



making sense of heritage

Land at Damson Parkway, Solihull

Archaeological Strip, Map and Excavation
Post-excavation Assessment



Planning Reference: 014/455/S
Ref: 106652.01
May 2015



Wessex Archaeology Ltd registered office Portway House, Old Sarum Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 6EB
Tel: 01722 326867 Fax: 01722 337562 info@wessexarch.co.uk www.wessexarch.co.uk



Wessex Archaeology Ltd is a company limited by guarantee registered in England, company number 1712772. It is also a Charity registered in England and Wales, number 287786; and in Scotland, Scottish Charity number SC042630. Our registered office is at Portway House, Old Sarum Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 6EB.



**Land at Damson Parkway,
Solihull**

Archaeological Strip, Map and Excavation
Post-excavation Assessment

Prepared for:

CgMs Consulting
43 Temple Row
Birmingham
B2 5LS

Prepared by:

Wessex Archaeology
Unit R6
Riverside Block
Sheaf Bank Business Park
Prospect Road
Sheffield
S2 3EN

www.wessexarch.co.uk

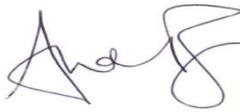
May 2015

106652.03



Quality Assurance

Project Code	106652	Accession Code	TBC	Client Ref.	CP/16206
Planning Application Ref.	014/455/S	Ordnance Survey (OS) national grid reference (NGR)	NGR 416840, 282120		

Version	Status*	Prepared by	Checked and Approved By	Approver's Signature	Date
v1.0	E	SF/PD	AB		15/05/2015
File:	S:\PROJECTS\106652_Reports\V01				
V2.0	E	SF/PD	CS		18/05/2015
File:	S:\PROJECTS\106652_Reports\V02				
V3.0	F	SF/PD	CS		19/05/2015
File:	S:\PROJECTS\106652_Reports\V03				

* I = Internal Draft; E = External Draft; F = Final

DISCLAIMER

THE MATERIAL CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT WAS DESIGNED AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF A REPORT TO AN INDIVIDUAL CLIENT AND WAS PREPARED SOLELY FOR THE BENEFIT OF THAT CLIENT. THE MATERIAL CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT DOES NOT NECESSARILY STAND ON ITS OWN AND IS NOT INTENDED TO NOR SHOULD IT BE RELIED UPON BY ANY THIRD PARTY. TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW WESSEX ARCHAEOLOGY WILL NOT BE LIABLE BY REASON OF BREACH OF CONTRACT NEGLIGENCE OR OTHERWISE FOR ANY LOSS OR DAMAGE (WHETHER DIRECT INDIRECT OR CONSEQUENTIAL) OCCASIONED TO ANY PERSON ACTING OR OMITTING TO ACT OR REFRAINING FROM ACTING IN RELIANCE UPON THE MATERIAL CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT ARISING FROM OR CONNECTED WITH ANY ERROR OR OMISSION IN THE MATERIAL CONTAINED IN THE REPORT. LOSS OR DAMAGE AS REFERRED TO ABOVE SHALL BE DEEMED TO INCLUDE, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO, ANY LOSS OF PROFITS OR ANTICIPATED PROFITS DAMAGE TO REPUTATION OR GOODWILL LOSS OF BUSINESS OR ANTICIPATED BUSINESS DAMAGES COSTS EXPENSES INCURRED OR PAYABLE TO ANY THIRD PARTY (IN ALL CASES WHETHER DIRECT INDIRECT OR CONSEQUENTIAL) OR ANY OTHER DIRECT INDIRECT OR CONSEQUENTIAL LOSS OR DAMAGE.



Land at Damson Parkway, Solihull

Archaeological Strip, Map and Excavation Post-excavation Assessment

Contents

Summary.....	iv
Acknowledgements.....	v
1 INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 Project background	1
1.2 Site location and topography	1
2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND	2
2.1 Introduction	2
3 METHODOLOGY.....	3
3.1 Aims and objectives	3
3.2 Fieldwork methodology	3
3.3 Monitoring	3
3.4 Specialist strategies	4
4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS.....	4
4.1 Summary.....	4
4.2 Introduction	4
4.3 Building	4
4.4 Stone-lined well.....	5
4.5 Field system	5
4.6 Ridge and furrow.....	6
4.7 Putative hollow-way	6
4.8 Discussion.....	6
5 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE.....	7
5.1 Introduction	7
5.2 Pottery.....	8
5.3 Ceramic building material.....	12
5.4 Animal bone	12
5.5 Other Finds	12
6 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE	12
6.1 Introduction	12
6.2 Charred plant remains.....	12



6.3	Wood charcoal	13
6.4	Waterlogged plant remains	13
7	STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL.....	13
7.1	Summary.....	13
3.3	Stratigraphic evidence.....	14
7.2	Artefactual evidence.....	14
7.3	Environmental evidence.....	14
8	RESEARCH AIMS.....	15
8.1	Reappraisal of the project aims.....	15
9	RECOMMENDATIONS.....	15
9.1	Stratigraphic and other archaeological evidence	15
9.2	Finds	16
9.3	Environmental evidence.....	16
9.4	Publication	16
10	RESOURCES AND PROGRAMME	17
10.1	Named project team.....	17
10.2	Task list.....	18
10.3	Management structure	18
10.4	Performance monitoring and quality standards.....	18
10.5	Programme	19
11	STORAGE AND CURATION.....	19
11.1	Museum	19
11.2	Preparation of archive	19
11.3	Discard policy.....	20
11.4	Security copy	20
12	REFERENCES.....	21
12.1	Bibliography	21
13	APPENDICES.....	24
Appendix 1:	Context summary.....	24
Appendix 2:	Environmental data.....	32
Appendix 3:	OASIS form.....	34

Tables

Table 1:	Finds totals by material type.....	8
Table 2:	Quantification of pottery by ware (number and weight in grammes)	8
Table 3:	Spot-dated pottery assemblage by group and cut number.....	9
Table 4:	Details of proposed publication	17
Table 5:	Publication tasks	18



Figures

- Figure 1: Site location
- Figure 2: Site plan
- Figure 3: Plan of building 1251
- Figure 4: Plan of well 1241

Plates

- Plate 1: Wall 1212, camera facing north-east
 - Plate 2: Well 1241, camera facing west
 - Plate 3: Well 1241, south-facing section
 - Plate 4: Boundary 1252 (cut 1061), north-east facing section
 - Plate 5: Boundary 1254 (cuts 1215 and 1217), south-east facing section
- .



Land at Damson Parkway, Solihull

Archaeological Strip, Map and Excavation Post-excavation Assessment

Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to carry out a programme of archaeological investigations on an area of agricultural land to the east of the Damson Parkway, Solihull, centered on NGR 416840, 282120, in advance of the construction of a new dispatch area serving the existing Jaguar Land Rover plant. The archaeological investigations took the form of a 2.2ha strip, map and excavation, as well as a watching brief on additional areas within the proposed development. Fieldwork took place between 21st October and 10th December 2014, with subsequent watching brief in March 2015.

The investigations revealed the heavily robbed remains of a rectangular stone-built Roman building, or range of buildings, with an associated stone-lined well, both set within a co-axial field system defined by ditched boundaries. The pottery assemblage (of largely 2nd to 4th century AD material) indicates a Roman date for all of the remains, and is dominated by local wares, with some regional and Continental imports. The position of the building within a field system and the presence of animal bone and cereal waste within feature fills indicates that it functioned as a farmstead.

The environmental remains are characteristic of general settlement waste and activities, and suggest the farmstead was set within grassland, field margin, and arable environments.

The value of the Site lies largely in its ability to provide detail on the local settlement pattern during the Roman period. This is amplified by the scarcity of similar (known) sites nearby.

A limited number of recommendations are made for further analysis, leading to the publication of the Site, and deposition of the archive at an appropriate local museum.



Land at Damson Parkway, Solihull

Archaeological Strip, Map and Excavation Post-excavation Assessment

Acknowledgements

The archaeological work at Damson Parkway was commissioned by CgMs Consulting. The assistance of Cathy Patrick is gratefully acknowledged in this regard.

Thanks are extended to Anna Stocks, planning Archaeologist for Warwickshire County Council (WCC) and advisor to Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council, who provided curatorial support and guidance.

Fieldwork was directed by Sam Fairhead and carried out by Eleanor Caxton-Meyer, Duncan Jones, Michael Keech, Lucy Reddin and Dane Wright. This report was written by Patrick Daniel with contributions by Sam Fairhead. Illustrations were provided by Alix Sperr. The pottery was assessed by Grace Jones with the assistance of Rob Perrin, who identified the Mancetter-Hartshill products. Lorrain Higbee undertook the assessment of the animal bone. Other finds were assessed by Lorraine Mephram, with environmental samples processed by Phoebe Olsen and assessed by Sarah Wyles. The project was managed for Wessex Archaeology by Chris Swales.



Land at Damson Parkway, Solihull

Archaeological Strip, Map and Excavation Post-excavation Assessment

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting (hereafter the 'Client') to carry out a programme of archaeological investigations on an area of agricultural land to the east of the Damson Parkway, Solihull (hereafter the 'Site'), centred on NGR 416840, 282120, in advance of the construction of a new dispatch area serving the existing Jaguar Land Rover plant. The archaeological investigations took the form of a 2.2ha strip, map and excavation, as well as a watching brief on additional areas within the proposed development.

1.1.2 The Site was subject to a desk-based assessment (hereafter 'DBA') (CgMs 2014) which provided an overview of its archaeological potential. Geophysical survey was also carried out on the Site (Stratascan 2014). Both the DBA and geophysical survey demonstrated a low to moderate archaeological potential for the Site. Following this work and discussions between Cathy Patrick (CgMs) and Anna Stocks, (Planning Archaeologist for WCC advising Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council) it was agreed that a programme of archaeological evaluation, to establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains within the proposed development area, would be attached to any planning consent. The first phase of this work was a trial trenching programme investigating 2% of the Site's area. The trial trenching identified Romano-British and medieval ditches as well as a cobbled surface and holloway (Worcestershire Archaeology 2014). As a result of this work, it was decided that a further phase of strip, map and excavation would be required to mitigate the impact of the proposed development on the identified archaeology.

1.1.3 Wessex Archaeology produced a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (Wessex Archaeology 2014) outlining how the work would be carried out. The WSI was approved by the Client and Anna Stocks prior to work commencing. The WSI was prepared in accordance with current best practice and the guidance outlined in Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment ('MoRPHE', English Heritage 2006), and guidance provided by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2015a, 2015b) and in accordance with CIfA Codes of Conduct (2015c).

1.2 Site location and topography

1.2.1 The Site comprises four separate fields to the east of the Damson Parkway (centered on NGR 416840, 282120) with the 2.2ha strip, map and excavation area at the eastern end of the development area (**Figure 1**). The Site is bounded to the north and east by agricultural land and to the south and east by the Damson Parkway.

1.2.2 The topography of the area slopes gradually towards Low Brook, which is located 250m to the east and south-east of the development area. The western edge of the Site lies at 115m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) with a gradual drop to 107m aOD at its eastern limit.



- 1.2.3 The solid geology of the Site comprises Mudstone of the Mercian Mudstone Group. No superficial geology is recorded (British Geological Survey online).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 The following section summarises the Site's historical and archaeological background as presented in the desk-based assessment (CgMs 2014).
- 2.1.2 The DBA established that there were no designated archaeological assets within the proposed development area. Within the wider search area (1km) five Grade II listed buildings and several non-designated heritage assets were identified.
- 2.1.3 Two Iron Age enclosures have been identified through aerial photography approximately 1km to the south and south-east. Despite this lack of direct evidence, the Site was designated as having a low to moderate potential for prehistoric archaeology due to its favourable topographic position on high ground close to a watercourse.
- 2.1.4 The Site is not located close to any known Roman roads or settlements. However, the recent trial trenching on the Site (Worcestershire Archaeology 2014) identified several probable Romano British ditches and a cobbled surface.
- 2.1.5 Evidence suggests the Site sat within a broadly undeveloped landscape of woodland and small farmhouse clusters throughout the Saxon and medieval periods. Elmdon is recorded in the Domesday Survey as containing 'land for half a plough...along with five acres of meadow and additional woodland.' This may relate to woodland surviving 620m to the north-west of the Site.
- 2.1.6 Medieval Elmdon Hall is located 935m to the north-west, a moated site lies at Castle Hills, approximately 500m to the east. Medieval ridge and furrow is seen across the wider landscape.
- 2.1.7 A post-medieval kiln and brickworks is located 415m to the south-west of the Site along with a series of features associated with Elmdon Hall and Park to the north-west. A later build at Castle Hills farmhouse is also recorded.
- 2.1.8 The 1840 Tithe Map for the development area highlights the continued use of the land for arable and meadow with nearby woodland. Associated ponds are also visible. Subsequent Ordnance Survey mapping records the continued presence of arable and meadow until the modern day with periodic industrial, housing and road schemes in the surrounding area.



