slightly clayey silt with common small pebbles and charcoal flecks	Sole fill	Pottery Clay pipe
	705	Cut			4.1m wide x 0.65m deep	Ovoid cut with a steep visible edge and flat base	Large pit	None
	706	Fill	705		0.5m thick	Pale grey soft, friable slightly sandy silt with frequent small rounded and sub-angular pebbles and sparse charcoal flecks	Upper fill	None
	707	Cut			0.55m wide x 0.12m deep	Circular cut with shallow concave sides and a flat base	Small pit or posthole	None
	708	Fill	707		0.12m thick	Very dark grey soft friable clayey silt with common small pebbles	Sole fill	None
	709	Fill	705		0.15m thick	Pale grey soft, friable slightly sandy silt with sparse charcoal flecks	Primary fill	None
	710	Cut			n/a	Unexcavated linear oriented broadly N-S	Possible ditch or drain	None

Trench	Context	Type	Fill of	Same as	Dimensions (m)	Description	Interpretation	Finds
7	711	Cut			n/a	Unexcavated linear oriented broadly E-W	Possible ditch or drain	None
	712	Cut			n/a	Unexcavated linear oriented broadly N-S	Possible ditch or modern service	None
	713	Fill	712		n/a	Sole visible fill	Issued to finds	Pottery Bone
	714	Cut			n/a	Unexcavated linear oriented broadly N-S	Possible ditch or drain	None
	715	Cut			n/a	Unexcavated linear oriented broadly N-S	Possible ditch or drain	None
	716	Cut			n/a	Circular or ovoid cut	Unexcavated pit	None
	717	Cut			n/a	Unexcavated linear oriented broadly N-S	Possible ditch or drain	None
	718	Cut			n/a	Unexcavated linear oriented broadly N-S	Possible ditch or drain	None
	719	Cut			n/a	Unexcavated linear oriented broadly NNE-SSW	Ditch	None

APPENDIX D

Finds Catalogue

Context	Data	Bone	Clay Pipe	Pottery			Grand Total
		Animal	Pmed	Med	Pmed	Emod	
504	Count			5			5
	Weight			38			38
704	Count		1		1	1	3
	Weight		1		20	2	23
713	Count	1				2	3
	Weight	7				14	21
Total Count		1	1	5	1	3	11
Total Weight		7	1	38	20	16	82

Specialist Finds Reports

ASSESSMENT OF THE CERAMICS

Sue Anderson

Introduction

Nine sherds of pottery weighing 74g were collected from three contexts. Table 1 shows the quantification by fabric and a summary catalogue is included as Table 2.

Table 1: Pottery quantification by fabric

Fabric	Code	Date range	No	Wt/g	eve	MNV
Iron-rich sandy ware	IRSW	11th-14th c.	4	34		1
Midland whiteware	MWW	13th-E.14th c.	1	4		1
Post-medieval slipware	PMSW	17th-18th c.	1	20		1
European porcelain(?)	PORC	L.18th-21st c.	1	2		1
Refined factory-made whitewares	REFW	L.18th-21st c.	1	10		1
Late post-med unglazed earthenwares	LPME	L.18th-21st c.	1	4	0.08	1
Totals			9	74	0.08	6

Methodology

Quantification was carried out using sherd count, weight, estimated vessel equivalent (eve) and minimum number of vessels (MNV). A full catalogue is available in the archive in MS Access format. All fabric codes were assigned from the author's post-Roman fabric series, which includes East Anglian and Midlands fabrics, as well as imported wares. Methods follow MPRG recommendations (MPRG 2001) and form terminology follows MPRG (1998). Local wares were identified with the aid of Ford (1995) and Whittingham (2008). Recording uses a system of letters for fabric codes. The results were input directly onto an Access database.

The assemblage

Fragments of two medieval vessels were recovered from ditch fill (504). These comprised four joining body sherds of an iron-rich sandy ware ?cooking pot with small patches of sooting on the oxidised outer surface, and a body sherd of whiteware with traces of red painted decoration and yellowish glaze externally. The iron-rich sandy ware is a common type in the area, and these sherds are not particularly diagnostic for dating purposes. However the whiteware sherd is likely to come from the closest known kiln site at Chilvers Coton, near Nuneaton, where production of such wares appears to have started in the 13th century (Mayes and Scott 1984). The fabric of this sherd corresponds with Bermuda Park Fabric WW2, a Chilvers Coton Fabric A type with abundant sand

tempering (aka Warwick fabric F118, Warwickshire Ceramic Type Series WW01; Whittingham 2008).

