

# Land at Vanguard Way, Shrewsbury. August 2015 V 1.0





Archaeological Watching Brief Project Code: A0052.1 Report no. 0065



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Report no. 0065 v1.0 Archaeological Watching Brief

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> Project Code: A0052.1 Date: 12/08/2015 Client: Suma Developments Ltd Written by: Richard Cooke BA MA MCIfA richard.cooke@aeonarchaeology.co.uk



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#### **1.0 NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY**

Aeon Archaeology was commissioned by Suma Developments Ltd to carry out an archaeological watching brief during the groundworks associated with the construction of a new retail unit on land off Battlefield Way and Vanguard Way, Shrewsbury, Shropshire as a condition of full planning permission.

The results of the archaeological watching brief at Vangaurd Way, Shrewsbury are considered to be somewhat disappointing, with no archaeological remains or artefacts related to the Battle of Shrewsbury having been uncovered. This does not however prove that the latter stages of the battle were not fought over this area, but more that the archaeological remains, which are likely to have been scarce to begin with, have most probably been removed during the stripping of topsoil at the site some two years ago.

Structural remains related to the pitched battle were doubtful and were likely to be limited to minor stake-holes related to temporary camps, although archaeological features related to temporary occupation such as waste deposits, pits and hearths were a possibility. As such the artefactual evidence was paramount in helping to gain more information in relation to this historic battle, however such artefacts would have almost certainly lain within the removed topsoil horizon and as such none were recovered during the archaeological watching brief.

The only archaeological feature uncovered during the works was of a linear ditch running northnortheast to south-southwest across the development area. This ditch had been deliberately in-filled once it had gone out of use and appears to denote a field boundary depicted on the Ordnance Survey map of 1889. This boundary may be of earlier origin although no cartographic evidence exists prior to this time and no artefacts were recovered from the ditch to accurately date the feature.

#### **2.0 INTRODUCTION**

Aeon Archaeology was commissioned by Suma Developments Ltd to carry out an archaeological watching brief during the groundworks associated with the construction of a new retail unit on land off Battlefield Way and Vanguard Way, Shrewsbury, Shropshire as a condition of full planning permission (14/04636/FUL).

The archaeological work was undertaken as part of mitigatory works during the groundworks associated with the construction of the new development on an un-developed area of potentially levelled ground, immediately to the northeast of the junction of Battlefield Way and Vanguard Way (centred on NGR SJ 39824 18891) (figure 1).

A mitigation brief was not prepared for this work by the Shropshire Archaeological Planning Service, but the following statement was made a condition of full planning permission:

No development approved by this permission shall commence until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI). This written scheme shall be approved in writing by the Planning Authority prior to the commencement of works.

The reason for this condition is:

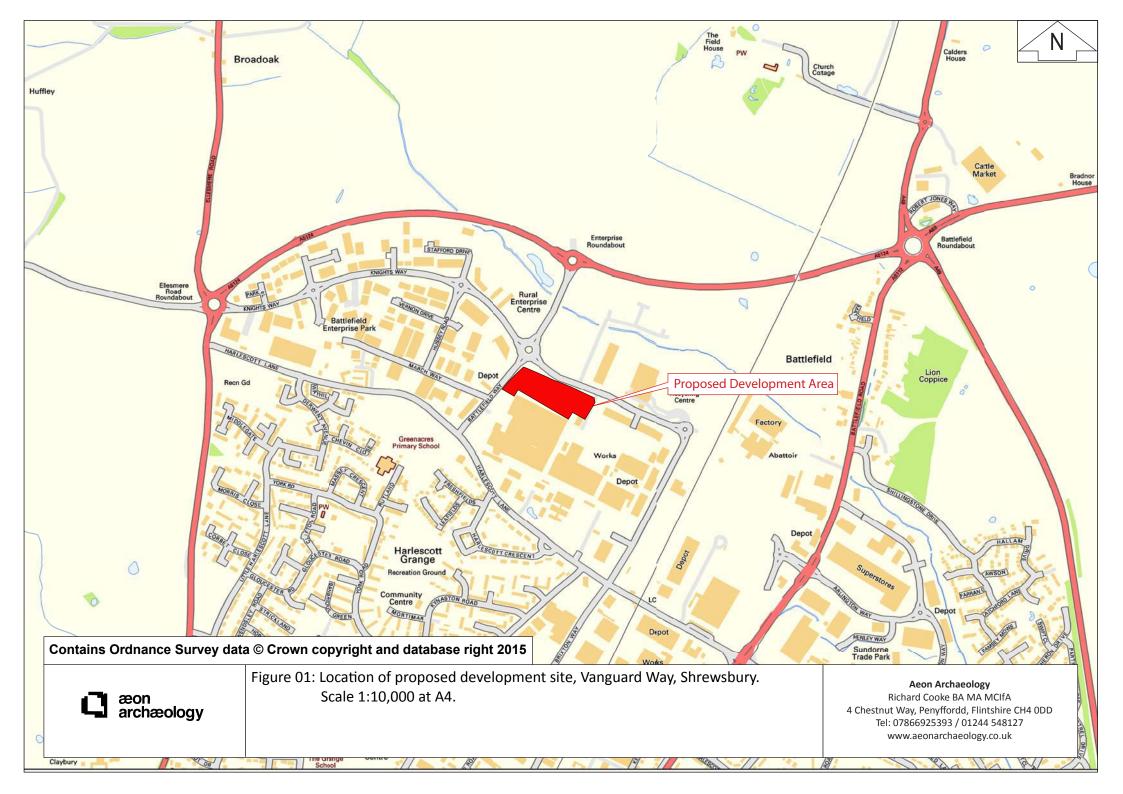
#### The site is known to hold archaeological interest.

The northern boundary of the proposed development site is located approximately c.400m southwest of the designated area of Shrewsbury Battlefield (NHLE ref. 1000033), which has been included on Historic England's Register of Historic Battlefields. The proposed development therefore was considered to have some potential to affect both the setting of the battlefield and a number of other associated designated and non-designated heritage assets in the area. The latter include the church and site of the college of St Mary Magdalene, which is designated as a Scheduled Monument (NHLE ref. 1003717) and the church building itself as a Grade II\* Listed Building (NHLE ref. 1246192), and the cluster of Listed Buildings at Albright Hussey, the most significant of which is the hall itself (Listed Grade II\* - NHLE ref. 1295586).

Whilst not located within the designated area of the battlefield, some recent commentators have suggested that the land to the south of the Battlefield Link Road may have been fought across during the latter stages of the Battle of Shrewsbury. There is, therefore, some potential for the proposed development site to contain archaeological evidence associated with this event.

It was agreed with the Shropshire Archaeological Planning Service that the watching brief would be carried out on an **intensive** basis during the excavation of the two attenuation tanks, borrowing pit, and foundation trenches/pads that were of sufficient depth to intrude into potential areas of buried archaeology (figure 2).

The work undertaken adhered to the guidelines specified in Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014).





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Figure 02: Location of proposed development site, Vanguard Way, Shrewsbury. Excavations monitored by archaeological watching brief shown in blue; excavations not monitored shown in green. Scale 1:1,500 at A4.

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#### **3.0 PROJECT AIMS**

The aim of the watching brief works was to characterise the known, or potential, archaeological remains uncovered during groundworks associated with the construction of the new retail development at the site.

The broad aims of the archaeological watching brief were to:

- To determine, as far as is reasonably possible, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains on the site, the integrity of which may be threatened by development at the site.
- To establish the nature and extent of existing disturbance and intrusion to sub-surface deposits and, where the data allows, assess the degree of archaeological survival of buried deposits of archaeological significance.
- To allow the Shropshire Archaeological Planning Service to make an informed decision on the need for and scope of any further archaeological works that may be required on future projects within proximity to the scheme.

The detailed objectives of the archaeological watching brief were to:

- Insofar as possible within methodological constraints, to explain any temporal, spatial or functional relationships between the structures/remains identified, and any relationships between these and the archaeological and historic elements of the wider landscape.
- Where the data allows, identify the research implications of the site with reference to the regional research agenda and recent work in Shropshire.

An Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was written by Aeon Archaeology and submitted to Suma Developments Ltd and the Shropshire Archaeological Planning Service in January 2015. This formed the basis of a method statement submitted for the work. The detailed archaeological record and watching brief were executed in accordance with this WSI.