3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Aims and objectives

3.1.1 The general aims of the project were:

- *to mitigate the impact of the development on the archaeological resource;*
- *to establish the character, extent and date range of any archaeological deposits, features and/or structures to be affected by the proposed groundworks;*
- *to put the results of the excavation in context by comparing it with similar/related Sites within the local area, as well as its regional and national contexts.*
- *to analyse the Site records, artefacts and ecofacts and produce an archive, report and publication of the results.*

3.2 Fieldwork methodology

3.2.1 The excavation comprised the machine stripping of a 2.2ha area of land, immediately followed by excavation of archaeological features identified (**Figure 1**). The initial 2.2ha mitigation area was slightly extended to adequately map and excavate the limits of a Roman building (see **section 4.3**).

3.2.1 The work was carried out in accordance with the approved WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2014) and Wessex Archaeology and industry standards and guidelines (ClfA 2014a-c).

3.2.2 Areas to be excavated were scanned using a CAT to check for uncharted services in advance of, and during, ground reduction.

3.2.3 Topsoil and subsoil were removed using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, working under the continuous direct supervision of a suitably experienced archaeologist. Topsoil or overburden was removed in a series of level spits down to the level of the upper archaeological horizon, or the level of the natural geology, whichever was reached first.

3.2.4 Topsoil and subsoil were stored separately at a safe distance from the edge of the excavation area.

3.2.5 The exposed surfaces were hand-cleaned (where necessary) to clarify the extent of revealed archaeological remains. Where archaeological features and deposits were encountered, cleaning and excavation was carried out by hand. All features were investigated in order to establish their date, nature, extent and condition. All spoil and fills were scanned to retrieve finds.

3.2.6 All archaeological features and deposits encountered were recorded using Wessex Archaeology *pro forma* recording sheets and a continuous unique numbering system.

3.3 Monitoring

3.3.1 The Site was monitored for Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council by Anna Stocks (planning Archaeologist for WCC), and for CgMs by Cathy Patrick.



3.4 Specialist strategies

Artefact

- 3.4.1 Finds were treated in accordance with the relevant guidance (UKIC 2001; MGC 1992; English Heritage 2005, 2006).

Environmental

- 3.4.2 Bulk environmental soil samples for plant macro-fossils, small animal and fish bones and other small artefacts were taken from appropriate well-sealed and dated/datable archaeological deposits. The collection and processing of environmental samples was undertaken in accordance with English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 2007, 2008a, 2011).

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

4.1 Summary

- 4.1.1 The excavation revealed the remains of a rectangular stone-built Roman building, or range of buildings, with an associated stone-lined well, both set within a co-axial field system defined by ditched boundaries. The field system incorporated a possible double-ditched trackway. The pottery assemblage indicates a largely 2nd to 4th century AD date for the remains.

4.2 Introduction

- 4.2.1 The natural geological deposits consist of compact sandy clays, varying in colour from dark red to mid reddish-brown with occasional patches of sandier dark yellow material. Archaeological remains had been cut from the level of the uppermost natural geological deposits.
- 4.2.2 These deposits were directly overlain by a mid-greyish-brown clayey silt topsoil, which was typically 0.35m thick.

4.3 Building

- 4.3.1 Structural remains were located in the south-western corner of the Site, and consisted of a series of heavily robbed construction cuts (**Figure 2**). The building, numbered **1251**, had both internal and external walls. The footing trenches were shallow and the fills contained fragments of the red sandstone from which the building had been constructed.
- 4.3.2 It is possible that the remains represent a range of smaller buildings rather than one large structure, the fragmentary evidence is somewhat ambiguous. For the sake of clarity, the term 'building' will be used in the remainder of the report, but this caveat should be borne in mind.
- 4.3.3 The building remains were rectangular in plan, with the surviving portion measuring 36m north-east to southwest by 14m north-west to south-east (**Figure 3**).
- 4.3.4 The original stonework survived in two places: a single block, **1027**, in the centre of the eastern external wall, and several blocks at the south-eastern corner, **1212**, the largest of which measured 0.6m x 0.38m x 0.18m (**Plate 1**).
- 4.3.5 Fragments of ceramic tiles of Romano-British manufacture, presumably once used to roof the building, were recovered from the Site. A number of fragments of Romano-British box

flue tile were also recovered, chiefly from field boundary ditches across the Site, suggesting that the building may have benefitted from a heating system.

- 4.3.6 The remains of the building had been heavily robbed with the stone transported off Site. The surviving robber cuts and limited structural remains were heavily truncated by ridge and furrow.

4.4 Stone-lined well

- 4.4.1 A stone-lined well, **1241**, was located approximately 30m south-east of the building (**Figures 2 and 3; Plates 2 and 3**). This had been constructed from the same type of red sandstone used for the building, with the typical dimensions of the blocks here being 0.2m x 0.2m x 0.15m. The well had an internal diameter of 1.3m and an external diameter of 1.75m, and was 1.3m deep. The eastern side of the well had collapsed and a large amount of rubble was present in the lower part of the well, suggesting the collapse occurred before the well had become infilled. The lowest fill, **1242**, appeared to have accumulated when the well contained water, while the upper two fills, **1243** and **1244**, had built up after the well fell out of use. A small assemblage of pottery (17 pieces weighing 177g) was recovered from the fills of the well, but this could only be dated to the Romano-British period generally.

- 4.4.2 The Site overlies Mercian mudstone, indicating that the masonry used for the building and well was imported.

4.5 Field system

- 4.5.1 The building was set within a co-axial field system defined by ditched field boundaries. These shared the alignment of the building. Both the field system remains and the building robber cuts contained pottery assemblages of a broad 2nd to 5th century date, suggesting that their usage may have been contemporaneous.

- 4.5.2 The larger ditches all show at least one re-cut, and most had been re-cut several times, reflecting an investment in maintaining their drainage and boundary functions

- 4.5.3 Ditch **1252** lay approximately 6m to the west of building **1251** and shared its north-east to south-west alignment (**Figure 2; Plate 4**). Where investigated, the ditch varied in width between 1.2 and 2.3m and attained a maximum depth of 0.7m. Finds from the ditch included modest assemblages of pottery (29 fragments weighing 723g), and ceramic building material (15 fragments weighing 894g). The pottery assemblages were generally datable only to the Romano-British generally, although some pieces of 4th- to 5th-century date were present.

- 4.5.4 The most substantial element within the field system was ditch **1253**, which ran south-west from the northern edge of the Site for approximately 60m, before turning and running to the south-east for a further 17m before petering out. A 1.7m-wide entrance was located just to the north of the corner. Ditch **1253** became steadily shallower and narrower from north to south. Towards the northern end (within slot **1105**) **1253** was 2.3m wide and 0.73m deep; close to the ditches southern limit it was 1.17m wide by 0.38m deep. The pottery assemblages from ditch **1253** were generally datable only to the Romano-British generally, although some pieces of late 3rd- to 4th-century date were present.

- 4.5.5 From the southern end of ditch **1253**, a pair of parallel ditches (**1255** and **1256**) set some 15m apart ran for approximately 50m to the south-west. These may have defined a trackway.

4.5.6 Boundary **1254** cut across the possible trackway, but it was not possible to discern a sequential relationship between it and the trackway ditch (**1255**). Boundary **1254** was found to consist of two closely set parallel ditches (**Plate 5**) indicating that it had been renewed at some point. The small pottery assemblage from boundary **1254**'s constituent ditches (6 pieces weighing 27g) could only be dated to the Roman period generally.

4.5.7 The south-eastern part of the Site contained a series of smaller ditches, perhaps intended to drain water away from the area around the building towards lower-lying ground to the east.

4.6 Ridge and furrow

4.6.1 Remains of furrows were present across the Site. These had truncated underlying archaeological remains. The furrows were typically 2.5m to 3.5m wide. Although these remnants of ridge and furrow cultivation are of probable medieval or post-medieval date, they shared the co-axial alignment of the Romano-British field system. This would indicate that drainage has been of overriding importance when determining the orientation of plot boundaries within the Site and its immediate area.

4.6.2 In two instances, two sets of furrows set on perpendicular alignments appeared to respect intervening field boundaries. This relationship would suggest that the boundaries were contemporary with the ridge and furrow, rather than forming part of the Romano-British scheme. However, no datable material was recovered from the boundaries' constituent ditches, and so this cannot be proven.

4.7 Putative hollow-way

4.7.1 A broad, 0.2m-deep depression containing three layers of silty sand of varying hues overlying a spread of cobbles was exposed during the 2014 evaluation and interpreted as a hollow-way (Worcestershire Archaeology 2014). Re-investigation of this area during the strip, map and excavation exercise produced somewhat equivocal evidence for this feature. No metallised surface was recorded, although a 3.8m-wide, 0.2m-deep feature, **1158**, containing a fill of pale yellowish brown sandy silt and moderate amounts of stones and small cobbles was present. However, this feature appeared little different from the furrows crossing the Site, raising the possibility that the putative hollow-way was actually a furrow, which, where encountered in the 2014 evaluation trench, contained a localised concentration of stone at its base.

4.8 Discussion

4.8.1 The position of the building within a field system and the presence of animal bone and cereal waste within feature fills indicate that the remains represent a farmstead. The presence of imported pottery on the Site suggests that its inhabitants operated above the subsistence level, perhaps with agricultural surplus traded for non-local goods. The absence of coinage from the Site suggests no great degree of economic complexity, however.

4.8.2 The farmstead at Damson Parkway lay approximately equidistant (c. 8km) between the fort at Meriden and fortress at Metchley, the latter lying on the junction of two military roads (Margary 18b – 'the Icknield Way', and Margary 180). A Romano-British temple is known at Coleshill, 9km north-east of the Site. A 2nd- to 3rd-century civilian settlement and livestock centre has recently been investigated 12km to the south-west at Longdales Road, Kings Norton (Burrows 2007). A major pottery production centre lay some 25km to the north-east, around Mancetter/Hartshill.

- 4.8.3 Relatively little is known of the Romano-British landscape of Solihull or its immediate vicinity. Finds of the period from the local area, as recorded on Historic England's PastScape database, are limited to chance surface discoveries of pottery and coinage (Historic England 2015). Such material does at least indicate that the locality hosted some settlement during the Romano-British period. It is noteworthy that the Site at Damson Parkway lies on the very fringe of the built-up area, indicating that many of its contemporary neighbours are now obscured beneath the modern urban spread. Military remains and roadside settlements are the predominant Roman/Romano-British site types in the wider area (Allen *et al.* 2015) with the remains at Damson Parkway representing a rare survival of a rural, civilian settlement.
- 4.8.4 The presence of distance-traded pottery on the Site, and the adoption of innovations in building design (the use of stone, tile and a rectangular ground plan) suggest that the inhabitants of the Damson Parkway farmstead were open to Roman cultural influences. In this the Site conforms to a broader pattern: it lies within the south-east portion of the West Midlands, a 'zone which exhibits most clearly the impact of Roman style cultural markers' (Esmonde Cleary 2011, 133).
- 4.8.5 Within this portion of the West Midlands, rural settlements are often unenclosed, dispersed and set within a system of trackways and rectilinear field systems (Taylor 2007, 48-49), a pattern with which the farmstead at Damson Parkway also conforms.
- 4.8.6 The pottery assemblage is relatively small with few diagnostic vessels, and is predominantly composed of utilitarian coarsewares. It is dominated by local wares, with some material drawn from further afield, principally Oxfordshire and Dorset, as well as a few Continental imports, namely samian and amphorae. Overall the assemblage indicates the Site was occupied from the 2nd to the 4th century AD.
- 4.8.7 The prevalence of Mancetter-Hartshill products in the Site assemblage probably reflects the proximity of such a major production centre, located approximately 25km to the north-east. The dominance of this material seems to have been at the expense of Severn Valley ware, made at a variety of centres extending through the Severn valley (from Alkington, to the east of Bristol in the south, via Gloucester, Ledbury, Malvern, Perry Barr and Wroxeter to the north), at least 40km to the west of the Site. Such patterns have been noted elsewhere in the West Midlands (Esmonde Cleary 2011, 143), with ceramic assemblages often showing either a westward (Severn Valley) or eastward (Derbyshire and Mancetter) bias. The composition of the pottery assemblage may therefore reveal something of the focus of the Site's social relations.
- 4.8.8 The environmental remains are characteristic of general settlement waste and activities, and suggest the farmstead was set within grassland, field margin, and arable environments.

5 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE

5.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 The quantities of finds recovered are relatively small, and the range of material types is very limited (see **Table 1**). All datable material (pottery, ceramic building material) dates to the Roman period with the bulk of finds dating from the 2nd to 4th century AD. The condition of the assemblage is variable, but is generally fair to poor; it is highly fragmented, and all material types have suffered high levels of abrasion.

1.1.2 For the purposes of this assessment, the whole assemblage has been subjected to a visual scan. Spot dates have been recorded on a context by context basis, using the most closely datable material (pottery). The following section presents a description of the assemblage by material type, considering its range, probable dating, condition and provenance, with an assessment of its archaeological potential.