Ditch fill (704) contained two sherds, an abraded body fragment of a post-medieval slipware hollow ware vessel and a small piece of slip-moulded white dry-bodied porcelain (or possibly opaque-white glass). The slipware sherd is in a cream-coloured fabric with reddish quartz inclusions and may be a Staffordshire product. It has a pinkish slip background externally with trailed red slip lines under a partial brown glaze, and is fully brown-glazed internally. The white sherd has a relief-decoration externally, possibly draping fabric or a foliate design, and is likely to be of 19th-century date.

Ditch fill (713) produced two sherds, a whiteware body fragment with internal yellow glaze and external reddish-brown glaze (or possibly red slip under a clear glaze), and a rim fragment of a plant-pot. Both are probably of later 19th to 20th-century date.

Recommendations

The post-Roman pottery has been fully recorded and no further work is required. If more fieldwork is carried out on the site and the results are intended for publication, this material should be incorporated in the overall assemblage. The material should be retained as part of the site archive.

References

Ford, D.A., 1995, *Medieval Pottery in Staffordshire, AD800–1600: a Review*. Staffordshire Archaeological Studies No. 7, City Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent.

Mayes, P., and Scott, K., 1984, *Pottery Kilns at Chilvers Coton, Nuneaton*, Soc. Medieval Archaeol. Monogr. 10

MPRG, 1998, *A Guide to the Classification of Medieval Ceramic Forms*. Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 1.

MPRG, 2001, *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics*. Medieval Pottery Research Group Occ. Paper 2.

Whittingham, L., 2008, 'Appendix B: Pottery Report', in *Bermuda Park, Nuneaton, County of Warwickshire. Archive Report*. AOC Archaeology Group (unpub.)

Table 2: Pottery Summary

Context	Fabric	Type	No	Wt/g	MNV	Form	Rim	Decoration	Notes	Spot date
504	MWW	U	1	4	1			faint trace of red slip line and clear glaze	abundant fine-medium clear, grey & occasional black sand, occasional organics	13-14th
504	IRSW	U	4	34	1				fine sandy with sparse coarser rounded sand, burnt out organics, ferrous particles, mica; oxidised externally, pale grey core & internally	11-14th
704	PMSW	D	1	20	1			pink slip background, red slip trails		17-18th
704	PORC	D	1	2	1			relief slip-moulded dec, poss some blue ?slip	may be white glass?	19th
713	REFW	D	1	10	1					19-20th
713	LPME	R	1	4	1	PP	BD			19-20th

Animal bone and clay pipe

Dr Richard Moore

Single fragments of animal bone and clay pipe were recovered during an evaluation undertaken at Water Orton, Warwickshire.

Animal Bone

Context 713 (fill of linear **712**): Cattle tooth: left third premolar, crown complete and possibly just coming into wear, roots still open, from an animal approaching maturity at around 3 years old. This would be a typical age of slaughter for beef cattle.