The management of this project has followed the procedures laid out in the standard professional guidance *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage, 1991), *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment Project Manager's Guide* (English Heritage 2006), and in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Archaeological Evaluation* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014). Five stages are specified:

Phase 1: project planning Phase 2: fieldwork Phase 3: assessment of potential for analysis and revised project design Phase 4: analysis and report preparation Phase 5: dissemination

The current document reports on the phase 4 analysis and states the means to be used to disseminate the results. The purpose of this phase is to carry out the analysis identified in phase 3 (the assessment of potential phase), to amalgamate the results of the specialist studies, if required, with the detailed site narrative and provide both specific and overall interpretations. The site is to be set in its landscape context so that its full character and importance can be understood. All the information is to be presented in a report that will be held by the Shropshire Historic Environment Record (HER) so that it

can be accessible to the public and future researchers. This phase of work also includes archiving the material and documentary records from the project.

#### 4.0 METHODOLOGY – ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

#### 4.1 Watching Brief

The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) defines an archaeological watching brief as:

'A formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed.' (CIFA 2014)

The Shropshire Archaeological Planning Service requested (pers. comm) that an **intensive** watching brief be maintained during the groundworks associated with the construction of the new retail development at the site. This level of watching brief entailed that an appropriately qualified archaeologist was present during all associated ground disturbance.

All soil removal was undertaken using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. A photographic record was maintained throughout, using a digital SLR camera (Canon 550D) set to maximum resolution and any subsurface remains were to be recorded photographically, with detailed notations and measured drawings being undertaken if required.

In the event of archaeological discovery features were to be excavated by hand and fully recorded using Aeon Archaeology pro-formas, digital photographs, and plan and section drawings taken at a suitable scale (usually 1:20 for plan drawings and 1:10 for section drawings).

The archive produced is held at Aeon Archaeology under the project code A0052.1.

#### 4.2 Data Collection from Site Records

A database of the site photographs was produced to enable active long-term curation of the photographs and easy searching. The site records were checked and cross-referenced and photographs were cross-referenced to contexts. These records were used to write the site narrative and the field drawings and survey data were used to produce an outline plan of the site.

All paper field records were scanned to provide a backup digital copy. The photographs were organised and precisely cross-referenced to the digital photographic record so that the Shropshire Historic Environment Record (HER) can curate them in their active digital storage facility.

#### 4.3 Artefact Methodology

All artefacts were to be collected and processed including those found within spoil tips. They would be bagged and labelled as well any preliminary identification taking place on site. After processing, all artefacts would be cleaned and examined in-house at Aeon Archaeology. If required artefacts would be sent to a relevant specialist for conservation and analysis.

The recovery policy for archaeological finds was kept under review throughout the archaeological watching brief. Any changes in recovery priorities would be made under guidance from an appropriate specialist and agreed with the Client and the Shropshire Archaeological Planning Service.

There was a presumption against the disposal of archaeological finds regardless of their apparent age or condition.

#### 4.4 Environmental Samples Methodology

The sampling strategy and requirement for bulk soil samples was related to the perceived character, interpretational importance and chronological significance of the strata under investigation. This ensured that only significant features would be sampled. The aim of the sampling strategy was to recover carbonised macroscopic plant remains, small artefacts particularly knapping debris and evidence for metalworking.

Advice and guidance regarding environmental samples and their suitability for radiocarbon dating, as well as the analysis of macrofossils (charcoal and wood), pollen, animal bones and molluscs would be obtained from Oxford Archaeology if required.

#### 4.5 Report and dissemination

A full archive including plans, photographs, written material and any other material resulting from the project was prepared. All plans, photographs and descriptions were labelled, and cross-referenced, and will be lodged within a suitable repository to be agreed with the archaeological curator within six months of the completion of the project.

A draft copy of the report has been sent to the client and upon written approval from them paper and digital copies of the report will be sent to the regional HER, the Shropshire Archaeological Planning Service, and will be logged with the online OASIS database. Copies of all notes, plans, and photographs arising from the watching brief will be stored at Aeon Archaeology under the project code **A0052.1** with the originals being lodged in a suitable repository to be agreed with the archaeological curator.

#### 5.0 Site Location and Topography

The proposed development area is located on the north eastern edge of Shrewsbury, approximately 5.0km northeast of town centre. The proposed development area lies within the modern parish of Shrewsbury & Atcham, Shropshire (NGR SJ 50670 16395), historically within the parishes of Shrewsbury, Astley and Pimhill.

The area is an undeveloped area of potentially levelled ground immediately to the north east of the junction of Battlefield Way and Vanguard Way. Battlefield Way forms the westernmost boundary and Vanguard Way the northernmost; the access road to the STADCO site forms the easternmost boundary and the STADCO site itself forms the southernmost boundary.

The proposed development area lies beyond the northernmost edge of the Severn floodplain at approximately 70m OD and is largely level.

The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain indicates that the underlying geology is likely to consist of Glaciofluvial Deposits, Devensian - Sands & Gravel overlaying Wilmslow Sandstone Formation.

#### 6.0 Historical Background

The placename Shrewsbury is derived from *Scrobbesbyrig*, which is derived from the Old English, *Sciropesberie* meaning 'fortified place of the scrubland region'. In the Domesday Book it was entered as *Sciropesberie* (Mills 1998).

Shrewsbury is said to have been founded in the 5th Century after the abandonment of Uriconium, modern day Wroxeter, a Romano-British settlement to the south east of the current town (Wilson) and the settlement became a Llys of the Princes of Powys. The settlement became part of the Saxon kingdom of Mercia under King Offa in AD 778, later Alfred established a mint in the town and his daughter Elfleda founded the college.

After the Norman Conquest the town was gifted by William I to Roger de Montgomery who built the castle and took the title Earl of Shrewsbury. Roger founded the Abbey of Saint Peter and Saint Paul, a Benedictine Monastery in 1083. Robert, the son of Roger lost the castle for standing against Henry I in 1102. In 1116 a group of nobles met at the castle to swear allegiance to William, the young son of Empress Maud. During the 13th century the castle was taken twice by Welsh armies and it was not until Edward I established it as his residence and strengthened its walls in 1277 that it became secure.

Shrewsbury became a vibrant and successful town from the medieval period onwards due to its location, which allowed control of the wool trade with goods imported from Wales and exported via the river Severn and Watling Street. During the 16th and 17th centuries a number of Shrewsbury's grandest buildings were built, including Ireland's Mansion (1575) and Draper's Hall (1658). Shrewsbury retained its importance during the early 19th century when Watling Street was extensively upgraded by Thomas Telford to carry the mail from London to Holyhead and on to Ireland; Shrewsbury became an important stop on the route with a number of coaching inns.

During the English Civil War the town was a Royalist Stronghold and held for the King until its betrayal in 1645 when a traitor opened St Mary's Water Gate allowing in the Parliamentarian forces. The gate to the south west of the castle is also known as Traitors Gate.

#### Battle of Shrewsbury 1403

In 1403, during an uprising against Henry IV a battle was fought at Battlefield, north of the town. The origins of the battle lay in Henry's seizure of the throne from Richard II in 1399; Henry relied heavily on the assistance of the Percy Family, the Earls of Northumberland. By 1403 the relationship between the King Henry and Henry Percy had broken down as a result of quarrels and intrigue and Percy demanded the payment of all outstanding debts, a total of some £20,000, money the King simply did not have.

Along with his son, Sir Henry 'Hotspur' Percy, who held office in Wales, the senior Percy altered allegiance from King Henry to support the Earl of March as the true king. The Percys claimed to have been misled by Henry during their initial support in 1399 and accused the King of having staved Richard to death in Pontefract Castle.

The Percys formed an alliance with Owain Glyndwr and Edward Mortimer, the uncle to the Earl of March, brother-in-law to Hotspur and son-in-law to Glyndwr. With a force, gathered largely in Cheshire, Hotspur headed towards Shrewsbury to join forces with the rebellion. At the time the town was garrisoned for the King by his eldest son, Harry (later Henry V); this small garrison was unlikely to stand an attack from the larger rebellion so the King headed north-west with the intention to

intercept Hotspur before his force reached Shrewsbury. The King won the race and reached Shrewsbury on July 20th.