Table 1: Finds totals by material type

Material Type	No. frags.	Weight (g)
Animal bone	145	636
Ceramic building material	77	6871
Fired clay	3	92
Iron	2	81
Pottery	339	5324
Slag	1	13
Total	567	13017

5.2 Pottery

Introduction

5.2.1 The pottery provides the primary dating evidence and is all typical of the Roman period. The assessed pottery has been quantified by fabric or ware group within each context; diagnostic forms or other traits have been noted and a spot date assigned for each context. The assemblage contained 337 sherds (5258g) of pottery, recovered from 57 contexts. Of these, 51 contexts contained ten sherds or fewer more but only two (cuts **1124** and **1107** – components of ditches **1257** and **1253** respectively) produced more than 25 sherds, the minimum number that is considered useful for dating a feature (PCRG 2010, 15, after Shennan 1981). The material is in moderate condition with a relatively high mean sherd weight of 15.6g. A range of wares was identified, predominantly coarsewares with small quantities of imported wares (**Table 2**).

Table 2: Quantification of pottery by ware (number and weight in grammes)

Ware group	Ware	Number	Weight (g)
Imported finewares	Central Gaulish samian	1	81
	East Gaulish samian	1	3
	Samian, unsourced	8	36
Amphorae	Dressel 20	2	212
Mortaria	Mancetter-Hartshill mortaria	20	643
	Oxfordshire whiteware	1	44
British finewares	Nene Valley colour-coated ware	1	19
	Oxfordshire colour-coated ware	4	44
Oxidised wares	Fine, micaceous oxidised ware	2	24
	Oxidised ware	71	1082
	Whiteware	3	15
Coarsewares	Black Burnished ware	15	168
	Greyware	173	2584
	Grog-tempered ware	1	14
	Sandy	16	150
	Shell-tempered	13	125
	Vesicular fabric	5	14
Total		337	5258



Table 3: Spot-dated pottery assemblage by group and cut number

Context	Fill of	P/O Group	No.	Weight (g)	Date (all AD)	
1068	1006	1251	3	75	2nd century +	
1017	1015		4	8	43-410	
1027	1028		2	13	43-410	
1081	1079		4	72	350-410	
1212	1211		2	36	2nd century +	
1003	1004	1252	5	74	120-410	
1009	1011		5	92	43-410	
1010			8	181	2nd century +	
1054	1057		3	199	2nd century +	
1058	1061		5	141	Late 3rd to 4th century	
1069	1062		2	17	2nd to 3rd century	
1065	1063		1	9	43-410	
1088	1089	1253	5	67	43-410	
1106	1105		8	43	43-410	
1108	1107		35	263	Late 3rd to 4th century	
1152	1151-		2	44	43-410	
1151			4	24	43-410	
1217	-	1254	2	8	43-410	
1223	1220, 1221		4	19	43-410	
1199	1198	1255	8	173	2nd century +	
1205	1203		3	91	43-410	
1170	1168	1256	5	44	43-410	
1172			16	183	2nd to 3rd century	
1197			9	103	43-410	
1186			3	28	43-410	
1189			1181	4	43	150-410
1188			1182	11	383	150-410
1194			2	114	2nd century +	
1195			1184	2	47	2nd century +
1125			1124	1257	4	52
1126	42	559			Late 3rd to 4th century	
1146	1145	5			119	2nd century +
1034	1033	-	2	14	120-410	
1039	1035	-	4	128	43-410	
1050	1049	-	4	59	2nd to 3rd century	
1094	1095	-	4	27	43-410	
1109	1111	-	7	166	Late 3rd to 4th century	
1112	1114	-	1	17	43-410	
1139	1138	-	3	86	43-410	
1144	1140	-	3	30	43-410	
1159	1158	-	2	122	43-410	



Context	Fill of	P/O Group	No.	Weight (g)	Date (all AD)
1164	1163	-	16	65	43-410
1165	1163	-	6	77	2nd century +
1210	1208	-	5	20	43-410
1226	1224	-	3	21	43-410
1228	1224	-	1	66	43-410
1227	1225	-	1	5	43-410
1230	1229	-	4	71	120-410
1232	1231	-	12	360	2nd century +
1235	1233	-	4	60	43-410
1239	1237	-	10	175	43-410
1242	1240	-	3	12	43-410
1243	-	-	6	91	43-410
1244	1245	-	6	64	43-410
1246	-	-	2	10	43-410
1249	1250	-	4	13	120-410
1091	-	-	5	94	Late 3rd to 4th century
Unstrat.	-	-	1	81	120-150
Total			337	5258	

Imported finewares

- 5.2.2 A small quantity of samian (10 sherds, 120g) was recovered. This included part of the base from a Central Gaulish form 18/31 dish/platter of 2nd-century date (unstratified) and a small beaded rim fragment from a bowl in an East Gaulish fabric, repaired with a lead staple (2nd to 3rd century, cut **1198**, part of ditch **1255**). The other sherds were highly abraded, with little trace remaining of the surfaces.

British finewares

- 5.2.3 Part of a moulded face mask was recovered from wall trench **1079** (part of building **1251**). The fabric was an orange colour-coated ware, manufactured by the Oxfordshire pottery industry, and it would have come from a flagon dating from the second half of the 4th century (Young 1977, C11). Two small, plain body sherds from channel **1111** may also be Oxford products. A single body sherd of Nene Valley colour-coated ware, dating from the mid-2nd century onwards, was present within ditch **1256** (from intervention **1181**).

Amphorae

- 5.2.4 Two plain body sherds from Dressel 20 amphorae were recovered from ditches **1252** (intervention **1011**) and **1231**. This form of amphora occurs commonly in Britain from the late 1st century AD to the early 3rd century, and was used to transport olive oil from the Roman province of Baetia in southern Spain (Peacock and Williams 1986, 136, class 25).

Mortaria

- 5.2.5 The mortaria assemblage (21 sherds, 687g) is dominated by products from the Mancetter-Hartshill industries, located just over 20km to the north-east of the Site. Vessels were manufactured at a number of kilns in this area between the 2nd and 4th centuries AD. The material included three hammerhead rims (Perrin 1981, fig. 28, 336) and one with reeded rim (Perrin 1981, fig. 42, 582). A single sherd from a mortaria in a whiteware fabric from the Oxfordshire industry (Young 1977, M22), dated to the late Roman period, was

recovered from ditch **1091**. The latter was one of the most commonly occurring forms in the Oxfordshire mortaria assemblage from Alcester (Ferguson 2001, 177).

Oxidised wares

- 5.2.6 The oxidised wares (76 sherds, 1121 g) included white and orange-coloured fabrics, and a very fine, micaceous fabric. Most would have been produced relatively locally, probably at the Mancetter-Hartshill kilns; the finer sherds may have once been colour-coated but are now abraded. The vessel forms comprise a pulley-wheel flagon (tree throw **1049**), a globular bowl/jar with short, everted rim (ditch **1256**, intervention **1182**), a copy of a samian form 38 bowl, from the Mancetter-Hartshill kilns (ditch **1252**, intervention **1057**). A wide-mouthed necked bowl/jar from well **1240** may be a product of the Severn Valley industry (Webster 1976, Class C), and it possible that some of the abraded, featureless body sherds may also have come from vessels produced at these kilns.

Coarsewares

- 5.2.7 The coarseware assemblage was dominated by sandy greywares (173 sherds, 2584g), again probably produced at the Mancetter-Hartshill kilns. The rim forms included flanged bowls with grooved rims of 2nd- to 3rd-century date; drop-flanged bowls of late 3rd- to 4th-century date; a plain rimmed dish (2nd to 4th century) and a number of jar forms that are not particular diagnostic in terms of dating, but are of 2nd- century date or later, including narrow-necked jars, necked jars with beaded or everted rims, and everted rim jars. The sandy wares (31 sherds, 318 g) included products from the Black Burnished ware industries of south-east Dorset (4% of the assemblage by count, 3% by weight). A flanged bowl with irregularly applied burnished line decoration (Seager Smith and Davies 1993, type 22, and D50) and a drop-flanged bowl (*ibid.* type 25) were recorded in this ware. The unsourced sandy wares included a plain-rimmed dish decorated with burnished lattice, a flanged bowl with grooved rim and an everted rim jar. One body sherd may have come from the south-western Black Burnished ware industry. A small quantity of shell-tempered pottery (13 sherds, 125g) was recorded; a completely leached fabric was probably also once shell-tempered (five sherds, 14 g). Fragments from triangular-rimmed necked jars came from beam slot **1015** (part of building **1251**), ditch **1252** (intervention **1062**) and ditch **1256** (intervention **1171**). These vessels may have come from the Harrold kilns, Bedfordshire, an industry that produced such forms from the 2nd century onwards, with an increase in production in the 4th century (Marney 1989, 58-64).

Discussion

- 5.2.8 The pottery assemblage is relatively small with few diagnostic vessels, and is predominantly composed of utilitarian coarsewares. With the exception of the unstratified base sherd, the samian pottery is highly abraded and likely to be residual. There are no 1st-century AD forms, most are of 2nd- to 4th-century date. Few amphorae or British finewares reached the Site and most vessels would have been produced fairly locally, representing products of the Mancetter-Hartshill industry. This flourished from the beginning of the 2nd century, with production continuing until an undefined point in the 4th century (Booth 1986). A major producer of mortaria, the potters also made a range of reduced and oxidised coarsewares and colour-coated wares, particularly in the 2nd century. The industry supplied large quantities of pottery to sites in the region, for example Coleshill, 13km from the kilns, drew 70% of its pottery from Mancetter-Hartshill (*ibid.*). At least one oxidised vessel had also come from the Severn Valley kilns. Products were also coming in from the south-east Dorset Black Burnished ware industry, comparable quantities (3.7%) were recorded from Crewe Farm, near Kenilworth, rather lower than sites such as Alcester, Coleshill and Tiddington, a factor thought to relate to the lack of 3rd- and 4th-century occupation at Crewe Farm (Booth 1986, 36). Shell-tempered pottery was also received in small quantities; the forms present are very similar to those

manufactured by potters at Harrold, Bedfordshire during the 2nd to 4th centuries, particularly the latter.

5.3 Ceramic building material

- 5.3.1 This category includes fragments of tile and possible brick, all of Roman date. The assemblage is fragmentary and heavily abraded; mean fragment size is 89g. Small fragment size and heavy abrasion limits the number of fragments that can be assigned to specific brick or tile types, but the total of 77 fragments (67 if conjoining fragments are counted as one) includes five examples of *tegulae* roof tiles, 17 *imbrices* and 10 box flue tiles (*tubuli*). Other fragments can be classified broadly as flat fragments, with a few pieces that are completely undiagnostic.
- 5.3.2 Detailed fabric analysis has not been undertaken, but a rapid visual scan suggests that although the basic fabric type is essentially relatively fine-grained, firing orange-red, and with few coarse (and probably naturally occurring) inclusions, there are variants within this range, containing, for example, a higher proportion of sand.
- 5.3.3 The quantities of ceramic building material recovered, and its condition, suggest that this material has been redeposited, but that it has probably not travelled very far from its original source, and thus supports the presence of a substantial building (or buildings) in the vicinity of the Site.

5.4 Animal bone

- 5.4.1 A total of 145 fragments (or 636g) of animal bone were recovered from twelve contexts of Roman date. Once conjoins are taken into account the total falls to just 53 fragments. The material is therefore in a highly fragmented state and the preservation condition varies from fair to very poor, hence only a small fraction of the material (approximately 23%) can be identified to species and skeletal element. All of the identified bones belong to cattle and the range of elements is heavily biased in favour of more durable elements such as teeth.

5.5 Other Finds

- 5.5.1 Other finds comprise three small fragments of undated and undiagnostic fired clay, with flattish surfaces; two iron objects (probable nail shank; pointed object, possibly part of a tool, neither intrinsically datable); and a small piece of ironworking slag, also undatable

6 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 A total of ten bulk samples were taken from a range of Romano-British features and were processed for the recovery and assessment of charred plant remains and charcoal. The sample from well **1240** was sub-sampled and processed for the recovery of waterlogged remains.

6.2 Charred plant remains

- 6.2.1 The bulk samples were processed by standard flotation methods; the flot retained on a 0.5 mm mesh, residues fractionated into 5.6 mm, 2 mm and 1 mm fractions and dried. The coarse fractions (>5.6 mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded. The flots were scanned under a x10 – x40 stereo-binocular microscope and the preservation and nature of the charred plant and wood charcoal remains recorded in **Appendix 2**. Preliminary identifications of dominant or important taxa are noted below, following the nomenclature

of Stace (1997) for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary and Hopf (2000, Tables 3, page 28 and 5, page 65), for cereals.

- 6.2.2 The flots varied in size with low to moderate numbers of roots and modern seeds that may be indicative of stratigraphic movement and the possibility of contamination by later intrusive elements. Charred material comprised varying degrees of preservation.
- 6.2.3 Charred plant remains were recorded in all of the samples and were recovered in high numbers from pit **1035**, construction trench **1047** (building **1251**) and slot **1062** (ditch **1252**). The cereal remains included hulled wheat, emmer or spelt (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*) grain, glume base and spikelet fork fragments. A number of the chaff elements were identifiable as being those of spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta*). A few of the grains showed traces of germination.
- 6.2.4 The weed seed assemblages included seeds of oat/brome grass (*Avena/Bromus* sp.), vetch/wild pea (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp.), goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.), docks (*Rumex* sp.) and scentless mayweed (*Tripleurospermum inodorum*). There were also a few hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*) shell and possible heather (*Erica/Calluna* sp.) type stem/root fragments noted.
- 6.2.5 The assemblages appear to be indicative of general settlement waste and activities and the weed seeds are mainly species typically found in grassland, field margins and arable environments. Hulled wheat is typically found on sites of this period where excavated in southern England (Greig 1991). These assemblages are comparable with other assemblages from Romano-British deposits in the wider area such as at Alcester (Colledge 1988, 1989; Moffett 1996; Pelling 2001), Bubbenhall (Monckton 1999a), Billesley (Monckton 1999b), Tiddington (Moffett 1986) and Edgbaston (Ciaraldi 2005).