Clay pipe

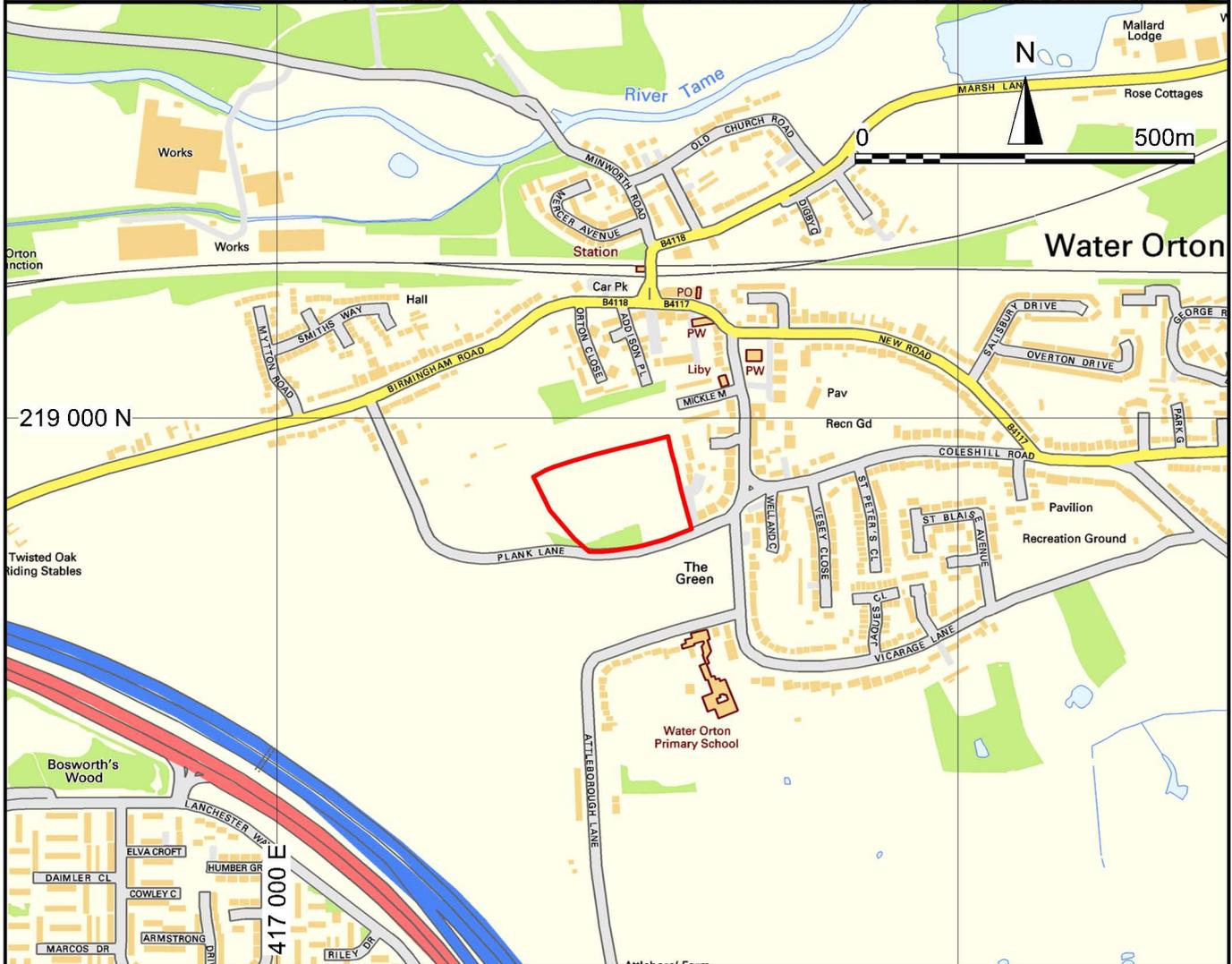
Context 704 (fill of linear **703**): Fragment of stem from clay tobacco pipe, 44.6mm long; small and slightly flattened cross-section, from 5.6 to 6.5mm across; hole around 1.9mm across. Not readily datable.

Conclusion

Neither find has potential for any further work, and no recommendations are made for either to be retained in the site archive.

APPENDIX F

Figures



★ □ Proposed development

1.00	04/10/17	First issue	AH	-	DB
Ver	Date	Description	Drn	Chk	App

Water Orton
Potential Replacement Primary School

Figure 1
Location of proposed development

Scale: 1:10 000

[Contains Ordnance Survey data
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- Evaluation trench
- Trench not excavated

Area edged red: c. 2.6 Ha

290 900 N

417 500 E

[Based on a plan by Warwickshire County Council]