Hotspur now became isolated to the north of Shrewsbury in the village of Berwick where the army spent the night of the 20th/21st with the river Severn and the Kings army between him and perceived reinforcements from Wales. In fact Glyndwr had no idea of the Percys plans and was in Carmarthenshire at the time of the battle. On the morning of the 21st Hotspur left Berwick and headed away from the river towards Harlescott. The battle had become inevitable.

The battle opened with an archery barrage using Longbows, the first time these weapons were used by English archers on their countrymen, during which the Percys' Cheshire bowman triumphed. Thomas Walsingham described how the Kings men "fell like leaves in the autumn". Under the barrage, the King's right, under the Earl of Stafford, gave and fled the field; the Earl himself was slain. The King's son, Harry was struck in the face by an arrow, but survived. The King's left held and apparently in some desperation Hotspur charged, possibly in an attempt to kill Henry. The King's standard was overthrown and its bearer, Sir Walter Blount, slain. Hotspur himself was slain in the charge, but his death was not immediately recognised by the two forces and the battle continued. The Northumbrian Knights later hailed the death of King Henry and acclaimed 'Henry Percy King'. King Henry retaliated shouting 'Henry Percy is dead'. The lack of a response confirmed this and the battle drew to a close. In fact many of the participants did not know who had won, but King Henry, despite suffering greater losses had won and retained his throne by the narrowest of margins.

In the immediate aftermath of the battle the surviving rebel leaders were hung, drawn and quartered in Shrewsbury. Hotspur was initially buried in Whitchurch by his nephew. Rumours that he had survived the battle led King Henry to order the body be disinterred. The body was then salted and set up in Shrewsbury, impaled on a spear between two millstones. The body was later quartered and sent to Chester, London, Bristol and Newcastle upon Tyne, his head was then taken to York and impaled on the North Gate, facing his ancestral lands. The remains were eventually returned to his widow and buried in York Minister in November. The power of the Percy family had been shattered.

King Henry ordered and paid for the memorial chapel to be built on the grave site in Battlefield, payers and masses were said continually, perhaps in realisation of how close he had been to defeat. The Chapel was replaced by a church in 1460, which was again largely rebuilt in 1862, during which a grave pit was said to have been partially uncovered.

#### 7.0 QUANTIFICATION OF RESULTS

#### 7.1 The Documentary Archive

The following documentary records were created during the archaeological watching brief:

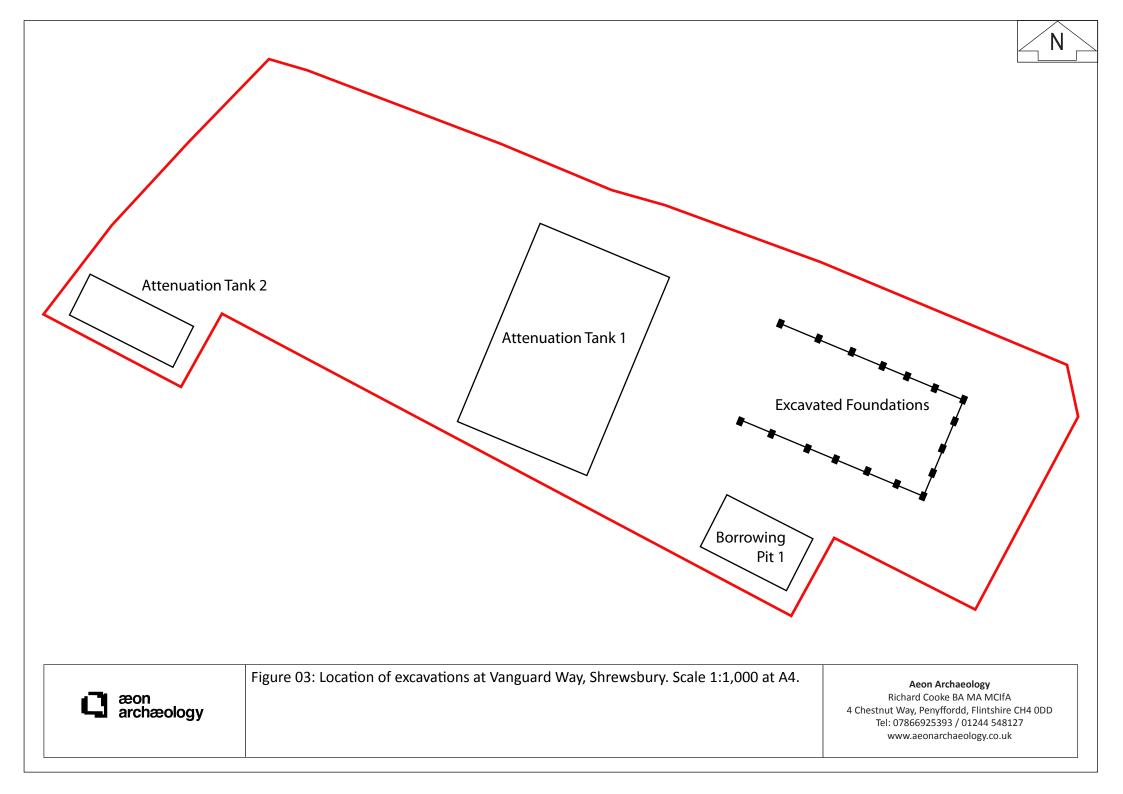
Watching brief day sheets	7
Context sheets	4
Digital photographs	26

#### 7.2 Environmental Samples

No environmental samples were taken as part of the watching brief as no suitable archaeological deposits were encountered.

#### 7.3 Artefacts

No artefacts were recovered during the archaeological watching brief.



#### 8.0 RESULTS OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

#### 8.1 Attenuation Tank 1 (figures 3 and 4; plates 1-3)

Attenuation tank 1 was located towards the centre of the site centred on SJ 50661 16397 and measured 57.0m by 37.0m orientated from north-northeast to south-southwest. The purpose of the attenuation tank was to install a large soak away to drain the site. The entire site had previously been stripped of the topsoil horizon approximately two years ago and as such the surface horizon was of a mid red-brown sand-clay subsoil. Using a mechanical excavator with toothless ditching bucket the attenuation tank was excavated in spits of approximately 0.25m through the 0.2m deep subsoil horizon and through a firm mid to light-brown sand-clay natural substrata to a depth of 1.5m.

No archaeology or artefacts were identified during the excavation of the attenuation tank but it was noted that at the southern end of the tank a large pit measuring approximately 20.0m by 10.0m and orientated northwest to southeast had been backfilled with modern demolition material including wood, plastic, iron and concrete. This cut and fill episode was almost certainly an area disturbed during the construction of the Stadco Site to the immediate south of the development.

#### 8.2 Borrowing Pit 1 (figures 3 and 4; plates 4 and 5)

Borrowing Pit 1 was located towards the southeast corner of the site centred on SJ 50717 16340 and measured 30.0m by 20.0m orientated east to west. The purpose of the pit was to extract subsoil to spread across the development area in order to achieve the correct height level for the construction of the retail unit. The pit cut through a 0.2m deep mid to light grey-brown silt-clay subsoil onto a mixed mid to light red-brown with orange and yellow mottling sand-clay natural substrata.

No archaeology or artefacts were identified during the excavation of the borrowing pit but it was noted that at the southern end of the tank a large pit measuring approximately 20.0m by 10.0m and orientated northwest to southeast had been backfilled with modern demolition material including wood, plastic, iron and concrete. This cut and fill episode was almost certainly an area disturbed during the construction of the Stadco Site to the immediate south of the development.

#### 8.3 Foundation trenches and pads (figures 3 to 9; plates 6 to 10)

The foundation trenches and pads were located towards the northeast of the site centred on SJ 50750 16362. These were excavated through the layer of redeposited material that had previously been extracted from borrowing pit 1 located further to the south. This deposit measured 0.29m in depth across the majority of the east-west aligned building but increased to 0.7m across the area of the north-south aligned building located further to the west (see figure 03).

The foundation trenches measured 0.6m in width by 0.36m in depth and in addition fifteen foundation pads averaging 1.5m in length by 1.3m in width were also excavated to a depth of 0.6m. As such the foundation excavations cut through approximately 0.29m of redeposited material, 0.1m of mid to light



Plate 01: Looking south across the site and area to be excavated for attenuation tank 1, from the north.



Plate 02: Attenuation tank 1, from the north. Scale 1.0m.