6.3 Wood charcoal

- 6.3.1 Wood charcoal was noted from the flots of the bulk samples and is recorded in **Appendix 2**. A large quantity of wood charcoal fragments greater than 2 mm was retrieved from construction trench **1079** and a moderate amount from slot **1062** (ditch **1252**). The charcoal included mature wood fragments.

6.4 Waterlogged plant remains

- 6.4.1 No waterlogged material was present. A sub-sample of 1 litre was taken from the bulk sample from well **1240** and processed in the expectation that such material would be encountered. Laboratory flotation was undertaken with flots retained on a 0.25mm mesh and residues on a 0.5mm mesh. The flot was visually inspected under a x10 to x40 stereo-binocular microscope to determine if waterlogged material occurred. However, no such material was present, so the sub-sample was dried out and assessed as a bulk sample.

7 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

7.1 Summary

- 7.1.1 The archaeological fieldwork at Damson Parkway has revealed the remains of a small Romano-British farmstead comprising a largely robbed-out stone-built rectangular building, an associated well, and contemporary field system remains. A modest amount of



artefactual and environmental material was recovered from the Site, predominantly from ditch fills.

- 7.1.2 The value of the Site lies largely in its ability to provide detail on the local settlement pattern during the Roman period. This is amplified by the scarcity of similar (known) sites nearby.

3.3 Stratigraphic evidence

- 7.1.3 The archaeology of the Site is relatively straightforward and additional stratigraphic analysis is unlikely to enhance its interpretation. The majority of the artefactual assemblage was recovered from field boundary ditches. Within such contexts, recutting and residuality typically diminish the interpretive value of any finds recovered.

- 7.1.4 It should be possible to combine the results of the strip, map and excavation carried out by Wessex Archaeology and the evaluation trenching carried out by Worcester Archaeology to produce a single unified stratigraphic archive. This may be able to refine the dating and interpretation of some of the remains on the Site.

- 7.1.5 Further analysis should also re-consider any existing cropmark and geophysical survey evidence from the immediate vicinity of the Site. This may elucidate its landscape setting.

7.2 Artefactual evidence

- 7.2.1 The finds assemblage is relatively small, and comprises a very limited range of material types (pottery, ceramic building material, fired clay, animal bone). The potential for further study permitting a more nuanced understanding of the Site is correspondingly restricted.

- 7.2.2 The pottery assemblage contains a range of fabrics of forms that are typical for the region. It is dominated by relatively locally sourced material with a small amount drawn from further afield, including the Oxfordshire and Dorset Black Burnished ware industries, as well as samian from Gaul and amphora from Spain. The small size of the groups recovered from each feature limits the potential of the material.

- 7.2.3 Some limited structural information is provided by the brick and tile but none of this material occurred *in situ*. Of the other artefacts, no personal items, other evidence for lifestyle, or any items with functional implications were recovered.

- 7.2.4 The animal bone assemblage is small, and contains little information relating to the age, size and butchery of livestock. It offers limited scope for more detailed study.

- 7.2.5 The artefacts present on the Site were collected in two phases of work by two different archaeological organisations. It should be relatively straightforward to combine the records to produce a unified site archive.

7.3 Environmental evidence

- 7.3.1 The analysis of some of the charred plant assemblages has the potential to provide some information on the nature of the settlement, the surrounding environment and local agricultural practices and crop husbandry techniques during the Romano-British period.

- 7.3.2 The results of this analysis could provide a comparison with the data from Romano-British plant assemblages from other sites in the local area, such as Alcester (Colledge 1988, 1989; Moffett 1996; Pelling 2001), Bubbenhall (Monckton 1999a), Billesley (Monckton 1999b), Tiddington (Moffett 1986) and Edgbaston (Ciaraldi 2005).



7.3.3 Due to the paucity of wood charcoal within the majority of the samples, it offers only very limited potential to provide any further detailed information.

8 RESEARCH AIMS

8.1 Reappraisal of the project aims

8.1.1 The general aims of the project were:

- *to mitigate the impact of the development on the archaeological resource;*
- *to establish the character, extent and date range of any archaeological deposits, features and/or structures to be affected by the proposed groundworks;*
- *to put the results of the excavation in context by comparing it with similar/related Sites within the local area as well as its regional and national contexts.*
- *to analyse the Site records, artefacts and ecofacts and produce an archive, report and publication of the results.*

8.1.2 Consideration has been given as to whether any aspect of the excavated data may be judged relevant to further issues not encompassed by the original project aims. The following written source was consulted:

- Esmonde Cleary, S, 2011, The Romano-British period: an assessment. In S. Watt, *The Archaeology of the West Midlands: A Framework for Research*, 127-147

8.1.3 This adopts an expansive, essay-like structure. Where details of specific research objectives can be discerned, they are more suited to the level of regional overview than the site-specific. There is nothing in the excavated data that is of relevance to avenues of research not encompassed by the original project aims.

9 RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 Stratigraphic and other archaeological evidence

9.1.1 The results of the investigation carried out by Wessex Archaeology and the evaluation trenching carried out by Worcestershire Archaeology should be combined to produce a single unified stratigraphic archive. This may be able to refine the dating and interpretation of some of the remains on the Site.

9.1.2 Existing cropmark and geophysical survey evidence from the immediate vicinity of the Site will be re-examined in order to elucidate its wider landscape context.

9.1.3 Additional research regarding similar and/or nearby archaeological sites should be carried out sufficient to place the results in an appropriate local and regional context.



9.2 Finds

- 9.2.1 No further analysis is considered necessary for this small assemblage. All finds have been recorded to an appropriate level. The information presented here could be adapted for presentation in any publication report prepared for the Site. A small number of pottery vessels could be illustrated to accompany the report, although all are otherwise well-documented types, and there is no necessity to illustrate them.
- 9.2.2 No further work is required on the animal bone assemblage.
- 9.2.3 The finds catalogues from the evaluation and the strip, map and excavation should be combined to represent the sum of material present on the Site. Any description and discussion of the Site presented in a final publication should draw on this combined finds catalogue.

9.3 Environmental evidence

- 9.3.1 It is proposed to analyse the charred plant assemblages from pit **1035**, wall footing trench **1047** (building **1251**) and intervention **1062** (ditch **1252**).
- 9.3.2 All identifiable charred plant macrofossils will be extracted from the 2 and 1mm residues together with the flot. Identification will be undertaken using stereo incident light microscopy at magnifications of up to x40 using a Leica MS5 microscope, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary and Hopf (2000, Tables 3, page 28 and 5, page 65), for cereals and with reference to modern reference collections where appropriate. They will be quantified and the results tabulated.
- 9.3.3 The samples proposed for analysis are indicated with a "P" in the analysis column in **Appendix 2**.
- 9.3.4 No further work is proposed on the wood charcoal samples.

9.4 Publication

- 9.4.1 The discovery of a Romano-British farmstead at Damson Parkway is of local interest, and illuminates some aspects of the settlement of this part of the West Midlands during the Roman period. Publication within the *Transactions of the Birmingham and Warwickshire Archaeological Society* provides the most suitable route to disseminate these results. This may take the form of a short summary article, or inclusion with a "Recent fieldwork in the region" round-up. Advice from the editorial board will be sought.
- 9.4.2 An outline of the contents for a short summary article is presented in **Table 4**.



Table 4: Details of proposed publication

Description	No. of words
Introduction, background, method	200
Results	600
Artefacts	400
Environmental remains	400
Discussion	600
Bibliography	800
Site location and plan	
Sections x 4	
Plate of Site	
Pottery illustrations x 7	
Total word count	3000

10 RESOURCES AND PROGRAMME

10.1 Named project team

Regional manager	Andrew Norton MCIfA
Quality and publication manager	Pippa Bradley MCIfA
Project manager	Chris Swales MCIfA
Main author	Patrick Daniel ACIfA
Pottery	Grace Jones ACIfA
Environmental	Sarah Wyles PCIfA
Illustrator	Alix Sperr



10.2 Task list

10.2.1 The proposed tasks and durations are tabulated below.

Table 5: Publication tasks

Task	Description	Grade	Days
1	Review archaeological evidence, including incorporation of the evaluation results into the stratigraphic and artefactual archive	PO	3
2	Research local and regional context	PO	1
3	Review and update pottery report	SPO	0.5
4	Review and update other finds reports	SPO	0.5
5	Extract charred plant remains (4 samples)	ES	1
6	Analyse and report charred plant remains	SPO	4
7	Prepare publication report	PO	4
8	Site illustrations	PO	2
9	Prepare pottery illustrations (up to 7 vessels)	SPO	1
10	Collate and finalise publication report	PM	1
11	QA and submit to journal	PM	2
12	Publication	Pages	8
13	Archive preparation and deposition	PS	3
Total			31

10.3 Management structure

10.3.1 Wessex Archaeology operates a project management system. The team is headed by a Project Manager, who assumes ultimate responsibility for the implementation and execution of the project, and the achievement of performance targets (academic, budgetary or scheduled).

10.3.2 The Project Manager will define and control the scope and form of the post-excavation programme and will have a major input into the writing of the publication report. The Project Manager may delegate specific aspects of the project to other key staff, who will both supervise others and have a direct input into the compilation of the report. They may also undertake direct liaison with external consultants and specialists who are contributing to the publication report, and the museum named as the recipient of the project archive.

10.4 Performance monitoring and quality standards

10.4.1 Wessex Archaeology's Quality Management System is ISO 9001 accredited. The Project Manager will ensure that the report meets internal quality standards as defined in Wessex Archaeology's guidelines. The overall progress and quality will be monitored internally by the Quality and Publications Manager.

10.4.2 Communication between all team members will be facilitated by project meetings at key points during the project.



10.4.3 In addition to internal monitoring and checking, quality standards will be maintained by internal and/or external academic advisers, as appropriate. These referees will appraise the academic quality of the report prior to the submission of a draft publication text to the Consultant and Curator for approval.

10.5 Programme

10.5.1 The analysis programme will commence immediately on approval of the proposals by the Client and Curator. Subject to instruction by the Client, it is anticipated that a draft publication text and illustrations will be available by the end of **September 2015**. Subject to approval it is anticipated that the finalised text and illustrations can be submitted to the editor of the *Transactions of the Birmingham and Warwickshire Archaeological Society*, with the final date of publication dependant on the existing publication backlog of that journal.

10.5.2 The finds and archive will be prepared and deposited with the museum on completion of the analysis programme; it is anticipated that this will take place by the end of **September 2015**. The Consultant and Curator will be informed when the archive has been deposited.

10.5.3 Wessex Archaeology understands that submission of the article to the editor of the journal for publication and deposition of the finds and archive will represent the completion of the programme of archaeological work.

11 STORAGE AND CURATION

11.1 Museum

11.1.1 It is recommended that the project archive resulting from the excavation be deposited with an appropriate museum. The Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery has been contacted (March 2015) in order to obtain agreement in principle to accept the project archive on completion of the project. Deposition of any finds with the museum will only be carried out with the full agreement of the landowner.

11.2 Preparation of archive

11.2.1 The complete site archive, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics, artefacts, ecofacts and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by the recipient museum, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2014d; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).

11.2.2 All archive elements will be marked with the site and accession code, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive comprises the following:

- 1-2 cardboard boxes or airtight plastic boxes of artefacts and ecofacts, ordered by material type
- 1 file or document case of paper records & A3 and A4 graphics

11.2.3 An OASIS form for the project has been initiated (ref. **wessexar1-194890**) and will be finalised when the project is completed (**Appendix 3**).



11.3 Discard policy

- 11.3.1 Wessex Archaeology follows the guidelines set out in Selection, Retention and Dispersal (SMA 1993), which allows for the discard of selected artefact and ecofact categories which are not considered to warrant any future analysis. Any discard of artefacts will be fully documented in the project archive.
- 11.3.2 The discard of environmental remains and samples follows nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1993, 1995; English Heritage 2011).

11.4 Security copy

- 11.4.1 In line with current best practice (e.g. Brown 2011), on completion of the project a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file. PDF/A is an ISO-standardised version of the Portable Document Format (PDF) designed for the digital preservation of electronic documents through omission of features ill-suited to long-term archiving.