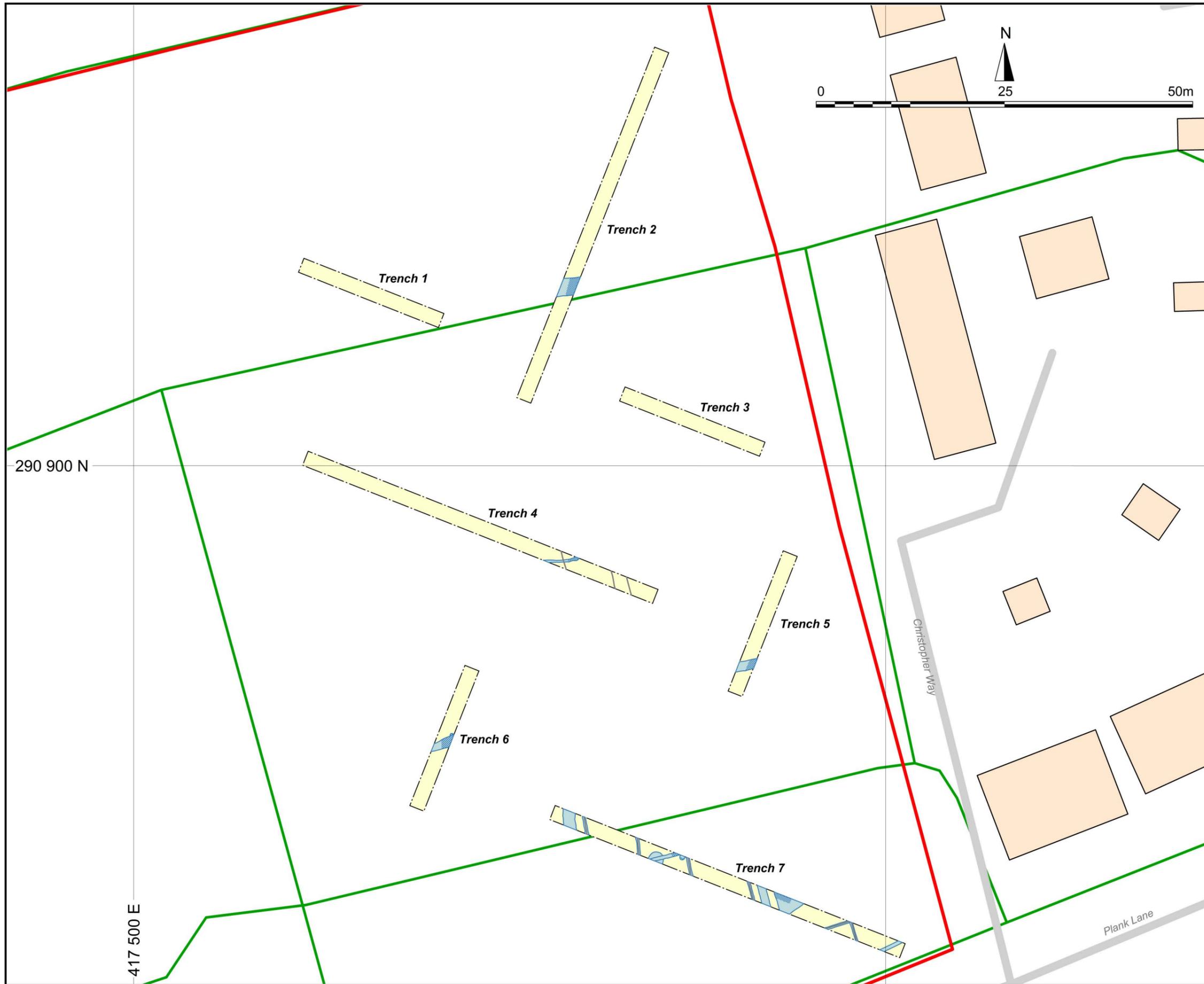
Ver	Date	Description	Drn	Chk	App
1.00	04/10/17	First issue	JLC	ST	DB



Water Orton
Potential Replacement Primary School

Figure 2
Proposed and excavated
trenches in relation to
proposed development

Scale: 1:1250



- Development area
- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature
- Excavated section
- Land drain
- Boundaries visible on the 1887 and later Ordnance Survey mapping