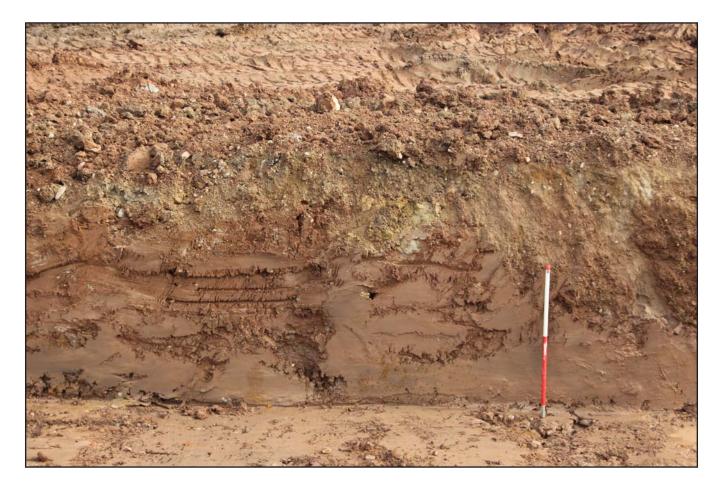


Plate 03: West facing section of attenuation tank 1, from the west. Scale 1.0m.





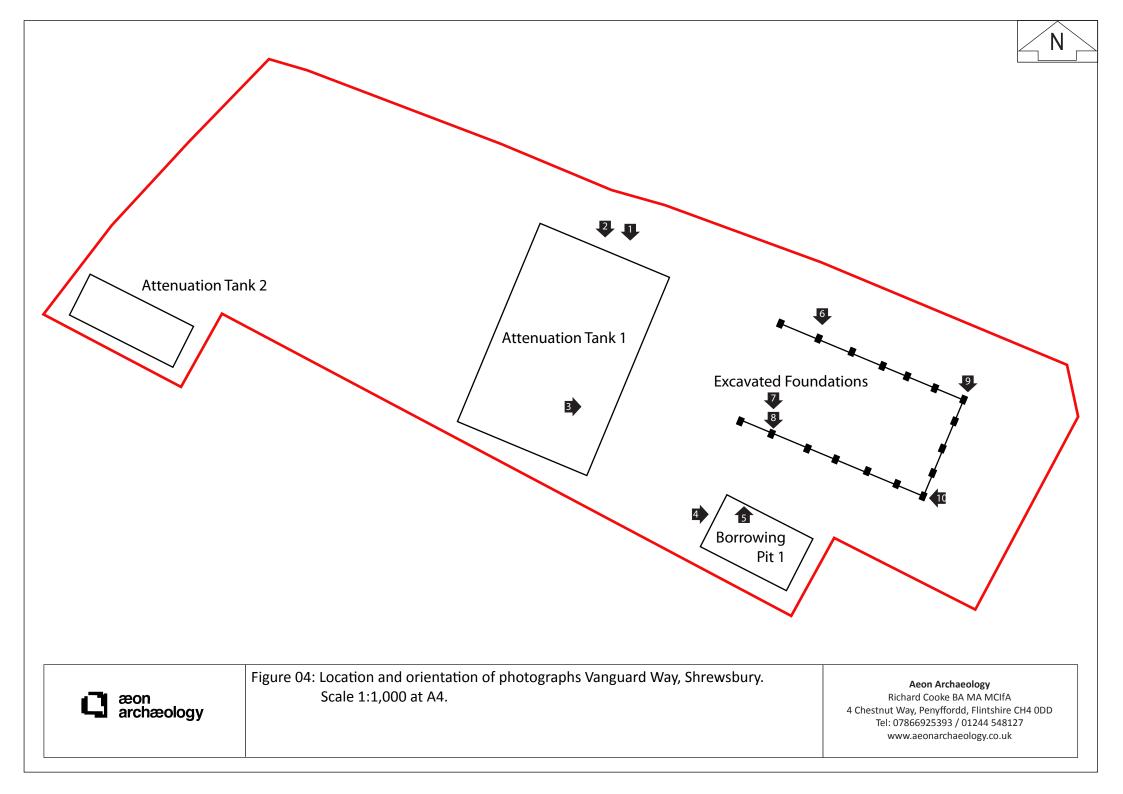
Plate 04: Borrowing Pit 1, from the west. Scale 1.0m.





Plate 05: South facing section of Borrowing Pit 1, from the south. Scale 0.5m.





grey-brown silt-clay subsoil (1004), and 0.21m of firm mid to light-brown sand-clay natural substrata (1003).

In foundation pad A9 the cut of a ditch [1001] was observed in the north facing section of the excavation. This feature had concaved sides and a flat/slightly concaved base and cut through the natural glacial substrata horizon (1003) measuring 0.9m in width by 0.39m in depth. It had a single fill of moderately soft mid/light grey-brown silt-clay with infrequent charcoal flecks (1002). This fill showed no signs of silting or iron-panning suggesting that it represented a single and deliberate back-filling episode once the ditch had gone out of use.

In foundation pad E9 ditch [1001] was again identified but this time in plan. The ditch was cleaned by hand and a sondage excavated across it and against the southern limit of excavation (figures 06 and 07). The feature exhibited the same characteristics as seen in pad A9 as a linear ditch orientated north-northeast to south-southwest and cut into the natural glacial substrata horizon (1003). In section the ditch also had concaved sides and a flat/slightly concaved base and had been deliberately backfilled with single fill (1002).

The ditch did not produce any artefacts however it is the same orientation and approximately in the same location as a field boundary ditch depicted on the first edition 25" County Series Ordnance Survey map of 1889 (drawn in 1881) (figure 08). There is some confusion of the location of the extents of the development area in relation to the historic Ordnance Survey mapping and the archaeological assessment report by ABRS places the area further west towards the junction of Battlefield Way and Vanguard Way. However, once the historic mapping is overlaid on to the modern map it is possible to align several field boundaries suggesting that the development area lies across the field boundary depicted on the Ordnance Survey first edition map as running south-southwest from Vanguard Way.

This area is not depicted on the historic tithe map and as such it can only be claimed that the field boundary ditch dates to at least 1881, however it is possible that the ditch is in fact medieval in origin.

#### 8.4 Attenuation Tank 2 (figures 2-3)

Attenuation tank 2 was located towards the south-western end of the site and measured 30.0m in length by 12.0m in width orientated northwest to southeast. This excavation was scheduled to be included with the areas monitored by archaeological watching brief however it was undertaken at a time when an archaeologist was not present; as such no data exists regarding these works.