12 REFERENCES

12.1 Bibliography

- ADS, 2013. *Caring for Digital Data in Archaeology: a guide to good practice*, Archaeology Data Service & Digital Antiquity Guides to Good Practice
- Allen, M. *et al.* 2015. *The Rural Settlement of Roman Britain: an online resource*. <http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/romangl/>
- Booth, P. 1986. Roman pottery in Warwickshire – production and demand. *Journal of Roman Pottery Studies* 1: 22-41
- Brown, D.H., 2011. *Archaeological archives; a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation*, Archaeological Archives Forum (revised edition)
- Burrows, B. 2007. *Longdales Road, Kings Norton, Birmingham. Archaeological Excavation 2006. Post-Excavation Assessment*. Unpublished
- CgMs, 2014. *Land at Damson Parkway: Archaeological Desk Based Assessment*. CgMs Ref: CP/16206
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), 2014a. *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation*
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), 2014b. *Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials*
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), 2015c, Codes of Conduct
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA). 2014d. *Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*
- Ciaraldi M. 2005. Charred plant remains, areas 7-8. 72-5. In A. Jones (ed) Metchley Roman forts, excavations 1998-2000 and 2002, *Journal Trans. Birmingham Warwickshire Archaeol. Soc.* 108 (for 2004): 1-119
- Colledge S. 1988. The plant remains from Alcester. In J. Greig The interpretation of some Roman well fills from the midlands of England. In: H-J Kuster (ed). *Der prohistorische Mensch und seine Umwelt* (Festschrift Udelgard Korber-Grohne). Forschungen und Berichte zur Vor- und Fruhgeschichte in Baden-Wurttemberg 31: 367-78. Stuttgart
- Colledge S. 1989. Alcester Coulters Garage, the carbonised remains. In P.M. Booth Roman store buildings in Alcester. *Trans. Birmingham Warwickshire Archaeol. Soc.* 94 (for 1985-6): 63-106
- Darling, M. (ed.) 1994. Guidelines for the archiving of Romano-British pottery, London: Study Group for Romano-British Pottery, Guidelines Advisory Document 1
- English Heritage, 2005. *A Strategy for the Care and Investigation of Finds*

- English Heritage, 2006. *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide*.
- English Heritage, 2007. *Geoarchaeology: Using Earth Sciences to Understand the Archaeological Record*
- English Heritage, 2008a. *Guidelines for the Curation of Waterlogged Macroscopic Plant and Invertebrate Remains*
- English Heritage, 2011. *Environmental Archaeology. A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation*
- Esmonde Cleary, S, 2011, The Romano-British period: an assessment. In S. Watt, 2011: 127-147
- Ferguson, R. 2001. Roman pottery. In P. Booth and J. Evans, *Roman Alcester Northern extramural area 1969-1988 excavations*. York: Council for British Archaeology Research Report 127: 28-66.
- Greig, J. 1991. The British Isles. In W. van Zeist, K. Wasylikowa, K-E. Behre (eds) *Progress in Old World Palaeoethnobotany*. Rotterdam: 229–334
- Historic England 2015. *PastScape*. Online database. <http://www.pastscape.org.uk/>
- Marney, P.T. 1989. *Roman and Belgic Pottery from excavations in Milton Keynes 1972-1982*. Aylesbury, Bucks. Archaeol. Soc. Monogr. 2
- Moffett, L. 1996. Charred plant remains. In S. Cracknell (ed). *Roman Alcester: defences and defended areas: Gateway supermarket and Gas House Lane*. Journal CBA Res. Rep. 106 (Roman Alcester Series 2): 112-14
- Moffett, L.C. 1986. *Crops and crop processing in a Romano-British village at Tiddington: the evidence from the charred plant remains*. Ancient Monuments Laboratory Rep. New Ser. 15/86
- Monckton, A. 1999a. *Charred plant remains from a Romano-British farmstead at Glebe Farm, Bubbenhall, Warwickshire*. Ancient Monuments Laboratory Rep. New Ser. 24/99
- Monckton, A. 1999b. *Charred plant remains from corn driers and other contexts of a Romano-British settlement site at Billesley Manor Farm, Warwickshire*. Ancient Monuments Laboratory Rep. New Ser. 25/99
- Museum & Galleries Commission (MGC), 1992. *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections*
- Peacock, D.P.S. and Williams, D. F. 1986. *Amphorae and the Roman economy: an introductory guide*. Longman archaeology series, London: Longman
- Pelling, R. 2001. Charred plant remains. In A. Mudd and P. Booth. Site of the former Hockley Chemical Works, Stratford Road, Alcester: excavations 1994. *Trans. Birmingham Warwickshire Archaeol. Soc.* 104 (for 2000): 1-74



- Perrin, J.R. 1981. *Roman pottery from the Colonia: Skeldergate and Bishophill*. York: York Archaeological Trust and the Council for British Archaeology, 16/2
- Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG), 2010. *The Study of Prehistoric Pottery: General Policies and Guidelines for Analysis And Publication*, Occasional Papers Nos 1 And 2.
[http://www.pcr.org.uk/News_pages/PCRG%20Gudielines%203rd%20Edition%20\(2010\).pdf](http://www.pcr.org.uk/News_pages/PCRG%20Gudielines%203rd%20Edition%20(2010).pdf)
- Shennan, S. 1981. Appendix 1: A multidimensional scaling analysis of the Old Down Farm pits. In: S. M. Davies *Excavations at Old Down Farm, Andover. Part II Prehistoric and Roman*: 158-60. Proceedings of the Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society 37, 81-163
- Society of Museum Archaeologists (SMA), 1993. *Selection, Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections*, Society of Museum Archaeologists
- Society of Museum Archaeologists (SMA), 1995. *Towards an Accessible Archaeological Archive*, Society of Museum Archaeologists
- Stace, C. 1997. *New flora of the British Isles* (2nd edition). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
- Stratascan, 2014. *Land at Damson Parkway: Geophysical Survey Report*
- Taylor, J. 2007. *An Atlas of Roman Rural Settlement in Britain*. CBA Res. Rep. 151
- United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC), 2001. *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage*
- Watt, S. 2011, *The Archaeology of the West Midlands: A Framework for Research*. Oxford, Oxbow
- Webster, P. V. 1976. Severn Valley Ware. In *Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society*: 94, 18-46
- Wessex Archaeology, 2014. *Land at Damson Parkway, Solihull. Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Strip, Map and Excavation*
- Worcestershire Archaeology, 2014. *Archaeological Evaluation at Damson Parkway, Solihull, West Midlands. Summary Statement*. Ref:P4402
- Young, C.J. 1977. *The Roman Pottery Industry of the Oxford Region*. Oxford, BAR 43
- Zohary, D. and Hopf, M. 2000. *Domestication of plants in the Old World: the origin and spread of cultivated plants in West Asia, Europe, and the Nile Valley* (3rd edition). Clarendon Press, Oxford



13 APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Context summary

Context	Type	Fill of	Description	Interpretation	P/O Group
1001	Layer	-	Mid grey brown silty clay with rooting and occasional sub angular stone inclusions.	topsoil	N/A
1002	Layer	-	Mid brown red silty sand.	Natural	N/A
1003	Fill	1004	Mid brown grey clay silt with small-medium sub angular stone inclusions.	Fill	1252
1004	Cut	-	Shallow SW-NE aligned gully.	Gully	1252
1005	Cut	-	SW-NE aligned cut for wall foundation. Cut by 1007.	Construction cut	1251
1006	Fill	1005	Mid grey brown sandy clay with frequent stone inclusions acting as a foundation layer.	deliberate backfill	1251
1007	Cut	-	SW-NE robber trench in 1005 to take some of the stone foundations.	Robber trench	N/A
1008	Fill	1007	Mid grey brown sandy clay with rare small well rounded stones.	Secondary fill	N/A
1009	Fill	1011	Mid orange grey silty clay rare medium sub rounded stones and RB pottery fragments.	Fill	1252
1010	Fill	1011	Light grey yellow silty clay with occasional small well rounded stones and Roman pottery fragments. Possibly result of a nearby building demolition.	Primary fill	1252
1011	Cut	-	Possible Roman boundary or enclosure ditch.	Boundary Ditch	1252
1012	Cut	-	Probable cut for Roman wall foundation.	Construction cut	1251
1013	Fill	1012	Light grey sandy mortar, probable result of mortar spread from wall construction.	Primary fill	1251
1014	Fill	1012	Dark grey brown sandy clay. Likely result of silting up.	Secondary fill	1251
1015	Cut	-	Cut for a NE-SW aligned beam slot likely used as part of construction.	Beam slot	1251
1016	Fill	1015	Burnt layer of charcoal in bottom of 1015. Possibly the remains of the bean which was burnt rather than removed.	Fill	1251
1017	Fill	1015	Fill of 1015 - likely result of silting and backfill of rubbish from construction phase.	Secondary fill	1251
1018	Cut	-	Small circular posthole near a second posthole 1020.	Posthole	N/A
1019	Fill	1018	Grey brown sandy clay, probable result of silting up.	Secondary fill	N/A
1020	Cut	-	Shallow circular posthole near to 1018.	Posthole	N/A
1021	Fill	1020	Dark black sand, possibly the post was burnt rather than removed.	Secondary fill	N/A
1022	Fill	1023	Mid grey brown clay silt with degraded red sandstone from wall and small pebbles.	Fill	N/A
1023	Cut	-	Cut of small oval posthole - possible a later fence line.	Posthole	N/A
1024	Fill	1025	Mid grey brown clay silt with degraded sandstone from wall.	Fill	N/A
1025	Cut	-	Shallow oval posthole, possible later fence line.	Posthole	N/A
1026	Fill	1028	Mid grey brown clay silt with occasional degraded sandstone.	Fill	1251
1027	Structure	1028	A sub rectangular sandstone block not native to the local geology. Possible remains of a robbed out foundation course.	Foundation	1251
1028	Cut	-	A SE-NW aligned shallow linear cut of wall foundation.	Construction cut	1251
1029	Fill	1030	A dark blackish brown clayey silt fill of furrow 1030 built up gradually over time.	Fill	N/A
1030	Cut	-	A N-E aligned linear furrow.	Cut	N/A



Context	Type	Fill of	Description	Interpretation	P/O Group
1031	Cut	-	A NE-SW aligned linear construction cut for a wall/building, cut by a drainage pipe.	Construction cut	1251
1032	Fill	1031	Mid grey brown sandy clay probably formed via silting over time.	Secondary fill	1251
1033	Cut	-	A shallow circular concave pit near a tree throw which has been recut as a pit - 1035.	Pit	N/A
1034	Fill	1033	A dark grey sandy clay fill with pottery and charcoal inclusions, likely formed via rubbish dumping.	deliberate backfill	N/A
1035	Cut	-	A sub circular tree throw recut as a pit.	Pit	N/A
1036	Fill	1035	A dark black sandy clay with high charcoal inclusions - possibly the result of burning of the fallen tree.	Primary fill	N/A
1037	Fill	1035	Light grey sand likely formed over time via silting.	Secondary fill	N/A
1038	Fill	1035	A reddish brown clay - likely to be redeposited natural.	redeposited natural	N/A
1039	Fill	1035	Mid grey sandy clay with charcoal inclusions. Probable a gradual build up of rubbish.	Secondary fill	N/A
1040	Cut	-	The terminus of a E-W aligned shallow linear boundary ditch. Possibly Roman.	Boundary Ditch	N/A
1041	Fill	1040	A mid grey sandy clay with charcoal and roman pottery fragments. Sandstone fragments tie it to a building located to the SW or its demolition.	Secondary fill	N/A
1042	Cut	-	A N-E aligned robbed out construction cut.	Construction cut	1251
1043	Fill	1042	Greyish white clay silt with sub angular stone inclusions.	deliberate backfill	1251
1044	Fill	1042	Dark black brown loam silt with Roman greyware, animal bone and modern pot fragments.	Secondary fill	1251
1045	Cut	-	Shallow oval pit W of 1040.	Pit	N/A
1046	Fill	1045	Mid grey sandy clay with pottery fragments and charcoal flecks. Similar to 1041 and possibly related.	Secondary fill	N/A
1047	Cut	-	An E-W aligned linear construction cut, truncated by medieval ploughing.	Construction cut	1251
1048	Fill	1047	Mid reddish brown sandy clay with sub angular large/medium sandstone fragments.	deliberate backfill	1251
1049	Cut	-	An irregular shaped tree throw truncated by medieval ploughing.	Tree throw	N/A
1050	Fill	1049	A dark brown grey clay silt with frequent flecks of charcoal and rare pottery fragments.	Secondary fill	N/A
1051	Cut	-	A NE-SW aligned construction cut for a probable Roman building. Similar to cut 1066 and appear to form the floorplan of a house.	Construction cut	1251
1052	Fill	1051	A light grey/yellow brown sand fill with rounded stone inclusions. Likely a mix of mortar and sand used to level the foundations.	Fill	1251
1053	Fill	1051	A dark grey sandy clay probably caused when the wall was destroyed/robbed.	Fill	1251
1054	Fill	1057	Mid brown grey clay silt with small sherds of Roman pot. Formed the upper fill and was post occupation as wall remains are seen in the fill.	Fill	1252
1055	Fill	1057	Mid grey brown clay silt with occasional pebbles and charcoal flecks.	Fill	1252
1056	Fill	1057	Mid grey brown clay silt lower fill of 1057, formed due the collapse of the ditch bank.	Fill	1252
1057	Cut	-	A NE-SW aligned linear Roman enclosure ditch on the outside of a robbed out building.	Ditch	1252
1058	Fill	1061	Mid grey brown clay silt with small sherds of Roman pot, possibly formed post occupation as some wall stone is present in the fill.	Fill	1252