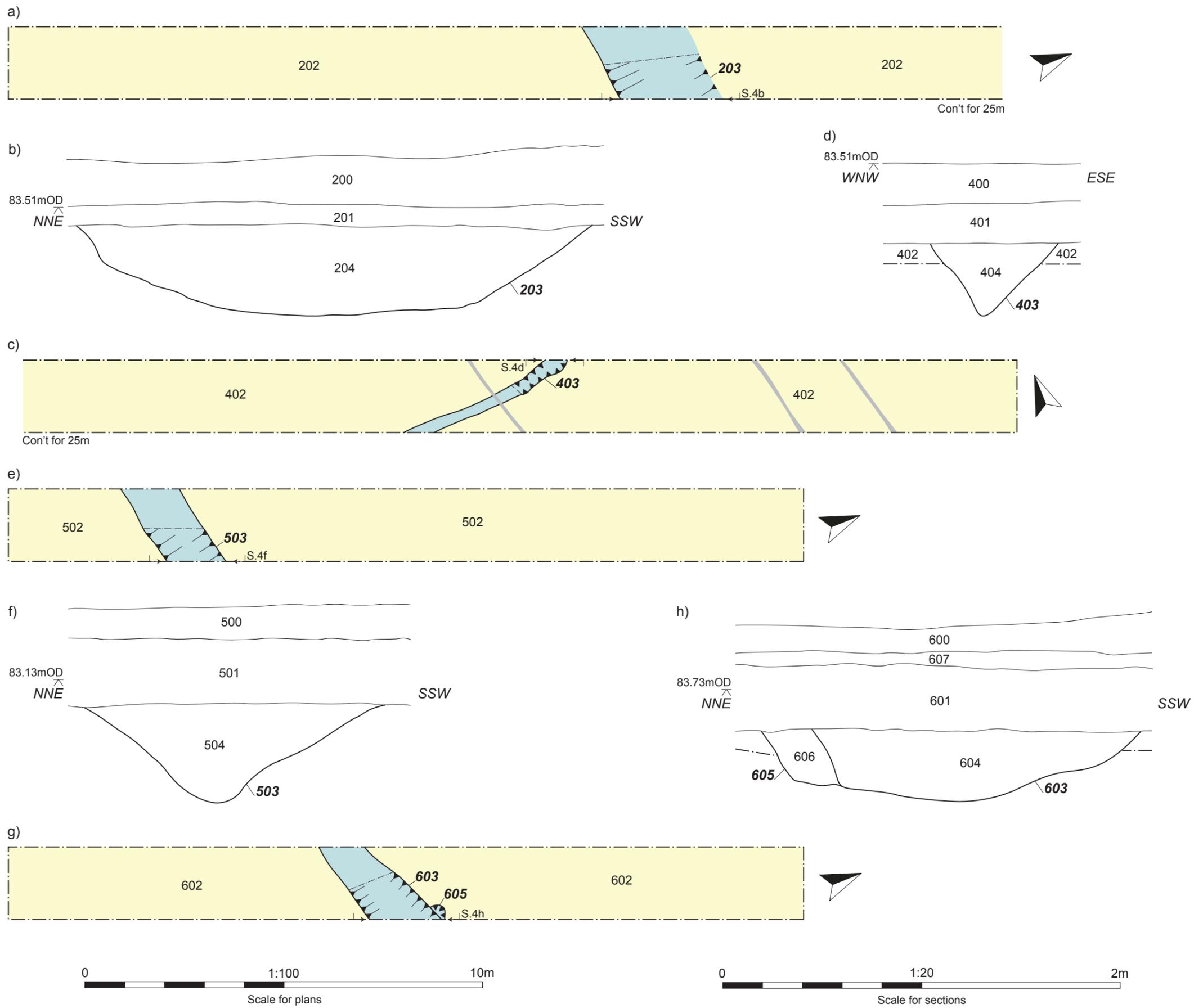
[Based on a plan by Warwickshire County Council]

Ver	Date	Description	Drn	Chk	App
1.00	19/10/17	First issue	JLC	ST	DB



Water Orton
Potential Replacement Primary School
Figure 3
Evaluation trenches in relation
to discovered archaeology

Scale: 1:500



- Limit of excavation
- Cut line
- Layer line
- 1234** Cut number
- 1233 Layer/fill number
- Archaeological feature
- Land drain