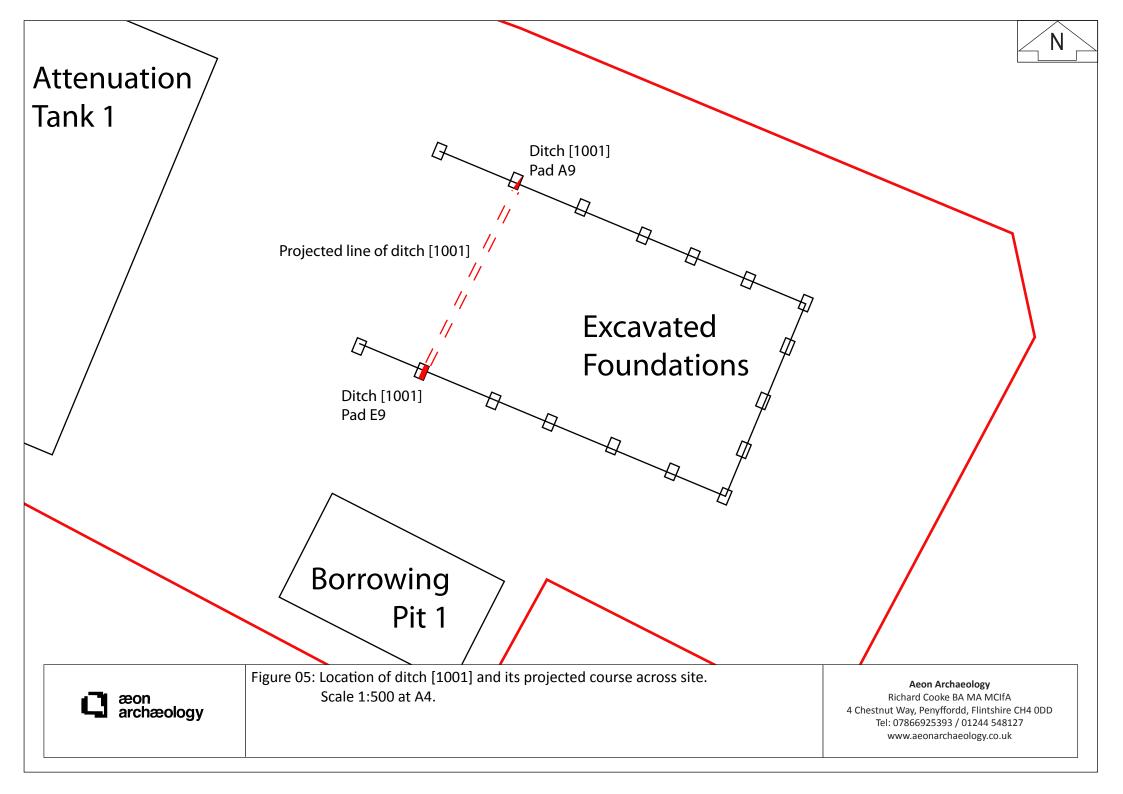




Plate 06: North facing section of foundation pad A9 showing ditch [1001], from the north. Scale 0.5m.





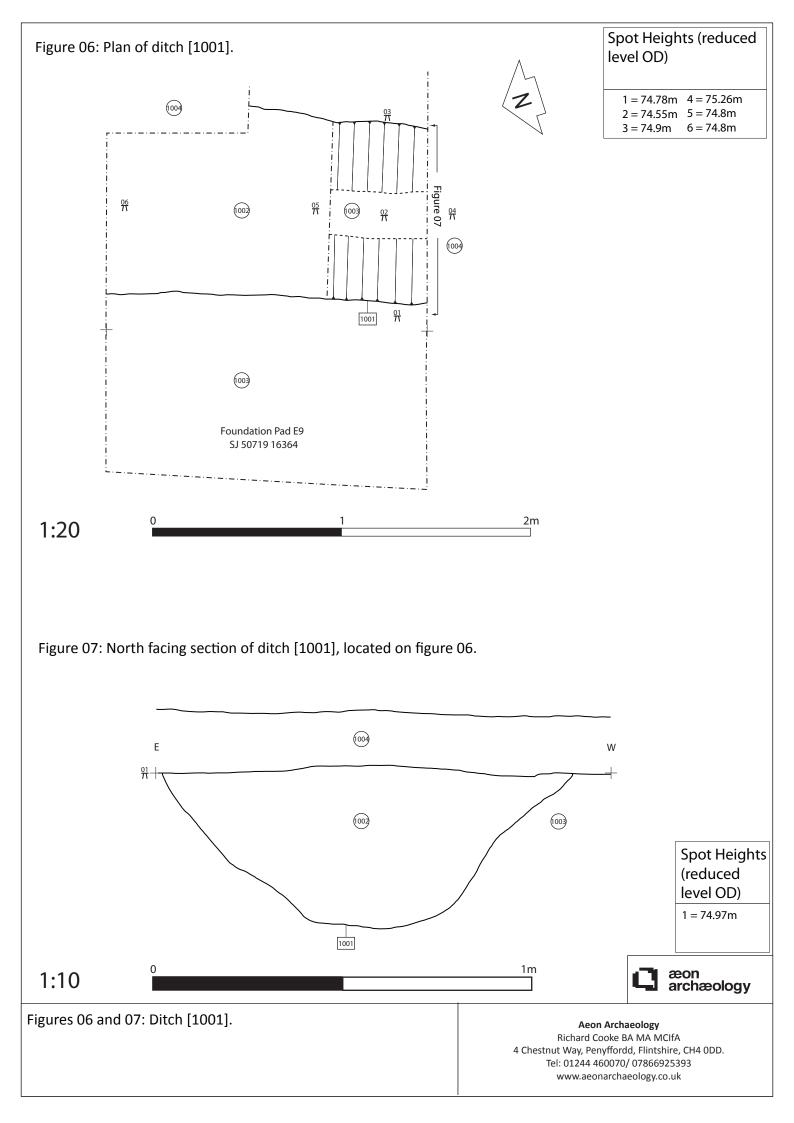
Plate 07: Pad E9 showing ditch [1001], from the north. Scale 0.5m.





Plate 08: North facing section of foundation pad E9 showing ditch [1001], from the north. Scale 0.5m.







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Plate 09: Foundation pad A13, from the north. Scale 0.5m.





Plate 10: Foundation pad E13, from the east. Scale 0.5m.



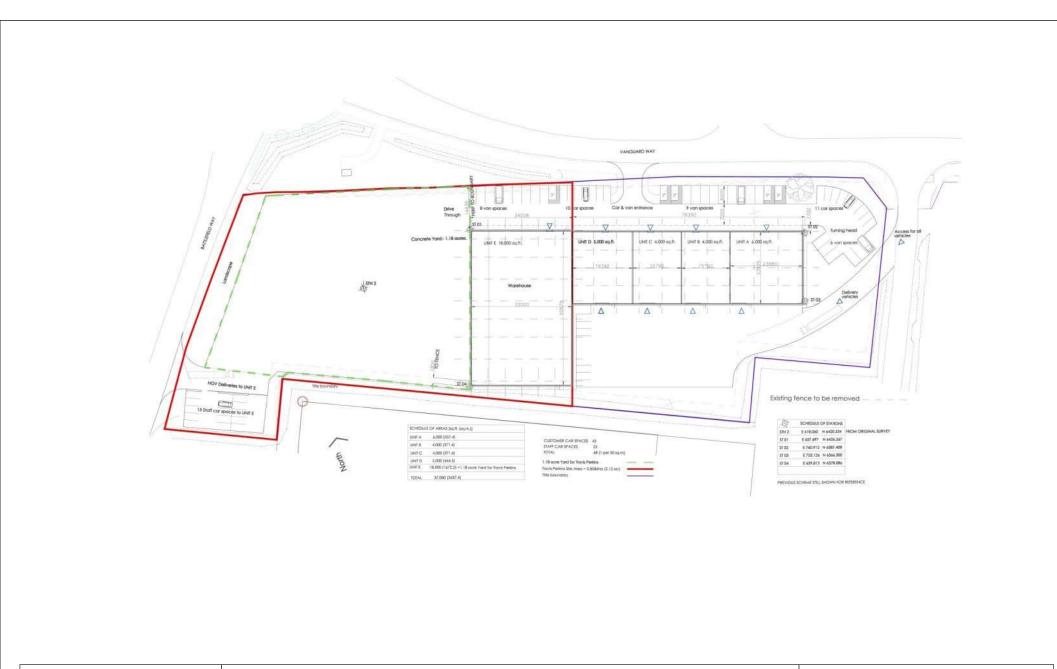


Figure 09: Proposed development at Vanguard Way, Shrewsbury.



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#### 9.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The results of the archaeological watching brief at Vangaurd Way, Shrewsbury are considered to be somewhat disappointing, with no archaeological remains or artefacts related to the Battle of Shrewsbury having been uncovered. This does not however prove that the latter stages of the battle were not fought over this area, but more that the archaeological remains, which are likely to have been scarce to begin with, have most probably been removed during the stripping of topsoil at the site some two years ago.

Structural remains related to the pitched battle were doubtful and were likely to be limited to minor stake-holes related to temporary camps, although archaeological features related to temporary occupation such as waste deposits, pits and hearths were a possibility. As such the artefactual evidence was paramount in helping to gain more information in relation to this historic battle, however such artefacts would have almost certainly lain within the removed topsoil horizon and as such none were recovered during the archaeological watching brief.

The only archaeological feature uncovered during the works was of a linear ditch running northnortheast to south-southwest across the development area. This ditch had been deliberately in-filled once it had gone out of use and appears to denote a field boundary depicted on the Ordnance Survey map of 1889. This boundary may be of earlier origin although no cartographic evidence exists prior to this time and no artefacts were recovered from the ditch to accurately date the feature.

Despite the lack of archaeological remains uncovered during the watching brief there still exists the potential for gaining information related to the Battle of Shrewsbury during any other development projects within the localised vicinity of the registered battlefield. It is therefore recommended that if any similar schemes are awarded planning permission that a similar condition related to the archaeological resource is implemented.