Context	Type	Fill of	Description	Interpretation	P/O Group
1059	Fill	1061	Mid grey brown clay silt with well rounded pebbles and charcoal flecks.	Fill	1252
1060	Fill	1061	Mid grey brown clay silt - probable slumped bank material.	Primary fill	1252
1061	Cut	-	A SE-NW linear enclosure ditch surrounding a Roman building.	Ditch	1252
1062	Cut	-	A NE-SW probable Roman boundary ditch that marked the NW perimeter of a small farmstead. Truncated by furrow 1073 and a modern ceramic field drain.	Boundary Ditch	1252
1063	Cut	-	The N terminus of a ditch aligned N-S, probably predates nearby Roman building.	Ditch	1252
1064	Fill	1063	A light grey sandy clay with charcoal flecks. Formed by the silting up of ditch as it goes out of use.	Fill	1252
1065	Fill	1063	Dark grey sandy clay with Roman pottery and CBM. Probably associated with the occupation/demolition of the Roman building to the E.	Fill	1252
1066	Cut	-	A NE-SW aligned linear cut for a Roman house. Truncated by a tree throw.	Construction cut	1251
1067	Fill	1066	A light grey brown sand mortar mix probably used to level out foundations for wall.	Fill	1251
1068	Fill	1066	A Dark grey brown sandy clay with Roman pottery sherds.	Secondary fill	1251
1069	Fill	1062	A dark grey brown sandy silt with sub angular stone and charcoal flecks. Probable tertiary fill as building material can be seen in the fill.	tertiary deposit	1252
1070	Fill	1062	Light grey brown silty sand with frequent well rounded stone and charcoal flecks. Probably formed due to silting up over time.	Fill	1252
1071	Cut	-	An oval pit of unknown function and date.	Pit	N/A
1072	Fill	1071	Light grey brown sandy silt with frequent well rounded stone inclusions, likely formed by silting over time.	Secondary fill	N/A
1073	Cut	-	A E-W aligned linear furrow of medieval/post medieval date. Cuts 1069.	Cut	N/A
1074	Fill	1073	Light grey brown sandy silt with frequent well rounded stone inclusions.	Secondary fill	N/A
1075	Fill	1076	Mid grey brown silty clay.	Fill	N/A
1076	Cut	-	An irregular shaped cut, possibly a tree throw.	Tree throw	N/A
1077	Fill	1078	Mid brown grey silty clay. Highly disturbed by later tree throw 1076.	Fill	N/A
1078	Cut	-	A N-S construction cut robbed out/truncated by tree throw 1076.	Construction cut	N/A
1079	Cut	-	A NW-SE construction linear cut for a wall of a probable Roman house.	Construction cut	1251
1080	Fill	1079	Light grey sand and mortar mix probably used to level the foundation base for construction.	Primary fill	1251
1081	Fill	1079	Mid grey brown sandy clay with pottery fragments and burnt wood.	Secondary fill	1251
1082	Cut	-	A shallow NW-SE aligned post medieval drainage ditch. Possibly had a hedgerow growing along the side.	Cut	N/A
1083	Fill	1082	Mid brown grey silty clay with post medieval brick fragments. Formed by a mix of water action and bioturbation.	Secondary fill	N/A
1084	Fill	1085	Mid orange brown silty sand with heavily abraded pottery.	Secondary fill	N/A
1085	Cut	-	NW-SE linear furrow, part of a post medieval agricultural landscape.	Cut	N/A
1086	Fill	1087	Light blue grey silty sand, probably formed by silting up over time.	Secondary fill	1253
1087	Cut	-	NE-SW aligned boundary ditch truncated by 1085 and 1095. Possibly one of several recuts to establish the field boundary.	Boundary Ditch	1253



Context	Type	Fill of	Description	Interpretation	P/O Group
1088	Fill	1089	Light grey brown silty sand with well rounded stones and abundant grit inclusions. Pottery and degraded animal bone was also recovered. Possibly bank slump.	Secondary fill	1253
1089	Cut	-	A ditch terminus creating an entrance in to a field system. Heavily truncated by later reestablishments of the same field boundary.	Boundary Ditch	1253
1090	Fill	1091	Mid red brown silty clay. Probable slumping.	Primary fill	N/A
1091	Cut	-	MISSING	Cut	N/A
1092	Fill	1093	MISSING	Fill	1253
1093	Cut	-	MISSING	Cut	1253
1094	Fill	1095	MISSING	Fill	N/A
1095	Cut	-	MISSING	Cut	N/A
1096	Fill	1098	Mid orange brown silty sand. Fill of a furrow truncating a Roman ditch.	Secondary fill	N/A
1097	Fill	1095	Mid brown grey clay sit with sparse sub angular stone inclusions.	Fill	1257
1098	Cut	-	A NE-SW linear Roman ditch, possibly a recut to redefine earlier Roman enclosure ditch.	Ditch	1257
1099	Fill	1100	Mid grey brown silty clay with sparse fragments of Roman pottery.	Fill	1257
1100	Cut	-	A NE-SW linear Roman boundary ditch, later recut.	Boundary Ditch	1257
1101	Cut	-	A NW-SE aligned linear drainage ditch, continuation of 1082 to the SE.	Drain	N/A
1102	Fill	1101	Mid brown grey silty clay with modern tile.	Secondary fill	N/A
1103	Cut	-	A NE-SW aligned gully cut by ditch 1105.	Gully	N/A
1104	Fill	1103	Light grey sand fill formed by silting over time.	Fill	N/A
1105	Cut	-	A NE-SW linear ditch recut by 1107.	Ditch	1253
1106	Fill	1105	A dark reddish brown sandy clay fill with probable Roman pottery.	Secondary fill	1253
1107	Cut	-	A NE-SW linear recut of ditch 1105.	Ditch	N/A
1108	Fill	1107	Dark grey sandy clay with charcoal, slag and probable Roman pottery.	Secondary fill	N/A
1109	Fill	1111	Mid orange brown clay silt with small sherds of probable Roman pottery.	Fill	N/A
1110	Fill	1111	Mid brown grey silty clay with frequent pot boilers.	Primary fill	N/A
1111	Cut	-	A SE-NW linear drainage channel probably associated with pond at SE corner of site.	Channel	N/A
1112	Fill	1114	Mid orange brown clay silt.	Fill	N/A
1113	Fill	1114	Mid brown grey silty clay.	Fill	N/A
1114	Cut	-	A SE-NW linear drainage ditch running to pond at SE corner of site.	Drain	N/A
1115	Fill	1116	Mid brown grey silty clay with frequent Roman pottery sherds.	Fill	N/A
1116	Cut	-	A SE-NW linear Roman drainage ditch.	Drain	N/A
1117	Fill	1121	Mid reddish grey clay silt.	Fill	1253
1118	Fill	1121	Mid orange brown clay silt.	Fill	1253
1119	Fill	1121	Light greenish grey silty clay, possibly formed from settled silts sitting in water for a prolonged period.	Fill	1253
1120	Fill	1121	Mid yellowish red silty sand. Probable bank collapse.	Fill	1253
1121	Cut	-	A probable Roman enclosure/drainage ditch.	Ditch	1253
1122	Cut	-	A SE-NW linear gully used for drainage. Cut by a second gully 1124.	Gully	1257
1123	Fill	1122	Mid grey brown silty sand likely formed by gradual silting over time.	Secondary fill	1257
1124	Cut	-	A SE-NW linear Roman gully cutting 1122.	Gully	1257
1125	Fill	1124	A dark reddish brown silty clay with pottery, Roman tile and bone.	Secondary fill	1257



Context	Type	Fill of	Description	Interpretation	P/O Group
1126	Fill	1124	Dark grey sandy clay with charcoal, pottery, animal bone and Roman tile.	Secondary fill	1257
1127	Cut	-	A NW-SE Roman ditch. Same as 1121 and recut by 1129.	Ditch	1253
1128	Fill	1127	Light grey brown silty clay with rare charcoal flecks, likely material is derived from ditch sides.	Primary fill	1253
1129	Cut	-	Recut of ditch 1127.	Ditch	N/A
1130	Fill	1129	A dark grey silty clay with CBM and charcoal flecks. Probable silting up of ditch when site finally abandoned.	Secondary fill	N/A
1131	Fill	1132	Mid brown grey silty sand.	Fill	N/A
1132	Cut	-	A NW-SE aligned ditch terminus. Likely to be same as 1122.	Ditch	N/A
1133	Fill	1134	Mid brown grey silty clay with occasional sherds of Roman pottery.	Fill	N/A
1134	Cut	-	A NW-Se linear Roman probable drainage ditch running down the site slope before turning W.	Ditch	N/A
1135	Fill	1134	Mid yellow brown silty sand, probable result of slump from ditch sides.	Fill	N/A
1136	Cut	-	A NW-SE linear ditch - continuation of 1127.	Ditch	1253
1137	Fill	1136	Light grey brown sandy clay likely formed by water action.	Fill	1253
1138	Cut	-	A NW-SE linear recut of ditch 1136 to clear out silt.	Ditch	N/A
1139	Fill	1138	Dark grey brown sandy clay with animal bone and Roman pot. Represents final silting up of ditch after it goes out of use.	Secondary fill	N/A
1140	Cut	-	A NE-SW aligned linear ditch. Appears to have been part of a system of flood relief/prevention channelling water to the E corner of site.	Ditch	N/A
1141	Fill	1140	Mid brown orange sandy clay formed by water eroding ditch sides.	Fill	N/A
1142	Cut	-	Tree throw adjacent to 1140 on W side. Tree seems to have been removed after 1140 was dug and both features are filled with same material.	Tree throw	N/A
1143	Fill	1142	Same material as 1141. deposited by water action.	Primary fill	N/A
1144	Fill	1140, 1142	Upper fill of 1140 and 1142. A dark grey clay silt with Roman pottery and charcoal. Represents final silting up of ditch after it goes out of use.	Secondary fill	N/A
1145	Cut	-	A NW-SE linear gully cut by 1147.	Gully	1257
1146	Fill	1145	Mid brown grey silty sand with Roman pottery formed through silting.	Secondary fill	1257
1147	Cut	-	A NE-SW linear ditch cutting 1145. Similarity of fill of these features suggest they are contemporary.	Ditch	1255
1148	Fill	1147	Mid grey brown silty sand.	Secondary fill	1255
1149	Cut	-	A NW-SE aligned gully used for drainage.	Gully	1257
1150	Fill	1149	Light greenish grey silty sand formed via silting up of feature.	Secondary fill	1257
1151	Cut	-	One of several termini recutting one another. This is the earliest phase of an entrance to an enclosure/field system. Recut by 1153/1155 and corresponds to 1089 to form entrance.	Ditch	1253
1152	Fill	1151	Mid brown grey silty clay with red mottling. Roman pottery was recovered. Formed by a combination of water borne silting and slumping from ditch sides.	Primary fill	1253
1153	Cut	-	Recut of 1151. Cut by 1155.	Ditch	N/A
1154	Fill	1153	mid grey clay silt with charcoal flecks formed by gradual silting up over time.	Primary fill	N/A
1155	Cut	-	Final recut of enclosure/field system entrance. Cuts 1155.	Ditch	N/A



Context	Type	Fill of	Description	Interpretation	P/O Group
1156	Fill	1155	Light grey clay silt with box flue tile, pot animal bone and fe object. Possibly contemporary with abandonment/demolition of nearby building.	Secondary fill	N/A
1157	Fill	1151, 1153, 1155	dark blueish grey silty clay with CBM, possibly created by ploughing/trample. Likely deposited significantly after abandonment.	tertiary deposit	N/A
1158	Cut	-	A NW-SE aligned linear feature - possibly the remains of a hollow way. Runs parallel to ridge and furrow and possibly associated.	hollow way	N/A
1159	Fill	1158	Light yellow brown sandy silt with pot and CBM.	Secondary fill	N/A
1160	Cut	-	Small pit/large posthole adjacent to ditch terminus 1151 (relationship lost).	Pit	N/A
1161	Fill	1160	Dark red clay - possible packing for a post.	deliberate backfill	N/A
1162	Fill	1160	Dark blueish grey silty clay. Possible post pipe.	tertiary deposit	N/A
1163	Cut	-	A NW-SE aligned linear ditch. Probably used as a boundary/drainage ditch.	Ditch	N/A
1164	Fill	1163	Reddish brown silty clay containing Roman pottery and animal bone. Probable result of collapse of ditch sides.	Primary fill	N/A
1165	Fill	1163	Yellow brown silty clay with bone and Roman pottery. Probably result of waterborne silting.	Secondary fill	N/A
1166	Cut	-	A NW-SE aligned linear cut/recut in/of 1163.	Gully	N/A
1167	Fill	1166	Grey brown clay silt with Roman pottery, result of silting up after ditch goes out of use.	Fill	N/A
1168	Cut	-	A NW-SE aligned linear ditch, possibly a Roman enclosure.	Cut	1256
1169	Fill	1168	Mid brownish red silty clay.	Primary fill	1256
1170	Fill	1168	Mid yellow brown sandy silt with pottery sherds. Probable silting up over time.	Secondary fill	1256
1171	Cut	-	A NW-SE aligned linear feature.	Cut	1256
1172	Fill	1171	A mid brown grey sandy silt with infrequent pottery and some teeth.	Secondary fill	1256
1173	Cut	-	A SE-NW aligned linear gully cut by 1175.	Gully	1257
1174	Fill	1173	Mid reddish brown silty sand with pottery. Formed by silting.	Secondary fill	1257
1175	Cut	-	A curvilinear ditch with an uneven base due to rooting. Cuts gully 1173 and is cut by furrow.	Ditch	1256
1176	Fill	1175	Dark grey silty sand/clay with large amount of charcoal, formed by gradual silting up and rubbish dumping.	Secondary fill	N/A
1177	Cut	-	Shrub bowl, small and circular. Cuts 1173.	Natural Feature	1257
1178	Fill	1177	Dark grey silty sand.	Secondary fill	1257
1179	Fill	1175	Dark brown red silty sand.	Primary fill	N/A
1180	Cut	-	SW-N aligned curvilinear drainage gully. Roman.	Gully	1257
1181	Cut	-	NW-SE curvilinear Roman boundary ditch, recut by 1182, same as 1184.	Boundary Ditch	1256
1182	Cut	-	NW-SE aligned Roman drainage gully. Same as 1168.	Ditch	1256
1183	Cut	-	SW-NE curvilinear Roman drainage gully.	Ditch	1257
1184	Cut	-	NW-SE aligned Roman curvilinear enclosure/boundary ditch. Same as 1181.	Ditch	1256
1185	Cut	-	NW-SE linear Roman ditch, possibly used for drainage.	Ditch	1256
1186	Fill	1181	Mid brown grey sandy silt with Roman pottery sherds.	Fill	1256
1187	Fill	1181	Mid brown red silty clay.	Primary fill	1256
1188	Fill	1182	Mid yellow grey clay silt with Roman pottery.	Fill	1256
1189	Fill	1181	Mid brown grey sandy silt.	Fill	1256