1.00	19/10/17	First issue	JLC	ST	DB
Ver	Date	Description	DM	Chk	App

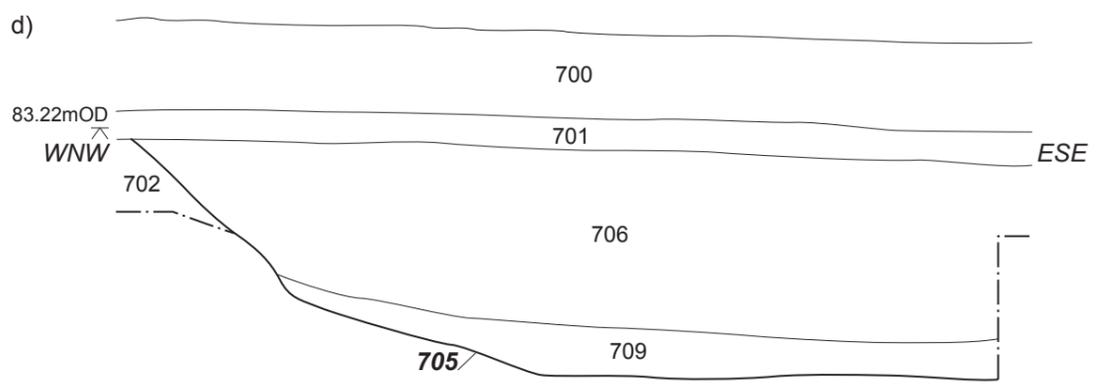
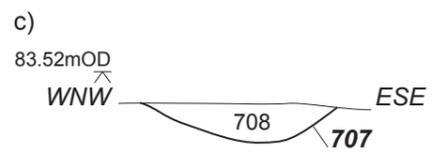
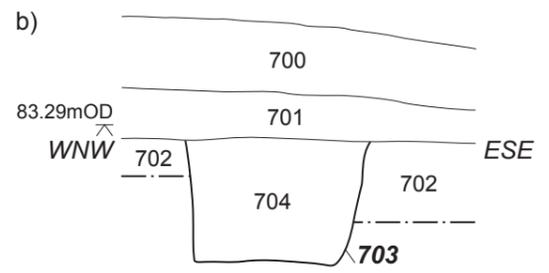
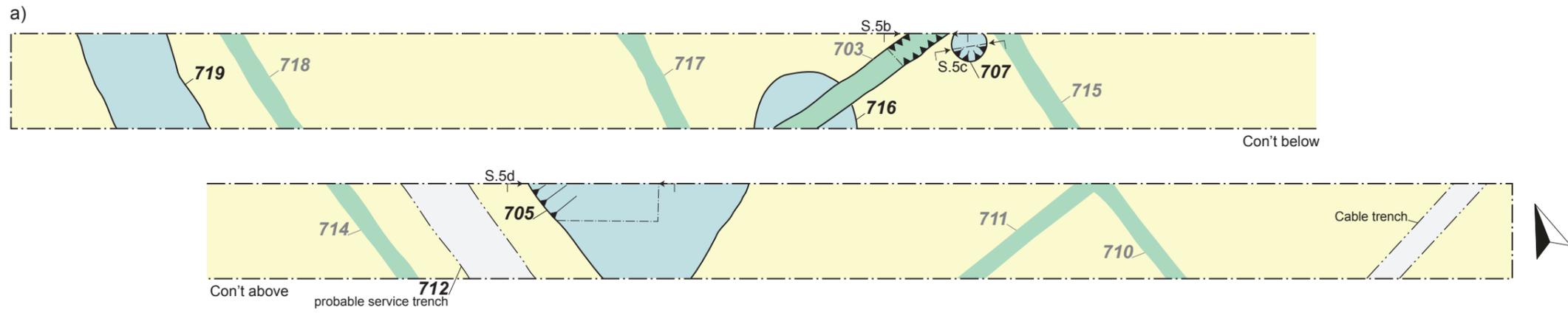


Water Orton,
Potential Replacement Primary School

Figure 4
Selected plans and sections

a) Discovered archaeology, Trench 2
 b) Boundary ditch 203
 c) Discovered archaeology, Trench 4
 d) Possible ditch 403
 e) Discovered archaeology, Trench 5
 f) Ditch 503
 g) Discovered archaeology, Trench 6
 h) Ditch 603 and possible pit 605

Scale 1:100 and 1:20



- Limit of excavation
- Cut line
- Layer line
- Modern feature
- 1234** Cut number
- 1233 Layer/fill number
- Archaeological feature
- Possible drainage ditches

1.00	19/10/17	First issue	JLC	ST	DB
Ver	Date	Description	DM	Chk	App



Water Orton,
Potential Replacement Primary School

Figure 5
Selected plans and sections
a) Discovered archaeology, Trench 7
b) Possible ditch 703
c) Shallow pit 707
d) Large pit 705
Scale 1:100 and 1:20