#### 10.0 SOURCES

#### Sources

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English Heritage, 2006. *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE)* 

English Heritage, 2011. The Settings of Heritage Assets

The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014 Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief

Context	Trench	Description	
1001	A9 and	Cut of post-medieval ditch. Linear in plan,	
	E9	concaved sides, flat/slightly concaved base, 0.9m	
		wide by 0.39m deep, orientated north-northeast to	
		south-southwest. Filled by (1002), cuts (1003).	
1002	A9 and	Single fill of ditch [1001]. Soft, mid/light grey-	
	E9	brown silt-clay with infrequent charcoal flecks.	
		Overlaid by (1004).	
1003	A9 and	Natural glacial substrata. Moderately firm, light	
	E9	yellow and mottled grey clay-sand with occasional	
		small sized sub-rounded pebbles. Cut by [1001].	
1004	A9 and	Redeposited subsoil. Soft, mid red-brown silt-clay	
	E9	with occasional small sized sub-rounded cobbles,	
		0.28m in depth. Overlies fill (1002).	

## **APPENDIX I – DETAILS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXTS**

# APPENDIX II – WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION



# WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION (WSI) FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF v1.0

#### AEON PROJECT CODE: A0052.1

SITE: Land off Battlefield Way and Vanguard Way, Shrewsbury, Shropshire

NATIONAL GRID REF: SJ 50670 16395

**DATE:** 15<sup>th</sup> December 2014

PREPARED FOR: Suma Developments Ltd



Aeon Archaeology is a Registered Organisation with the Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA)



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#### **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

Aeon Archaeology has been asked by Suma Developments Ltd to provide a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for carrying out an archaeological watching brief during the groundworks associated with the construction of a new retail unit on land off Battlefield Way and Vanguard Way, Shrewsbury, Shropshire (NGR: SJ 50670 16395).

It is requirement that the content of this WSI be approved by the Shropshire Archaeological Planning Service prior to the commencement of works.

The watching brief will be carried out on an **intensive** basis during the excavation of the foundation footings for the new development.

Reference will be made to the guidelines specified in Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 1994, rev. 2001 and 2008).

#### 2.0 BACKGROUND

A design specification has not been produced by the Shropshire Archaeological Planning Service, but the following statement has been recommended as a condition of full planning permission:

No development approved by this permission shall commence until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI). This written scheme shall be approved in writing by the Planning Authority prior to the commencement of works.

The reason for this condition is:

The site is known to hold archaeological interest.

The northern boundary of the proposed development site is located approximately c.400m south-west of the designated area of Shrewsbury Battlefield (NHLE ref. 1000033), which has been included on English Heritage's Register of Historic Battlefields. The proposed development therefore has some potential to affect both the setting of the battlefield and a number of other associated designated and non-designated heritage assets in the area. The latter include the church and site of the college of St Mary Magdalene, which is designated as a Scheduled Monument (NHLE ref. 1003717) and the church building itself as a Grade II\* Listed Building (NHLE ref. 1246192), and the cluster of Listed Buildings at Albright Hussey, the most significant of which is the hall itself (Listed Grade II\* - NHLE ref. 1295586).

Whilst not located within the designated area of the battlefield, some recent commentators have suggested that the land to the south of the Battlefield Link Road may have been fought across during the latter stages of the Battle of Shrewsbury. There is, therefore, some potential for the proposed development site to contain archaeological evidence associated with this event.

#### **3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AIMS**

The watching brief will consist of the following:

• Observation of groundworks associated with the construction.

- A drawn, written and photographic record of any archaeological features, including structures that may be revealed by the work.
- Preparation of a full archive report.

If archaeological remains are encountered during the watching brief it may be necessary to suspend development work in that area. The client should have a suitable contingency in place in case of such a scenario.

#### 4.0 PROGRAMME OF WORK

#### 4.1 Archaeological Watching Brief

The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) defines an archaeological watching brief as:

'A formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed.' (IfA 1994, rev. 2008)

The Shropshire archaeological planning officer has requested that an **intensive** watching brief be maintained during the excavation of the foundation trenches. This level of watching brief entails that an appropriately qualified archaeologist is present during all associated ground disturbance.

All soil removal will be undertaken using a mechanical excavator fitted with a <u>toothless ditching</u> <u>bucket</u>. A photographic record will be maintained throughout, using a digital SLR camera (Canon 550D) set to maximum resolution and any subsurface remains will be recorded photographically, with detailed notations and measured drawings being undertaken if required.

In the event of archaeological discovery features will be excavated by hand and will be fully recorded using Aeon Archaeology pro-formas, digital photographs, and plan and section drawings taken at a suitable scale (usually 1:20 for plan drawings and 1:10 for section drawings).

The archive produced will be held at Aeon Archaeology under the project code A0052.1.

#### 4.2 Archive

A full archive including plans, photographs, written material and any other material resulting from the project will be prepared. All plans, photographs and descriptions will be labelled and cross-referenced, and lodged in an appropriate place (to be decided in consultation with the regional Historic Environment Record) within six months of the completion of the project. The report will also be lodged with the online OASIS database.

#### 5.0 FURTHER ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORKS

The identification of significant archaeological features during the watching brief stage may necessitate further archaeological works. This will require the submission of new cost estimates to the contractor and may be subject to a separate WSI, to be agreed by the Shropshire Archaeology Planning and Advisory Service prior to implementation.

This WSI does not include a methodology or cost for examination of, conservation of, or archiving of finds discovered during the evaluation, nor of any radiocarbon dates required, nor of examination of

palaeoenvironmental samples associated with any peat deposits. The need for these will be identified in the post-fieldwork programme (if required), and a new WSI will be issued for approval by the Shropshire Archaeology Planning and Advisory Service Archaeologist.

#### **6.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES**

If necessary, relevant archaeological deposits will be sampled by taking bulk samples (a minimum of 10.0 litres and maximum of 30.0 litres) for flotation of charred plant remains. Bulk samples will be taken from waterlogged deposits for macroscopic plant remains. Other bulk samples, for example from middens, may be taken for small animal bones and small artefacts.

Bulk environmental samples will also be taken from any fills, deposits or structures which yield archaeological artefacts, charcoal flecks/ fragments, bone, or any other historic remains.

Advice and guidance regarding environmental samples and their suitability for radiocarbon dating, as well as the analysis of macrofossils (charcoal and wood), pollen, animal bones and molluscs will be obtained from Oxford Archaeology.

For guidance purposes the following volume criteria represent the minimum feature sampling requirements:

- 50% of each discrete feature (e.g. pits and postholes)
- 25% of the exposed areas of each liner feature and all terminals/intersections
- 50% of structural features (e.g. beamslots, ring-ditches)
- 50%-100% of domestic/industrial working features (e.g. hearths and ovens)

#### 7.0 HUMAN REMAINS

Any finds of human remains will be left *in-situ*, covered and protected, and both the coroner and the Shropshire Archaeology Planning and Advisory Service Archaeologist informed. If removal is necessary it will take place under appropriate regulations and with due regard for health and safety issues. In order to excavate human remains, a licence is required under Section 25 of the Burials Act 1857 for the removal of any body or remains of any body from any place of burial. This will be applied for should human remains need to be investigated or moved.

#### 8.0 SMALL FINDS

The vast majority of finds recovered from archaeological excavations comprise pottery fragments, bone, environmental and charcoal samples, and non-valuable metal items such as nails. Often many of these finds become unstable (i.e. they begin to disintegrate) when removed from the ground. All finds are the property of the landowner; however, it is recommended that all finds are donated to an appropriate museum where they can receive specialist treatment and study. Access to finds must be granted to Aeon Archaeology for a reasonable period to allow for analysis and for study and publication as necessary. All finds would be treated according to advice provided within *First Aid for Finds* (Rescue 1999). Aeon Archaeology staff will undertake initial identification, but any additional advice would be sought from a wide range of consultants.

The recovery policy for archaeological finds will be kept under review throughout the fieldwork phase. Any changes in recovery priorities will be under guidance from an appropriate specialist and agreed with the Shropshire Archaeology Planning and Advisory Service Archaeologist. There will be a presumption against the disposal of archaeological finds with the exception of unstratified items dating to the twentieth or twenty-first centuries AD which will be recorded by material, type, form, identification and weight, and discarded.