Context	Type	Fill of	Description	Interpretation	P/O Group
1190	Fill	1180	Mid brown grey sandy silt with Roman pottery.	Secondary fill	1257
1191	Fill	1180	Mid orange red silty clay.	Fill	1257
1192	Fill	1183	Mid brown grey sandy silt with Roman pottery.	Secondary fill	1257
1193	Fill	1183	Mid orange brown silty clay same as 1191.	Primary fill	1257
1194	Fill	1184	Mid brown grey sandy silt with Roman pottery, same as 1186.	Fill	1256
1195	Fill	1184	Mid brownish red silty clay, same as 1187.	Fill	1256
1196	Fill	1185	Mid grey brown sandy silt.	Fill	1256
1197	Fill	1168	Mid yellow brown sandy silt with pottery and teeth remains.	Fill	1256
1198	Cut	-	NE-SW aligned gully. Cut by 1200.	Gully	1255
1199	Fill	1198	Dark grey brown silty clay with Roman pottery.	Secondary fill	1255
1200	Cut	-	A SE-NW aligned linear ditch cutting 1198.	Ditch	1254
1201	Fill	1200	Dark grey brown silty clay with Roman pottery.	Secondary fill	1254
1202	Fill	1200	MISSING	Fill	N/A
1203	Cut	-	NE-SW aligned linear ditch.	Ditch	1255
1204	Fill	1203	Mid red brown silty clay.	Primary fill	1255
1205	Fill	1203	Dark grey silty sand with pottery remains, likely formed via silting up over time.	Secondary fill	1255
1206	Cut	-	NE-SW aligned linear ditch cut by 1208. Same as 1203.	Ditch	1255
1207	Fill	1206	Mid brown grey silty sand with charcoal and pottery remains. Formed by silting up of ditch over time.	Secondary fill	1255
1208	Cut	-	A NW-SE aligned linear gully terminus cutting 1206.	Gully	N/A
1209	Fill	1208	Mid reddish grey silty clay features mainly at the terminus section (not throughout) and likely formed by water action.	Primary fill	N/A
1210	Fill	1208	Mid grey silty sand with pottery and charcoal.	Secondary fill	N/A
1211	Cut	-	A NW-SE aligned linear cut for the SW of building, wall 1212. Heavily robbed out.	Construction cut	1251
1212	Structure	-	One course of a red sandstone wall sitting on natural.	Wall	1251
1213	Fill	1211	A black clay silt accumulated as wall 1212 is robbed out over time.	tertiary deposit	1251
1214	Fill	1215	Grey brown silty clay with stone and charcoal inclusions.	Secondary fill	1254
1215	Cut	-	One of two NW-SE aligned gullies (with 1217) - originally thought to be one larger ditch. Cannot discern relationship.	Gully	1254
1216	Fill	1217	Dark grey brown silty clay with Roman pottery.	Secondary fill	1254
1217	Cut	-	A NW-SE aligned gully. See 1215.	Gully	1254
1218	Cut	-	The terminus of a NW-SE aligned linear gully which cuts in to 1208.	Gully	N/A
1219	Fill	1218	Mid brown grey silty clay, probably created by silting up over time.	Secondary fill	N/A
1220	Cut	-	A NW-SE aligned gully associated with 1221 but relationship is unknown.	Gully	1254
1221	Cut	-	A NW-SE aligned gully associated with 1220 but relationship is unknown.	Gully	1254
1222	Fill	1220, 1221	Mid reddish brown fill of 1220 and 1221.	Primary fill	1254
1223	Fill	1220, 1221	Dark grey silty sand with charcoal and pottery, fills 1220 and 1221.	Secondary fill	1254
1224	Cut	-	Linear ditch.	Ditch	N/A
1225	Cut	-	NO INFO	Cut	N/A
1226	Fill	1224	NO INFO	Fill	N/A
1227	Fill	1229	Mid brown grey sandy silt with pottery remains.	Secondary fill	N/A
1228	Fill	1225	Mid brown grey sandy clay with pottery remains.	Fill	N/A



Context	Type	Fill of	Description	Interpretation	P/O Group
1229	Cut	-	Large NE-SW aligned linear ditch recut by 1231 and possibly cuts 1233.	Ditch	N/A
1230	Fill	1229	Dark grey silty sand with pottery and charcoal remains.	Secondary fill	N/A
1231	Cut	-	NE-SW ditch recut of 1229, likely to be contemporary with 1233.	Ditch	N/A
1232	Fill	1231	Dark reddish grey silty clay with charcoal.	Fill	N/A
1233	Cut	-	NW-SE aligned ditch appears contemporary with 1229.	Ditch	N/A
1234	Fill	1233	Mid reddish grey silty clay.	Primary fill	N/A
1235	Fill	1233	Dark grey silty sand with Roman potter and CBM, animal bone and charcoal.	Secondary fill	N/A
1236	void	-	void		N/A
1237	Cut	-	A W-E linear boundary ditch.	Boundary Ditch	N/A
1238	Fill	1237	Reddish grey clay with animal bone remains.	Primary fill	N/A
1239	Fill	1237	Grey brown silty clay with tile/CBM and Roman pottery. Probably result of silting up over time.	Secondary fill	N/A
1240	Cut	-	Construction cut for well 1241. Circular in shape.	Construction cut	N/A
1241	Structure	1240	A 10 course drystone red sandstone well. Similar construction materials to nearby Roman buildings.	Well	N/A
1242	Fill	1240	Dark grey silt, forms lowest fill of well 1241. Roman pottery fragments uncovered.	Primary fill	N/A
1243	Fill	1240	Mid grey silt main fill of well 1241, with Roman pottery sherds and sandstone blocks uncovered.	Secondary fill	N/A
1244	Fill	1240	Light grey brown silty clay with Roman pot. Deposited considerably later than other fills, possibly by ploughing.	tertiary deposit	N/A
1245	Cut	-	An E-W aligned cut created by collapse of E side of well 1241 and slipping of the side of the construction cut 1240. NOT REALLY A CUT!	Cut	N/A
1246	Fill	1245	Mid brown red clay with CBM and pottery sherds.	Primary fill	N/A
1247	Cut	-	A NW-SE aligned linear drainage ditch, possibly used for drainage.	Ditch	N/A
1248	Fill	1247	Mid grey silt probably created by silting up of feature after it fell into disuse.	Secondary fill	N/A
1249	Fill	1250	Grey brown silty clay with Roman pottery remains. Likely created by silting up over time.	Secondary fill	N/A
1250	Cut	-	W-E aligned linear boundary ditch.	Boundary Ditch	N/A
1251	Group	-	building	building	Own group
1252	Group	-	ditch NW of 1251	field system component	Own group
1253	Group	-	enclosure ditch	field system component	Own group
1254	Group	-	NW-SE field boundary	field system component	Own group
1255	Group	-	NE-SW field boundary	field system component	Own group
1256	Group	-	NE-SW field boundary	field system component	Own group
1257	Group	-	NW-SE field boundary	field system component	Own group



Appendix 2: Environmental data

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (L)	Flot size	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Notes for Table	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Analysis
Pit												
1035	1036	1.4	2	40	2	A*	A*	Hulled wheat grains, some with germination, spikelet fork and glume base frags inc. spelt	A	<i>Avena/Bromus, Vicia/Lathyrus</i>	5/10 ml	P
Well												
1240	1242	1.6	16	15	10	C	C	Hulled wheat grain frags, glume base frags	-	-	0/1 ml	
	1242	1.6 W	1	5	10	C	C	Glume base frag	-	-	0/<1 ml	
Construction Trench												
1047	1048	1.3	11	15	5	B	A	Hulled wheat grains, glume base frags	A	<i>Avena/Bromus, Rumex, Chenopodium, Tripleurospermum</i>	0/<1 ml	P
1079	1081	1.5	9	1175	1	C	-	Indet. grain frags	-	-	800/200 ml	
Ditches												
1062	1069	1.1	35	150	2	A*	A	Hulled wheat grains, some with germination, spikelet fork and glume base frags inc. spelt	A	<i>Avena/Bromus, Corylus avellana</i> shell frag	15/15 ml	P



Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (L)	Flot size	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Notes for Table	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Analysis
	1070	1.2	31	100	5	C	A	Hulled wheat grains, spikelet fork and glume base frags	B	<i>Avena/Bromus, Corylus avellana</i> shell frag	10/10 ml	P
1151	1152	1.7	8	15	30	C	C	Indet. grain frag, glume base frag	-	-	0/<1 ml	
1155	1156	1.8	10	15	30	-	-		C	<i>Avena/Bromus</i> , stem/root frags ? heather type	0/1 ml	
1229	1230	1.9	18	15	10	C	B	Hulled wheat grains, spikelet fork and glume base frags	B	<i>Avena/Bromus, Rumex</i>	1/3 ml	
1231	1232	1.10	15	30	35	-	-		-	-	<1/2 ml	



Appendix 3: OASIS form

OASIS ID: wessexar1-194890

Project details

Project name	Land at Damson Parkway, Solihull. Archaeological Strip, Map and Excavation. Post-excavation Assessment
Short description of the project	Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to carry out a programme of archaeological investigations on an area of agricultural land to the east of the Damson Parkway, Solihull, centered on NGR 416840, 282120, in advance of the construction of a new dispatch area serving the existing Jaguar Land Rover plant. The archaeological investigations took the form of a 2.2ha strip, map and excavation, as well as a watching brief on additional areas within the proposed development. Fieldwork took place between 21st October and 10th December 2014. The investigations revealed the heavily robbed remains of a rectangular stone-built Roman building with an associated stone-lined well, both set within a co-axial field system defined by ditched boundaries. The pottery assemblage indicates a Roman date for all of the remains, and is dominated by local wares, with some regional and Continental imports. The position of the building within a field system and the presence of animal bone and cereal waste within feature fills indicates that it functioned as a farmstead. The environmental remains are characteristic of general settlement waste and activities, and suggest the farmstead was set within grassland, field margin, and arable environments. The value of the Site lies largely in its ability to provide detail on the local settlement pattern during the Roman period. This is amplified by the scarcity of similar (known) sites nearby. A limited number of recommendations are made for further analysis, leading to the publication of the Site and deposition of the site archive at an appropriate local museum.
Project dates	Start: 01-09-2014 End: 01-01-2015
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	106551 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Monument type	BUILDING Roman
Monument type	WELL Roman
Monument type	FIELD SYSTEM Roman
Monument type	RIDGE AND FURROW Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POT Roman
Significant Finds	IMBREX Roman
Significant Finds	TEGULA Roman
Significant Finds	FLUE TILE Roman
Investigation type	"Full excavation", "Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
---------	---------



Site location	WEST MIDLANDS SOLIHULL SOLIHULL Land at Damson Parkway
Postcode	B91 2PP
Study area	2.20 Hectares
Site coordinates	SP 416840 282120 51.9504057542 -1.39341790501 51 57 01 N 001 23 36 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Wessex Archaeology
Project director/manager	Chris Swales
Project supervisor	Sam Fairhead
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Contents	"Animal Bones", "Ceramics"
Digital Media available	"Database", "GIS", "Spreadsheets"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Drawing", "Photograph", "Plan", "Section"