All finds will be collected and processed including those found within spoil tips. Their location will be recorded; finds numbers attributed, bagged and labelled as well any preliminary identification taking place on site. Where specialist advice is required provision will be made to do so at the earliest possible convenience.

After processing, artefacts which are suitable will be cleaned and conserved in-house. Artefacts requiring specialist cleaning and conservation will be sent to the relevant specialist. All finds will then be sent to a specialist for analysis, the results of which will then be assessed to ascertain the potential of the finds assemblage to meet the research aims of the project. The value of the finds will also be assessed in terms of the wider educational and academic contributions.

#### 9.0 UNEXPECTED DISCOVERIES: TREASURE TROVE

Treasure Trove law has been amended by the Treasure Act 1996. The following are Treasure under the Act:

- *Objects other than coins* any object other than a coin provided that it contains at least 10% gold or silver and is at least 300 years old when found.
- *Coins* all coins from the same find provided they are at least 300 years old when found (if the coins contain less than 10% gold or silver there must be at least 10. Any object or coin is part of the same find as another object or coin, if it is found in the same place as, or had previously been left together with, the other object. Finds may have become scattered since they were originally deposited in the ground. Single coin finds of gold or silver are not classed as treasure under the 1996 Treasure Act.
- *Associated objects* any object whatever it is made of, that is found in the same place as, or that had previously been together with, another object that is treasure.
- *Objects that would have been treasure trove* any object that would previously have been treasure trove, but does not fall within the specific categories given above. These objects have to be made substantially of gold or silver, they have to be buried with the intention of recovery and their owner or his heirs cannot be traced.

The following types of finds are not treasure:

- Objects whose owners can be traced.
- Unworked natural objects, including human and animal remains, even if they are found in association with treasure.
- Objects from the foreshore which are not wreck.

All finds of treasure must be reported to the coroner for the district within fourteen days of discovery or identification of the items. Items declared Treasure Trove become the property of the Crown.

The British Museum will decide whether they or any other museum may wish to acquire the object. If no museum wishes to acquire the object, then the Secretary of State will be able to disclaim it. When this happens, the coroner will notify the occupier and landowner that he intends to return the object to the finder after 28 days unless he receives no objection. If the coroner receives an objection, the find will be retained until the dispute has been settled.

#### **10.0 STAFF & TIMETABLE**

#### 10.1 Staff

The work will be managed and by Richard Cooke BA MA MCIfA, Archaeological Contractor and Consultant at Aeon Archaeology. An appropriately qualified archaeologist (Tbc) will undertake the watching brief.

#### **10.2 Timetable**

The evaluation work can currently be undertaken from late January 2015, although the client is encouraged to give as much notice as possible to Aeon Archaeology as project commitments are currently high.

#### **11.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY**

Aeon Archaeology has a Health and Safety Policy Statement which can be supplied upon request. Furthermore, site-specific Risk Assessments and Method Statements are compiled and distributed to every member of staff involved with the project prior to the commencement of works.

#### **12.0 INSURANCE**

Liability Insurance – Towergate Insurance Policy 000467

- Employers' Liability: Limit of Indemnity £10m in any one occurrence
- Public Liability: Limit of Indemnity £2m in any one occurrence
- Legal Defence Costs (Health and Safety at Work Act): £250,000

The current period expires 30/09/15

Professional Indemnity Insurance – Towergate Insurance Policy 2011025521290

• Limit of Indemnity £500,000 any one claim

The current period expires 30/09/15

#### **13.0 GENERAL**

All project staff will adhere to the Code of Conduct of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

The project will follow the requirements set down in the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* prepared by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

A Method Statement and Risk Assessment will be prepared prior to the commencement of fieldwork and circulated to all staff concerned.

Please note the following:

Acon Archaeology will not be held responsible for any delays to the work programme resulting from the discovery of archaeological sites or finds.

The cost quoted does not include examination of, conservation of or archiving of finds discovered during the archaeological programme, nor of any radiocarbon dates required, nor of examination of palaeoenvironmental samples.

#### **SPECIALISTS**

Specilaist advice required will be sought from the following list if required:

- Bone: Nora Bermingham
- Glass: Hilary Cool, Barbican Research Associates.
- Metal artefacts: Phil Parkes, Cardiff Conservation Services, Cardiff.
- Slag, burnt clay, hammerscale: Dr. Tim Young, Geoarch, Cardiff.
- Stone artefacts: Oxford Archaeology
- Wood artefacts: Jane Foley, Foley Conservation, Builth Wells.
- Leather: Quita Mould, Barbican Research Associates.
- Waterlogged environmental: Dr Mike Allen, Allen Environmental Archaeology.
- Environmental samples: Oxford Archaeology
- Numismatics: Peter Guest, Barbican Research Associates.
- Pottery (all periods): Oxford Archaeology
- Clay pipe: Oxford Archaeology

Depending upon the material of the remains the following experts will be consulted regarding the conservation of waterlogged material:

- Organic material: Mr Phil Parkes, Cardiff Conservation Services (tel: +44(0)29 2087 5628)
- Non-organic material: Mr Phil Parkes, Cardiff Conservation Services (tel: +44(0)29 2087 5628)

# **APPENDIX III – ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT**

Archaeological Building Recording Services



ABRS Report No 2014-VBBS

An Archaeological Heritage Assessment

Land off Battlefield Way & Vanguard Way,

**Battlefield Enterprise Park**,

**Shrewsbury** (NGR SJ 16395)

On Behalf of Suma évelopments Ltd

**July 2014** 

BRS Project No 2014-VBBS

thethere Archaeological Building Recording Services (ABRS)

40 Winfield Street Rugby Warwickshire CV21 3SJ

Tel 07423813638

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#### An Archaeological Heritage Assessment of Land off Battlefield Way and Vanguard Way, Battlefield Enterprise Park, Shrewsbury, Shropshire. (NGR SJ 50670 16395)

#### Summary

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Figure 920Eastern End of ProposedDevelopment Area

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Figure 13 22 View Towards Proposed Development Area from Battlefield 1403 Farm Shop (Approximate Location of Proposed Development Arrowed). Figure 15 23 View Towards Proposed Development Area from Battlefield Footpath (STADCO Site Arrowed)

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Figure 19 26 Site Plan Proposed (Supplied by Suma Developments Ltd, Not to Scale). Figure 21 Historic Environment Record 1km radiu Battlefield Way/Vanguar Way, Battlefield Enterprise hrewsbury, Park. NGR SJ Shropshire. 50670 16395

Foreground. 20 Figure 10 View Form Proposed Development Area Towards The Battlefield. Tower of St Mary's Arrowed. Figure 12 21 View Towards Proposed Development Area from Mary's Church St (Approximate Location nine of Proposed Development Arrowed). Figure 14 22 View Towards Proposed Development Area from Battlefield Footpath (Possible View of STADCO Site Arrowed Figure 16 View Towards Proposed Development Area from Battlefield Footpath Adjacent Albright Hussey (Approximate Location of Proposed Development Arrowed). Figure 18 25 English Heritage Map Showing Extent of Registered Battlefield. Proposed Development Area in Green. Figure 20 27 Proposed Site Elevations (Supplied by Suma Developments Ltd, Not to Scale).

#### An Archaeological Heritage Assessment of Land off Battlefield Way and Vanguard Way, Battlefield Enterprise Park, Shrewsbury, Shropshire. (NGR SJ 50670 16395)

## Gerwyn Richards

#### Summary

This document is an archaeological heritage assessment of land off Battlefield Way and Vanguard Way, Battlefield Enterprise Park, Shrewsbury, Shropshire (SJ 50670 16395), commissioned from Archaeological Building Recording Services (ABRS) by Suma Developments Ltd in advance of a proposed development involving the construction of commercial/retail unit.

The proposed development area is located within a sensitive heritage location, but the proposed development will not greatly affect the significance of the known heritage assets. This assessment has confirmed that the proposed development area is within 260m of the southernmost boundary of the Registered Battlefield. The accepted centre of the battle, St. Mary's Church (Grade II\* Listed & Scheduled Monument) is approximately 1km away. A walkover survey visiting the recently constructed rewing mound north of the A5124, St Mary's Church and Battlefield 1403 farm shop indicates that parts of the development may be visible from the battlefield at certain times of the year. These views are likely to recede as tree screening along the northern edge of Battlefield Enterprise Park mattres. The proposed development therefore has no significant impactupon the setting of the registered battlefield or the Church.