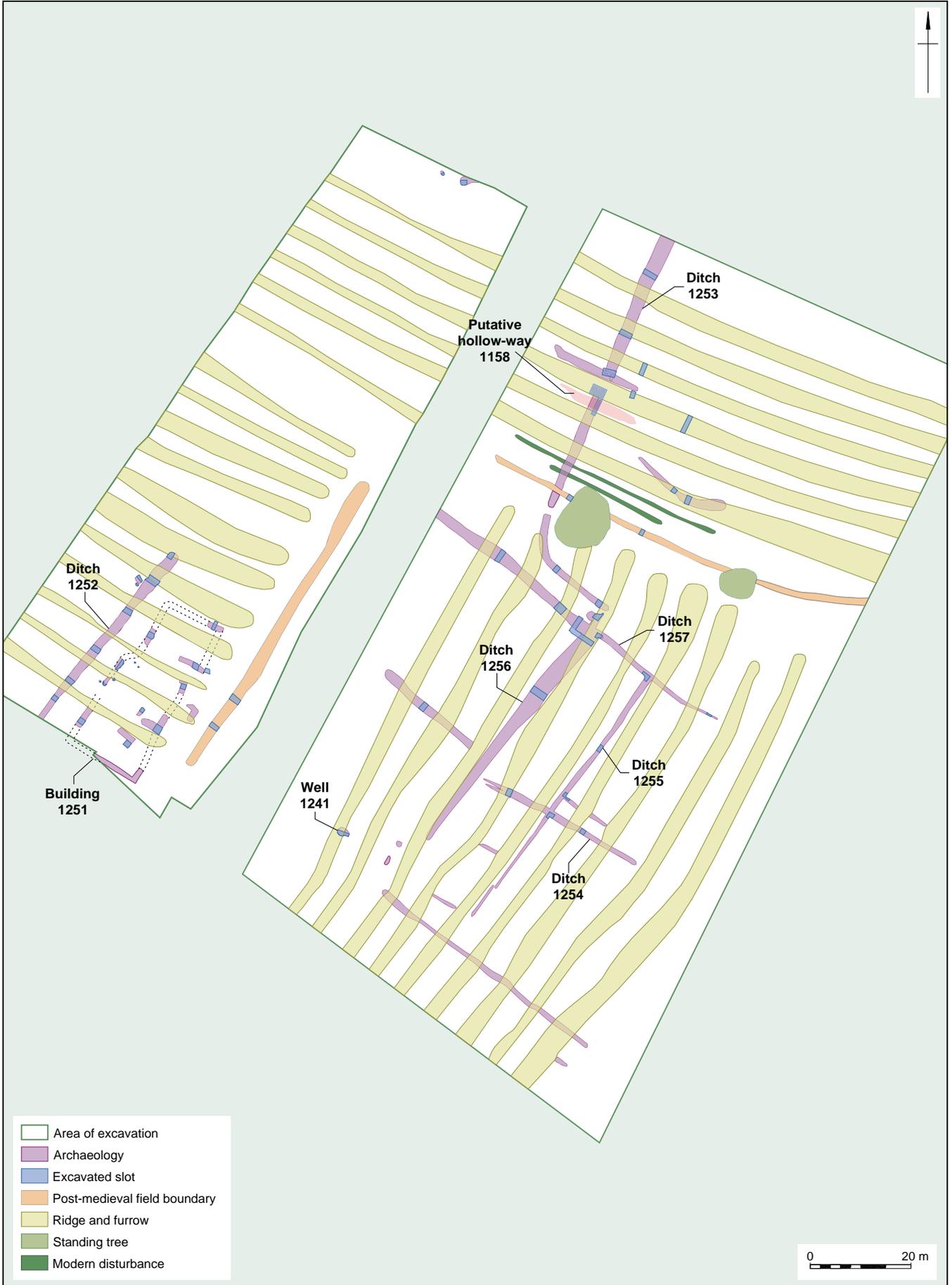
Entered by	Chris Swales (c.swales@wessexarch.co.uk)
Entered on	12 May 2015



	 Excavation Area			
	<small>Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown Copyright and database right 2015. This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.</small>			
	Date:	11/05/2015	Revision Number:	0
	Scale:	Main graphic - 1:5000 @ A4	Illustrator:	APS
Path:		Y:\Projects\106652\Graphics Office\Rep figs\Assess\2015_05_11		

Site location

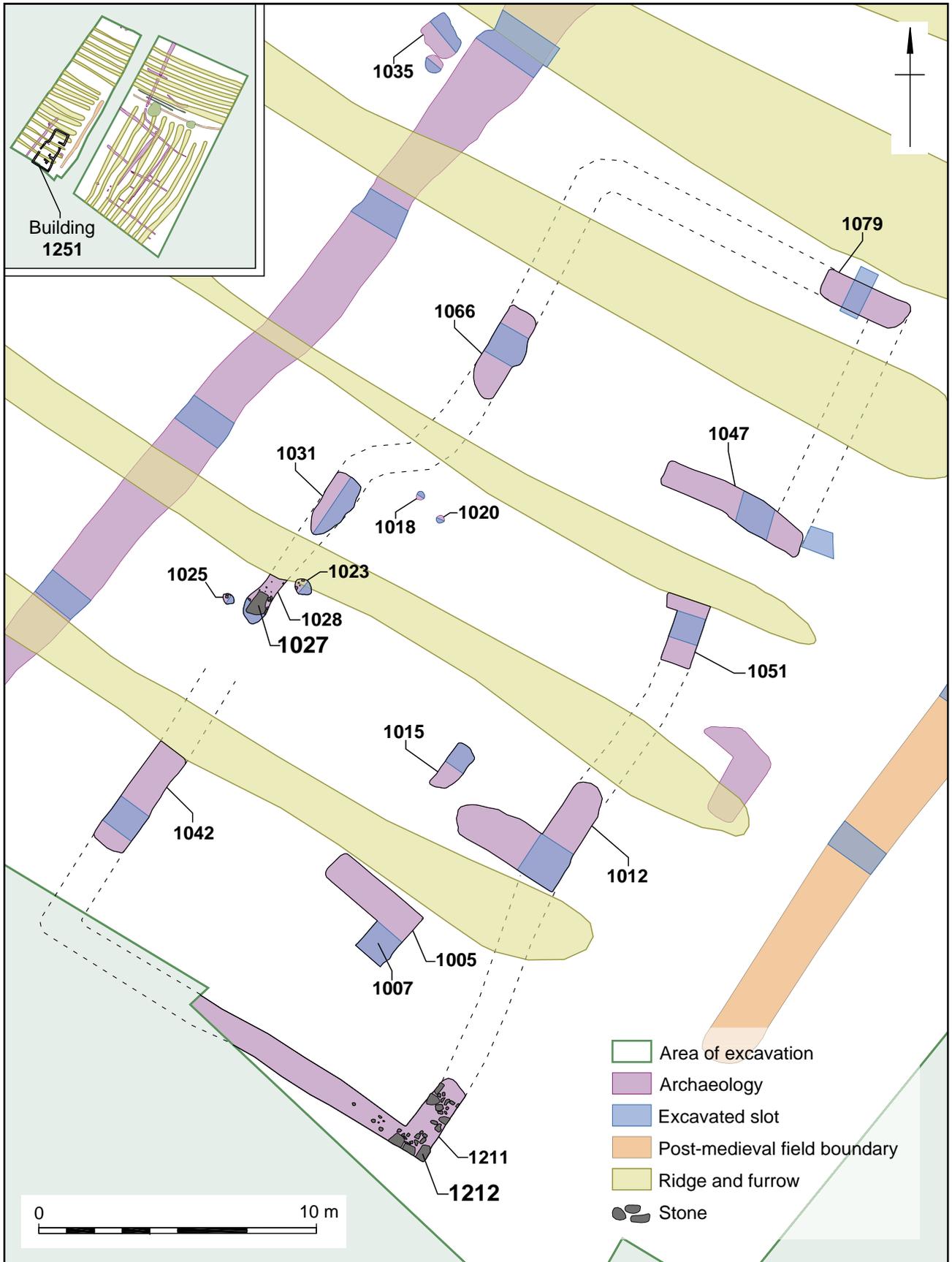
Figure 1



This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.

Date:	12/05/2015	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	1: 750 @ A3	Illustrator:	APS
Path:	Y:\Projects\106652\Graphics Office\Rep figs\Assess\2015_05_11		

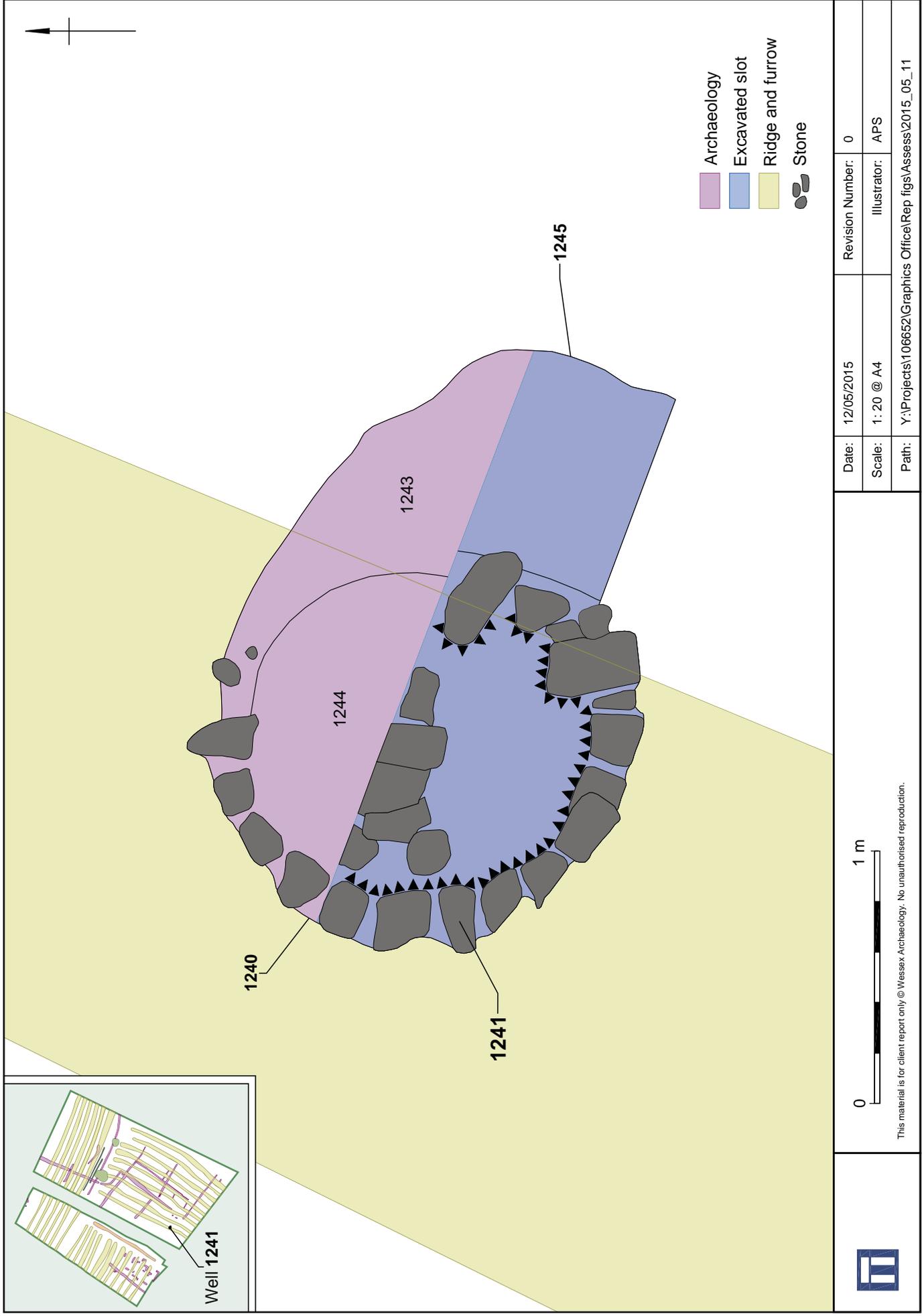




	This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.			
	Date:	12/05/2015	Revision Number:	0
	Scale:	1: 200 @ A4	Illustrator:	APS
	Path:	Y:\Projects\106652\Graphics Office\Rep figs\Assess\2015_05_11		

Plan of Building 1251

Figure 3



Plan of Well 1241

Figure 4



Plate 1: Wall 1212, camera facing north-east



Plate 2: Well 1241, camera facing west

	This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.		
	Date:	11/05/2015	Revision Number: 0
	Scale:	N/A	Illustrator: APS
	Path:	Y:\Projects\106652\Graphics Office\Rep figs\Assess\2015_05_11	



Plate 3: Well **1241**, south-facing section



Plate 4: Boundary **1252** (cut **1061**), north-east facing section

	This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.			
	Date:	11/05/2015	Revision Number:	0
	Scale:	N/A	Illustrator:	APS
	Path:	Y:\Projects\106652\Graphics Office\Rep figs\Assess\2015_05_11		



Plate 5: Boundary 1254 (cuts 1215 and 1217), south-east facing section

	This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.			
	Date:	11/05/2015	Revision Number:	0
	Scale:	N/A	Illustrator:	APS
	Path:	Y:\Projects\106652\Graphics Office\Rep figs\Assess\2015_05_11		