The proposed development and associated infrastructure will have a detrimental effect upon any potential eathfast archaeological remains within the proposed development area. This impact can be mitigated with a suitable programme of archaeological attendance, agreed by the Archaeology Service, Historic Environment Team, Shropshire County Council.

# 1. Introduction

In accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), this document is an archaeological heritage assessment for land off Battlefield Way and Vanguard Way, Battlefield Enterprise Park, Shrewsbury, Shropshire (NGR SJ 50670 16395).

This assessment has been commissioned from Archaeological Building Recording Services (ABRS) by Suma Developments Ltd in advance of a proposed commercial/retail development at the site.

The site is located immediately to the south east of the roundabout between Battlefield Way and Vanguard Way and is currently un-developed.

There are no known and designated heritage assets within the proposed development area. The Stadco site, to the south of the proposed development area, with a common boundary is recorded by the Shropshire Historic Environment Record (HER) as a heritage asset and the proposed development area is located approximately 260m south east of the southernmost boundary of the registered battlefield of Shrewsbury.

This heritage assessment addresses all the heritage concerns likely to be raised by the local planning authority.

## 2. Aims and Methods

The aim of the heritage assessment is to present information on the extent, character, date, integrity and state of preservation of heritage assets present and potentially affected by the proposed development, both standing built heritage and potential earthfast archaeological remains. The assessment will compare the proposals with identified heritage assets and state why these will not be detrimentally affected. For those heritage assets identified as being at risk from the proposed development, a suitable mitigation strategy will be suggested to minimise that risk. The assessment should, once the above information has been gathered, assist in providing an informed planning decision as to whether further stages of work are necessary.

All work follows the Institute for Archaeologist's (IfA) *Code of Conduct* and adheres to their *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Astessments* and follows English Heritage guidance document *The Setting of Heritage Assets* (2011, revised June 2012).

# 3. Methodology

All work has been carried out based upon plans supplied by the client or their agent.

The archaeological resource is by its nature an incomplete record. Where there are significant alluvial or colluvial deposits, made ground or lack of archaeological investigation, archaeological remains can remain undetected.

The following sources have been consulted to assess previous land use and archaeological potential:

- Archaeological records (Shropshire Historic Environment Record (HER)).
- Previous Ordnance Survey and other maps of the area (The Shropshire Archives).
- Geological Maps (online resources).
- Historical background material (ABRS Reference Library and Shropshire Archives).

A site visit was also undertaken in order to assess the current state of the proposed development area. The site visit involved a visit to the proposed development area, permissive paths within the battlefield itself, the Battlefield 1403 farm shop, The Church of St Mary Magdalene & Battlefield College and publically accessible parts of Albright Hussey Manor Hotel in order to carry out a visual assessment of the proposed development area from these locations.



# 4. Site Location, Geology & Topography

The proposed development area is located on the north eastern edge of Shrewsbury, approximately 5km north east of town centre (*Figure 1*). The proposed development area lies within the modern parish of Shrewsbury & Atcham, Shropshire (NGR SJ 50670 16395), historically within the parishes of Shrewsbury, Astley and Pimhill.

The proposed development area is an un-developed area of potentially levelled ground immediately to the north east of the junction of Battlefield Way and Vanguard Way (*Figure 2*). Battlefield Way forms the westernmost boundary and Vanguard Way the northernmost; the access road to the STADCO site forms the easternmost boundary and the STADCO site itself forms the southernmost boundary.

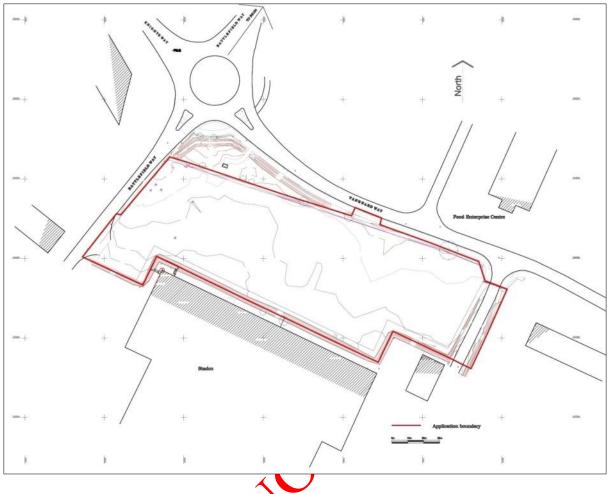


Figure 2 Proposed Development Area in Red. Provided by client (Not to Scale).

The proposed development area lies beyond the northernmost edge of the Severn floodplain at approximately 70m OD and is largely level.

The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain indicates that the underlying geology is likely to consist of Glaciofluvial Deposits, Devensian - Sands & Gravel overlaying Wilmslow Sandstone Formation.

# 5. Historical & Archaeological Background5.1 Historical Background

The placename Shrewsbury is derived from *Scrobbesbyrig*, which is derived from the Old English, *Sciropesberie* meaning 'fortified place of the scrubland region'. In the Domesday Book it was entered as *Sciropesberie* (Mills 1998).

Shrewsbury is said to have been founded in the 5th Century after the abandonment of Uriconium, modern day Wroxeter, a Romano-British settlement to the south east of the current town (Wilson) and the settlement became a Llys of the Princes of Powys. The settlement became part of the Saxon kingdom of Mercia under King Offa in AD 778, later Alfred established a mint in the town and his daughter Elfleda founded the college.

After the Norman Conquest the town was gifted by William I to Roger de Montgomery who built the castle and took the title Earl of Shrewsbury. Roger founded the Abbey of Saint Peter and Saint Paul, a Benedictine Monastery in 1083. Robert, the son of Roger lost the castle for standing against Henry I in 1102. In 1116 a group of nobles met at the castle to swear allegiance to William, the young son of Empress Maud. During the 13th century the castle was taken twice by Welsh armies and it was not until Edward I established it as his residence and strengthened its walls in 1277 that it became secure.

Shrewsbury became a vibrant and successful town from the medieval period onwards due to its location, which allowed control of the wool trade with goods imported from Wales and exported via the river Severn and Watling Street. During the 16th and 17th centuries a number of Shrewsbury's grandest buildings were built, including Ireland's Mansion (1575) and Draper's Hall (1658). Shrewsbury retained its importance during the early 19th century when Watling Street was extensively upgraded by Thomas Telford to carry the mail from London to Holyhead and on to Ireland; Shrewsbury became an important stop on the route with a number of coaching inns.

During the English Civil War the town was a Royalist Stronghold and held for the King until its betrayal in 1645 when a traitor opened St Mary's Water Gate allowing in the Parliamentarian forces. The gate to the south west of the castle is also known as Traitors Gate.

# Battle of Shrewsbury 1403

In 1403, during an uprising against Henry IV a battle was fought at Battlefield, north of the town. The origins of the battle lay in Henry's seizure of the throne from Richard II in 1399; Henry relied heavily on the assistance of the Percy Family, the Earls of Northumberland. By 1403 the relationship between the King Henry and Henry Percy had broken down as a result of quarrels and intrigue and Percy demanded the payment of all outstanding debts, a total of some £20,000, money the King simply did not have.

Along with his son, Sir Henry 'Hotspur' Percy, who held office in Wales, the senior Percy altered allegiance from King Henry to support the Earl of March as the true king. The Percys claimed to have been misled by Henry during their initial support in 1399 and accused the King of having staved Richard to death in Pontefract Castle.

The Percys formed an alliance with Owain Glyndwr and Edward Mortimer, the uncle to the Earl of March, brother-in-law to Hotspur and son-in-law to Glyndwr. With a force, gathered largely in Cheshire, Hotspur headed towards Shrewsbury to join forces with the rebellion. At the time the town was garrisoned for the King by his eldest son, Harry (later Henry V); this small garrison was unlikely to stand an attack from the larger rebellion so the King headed north-west with the intention to intercept Hotspur before his force reached Shrewsbury. The King won the race and reached Shrewsbury on July 20th.

Hotspur now became isolated to the north of Shrewsbury in the village of Berwick where the army spent the night of the 20th/21st with the river Severn and the Kings army between him and perceived reinforcements from Wales. In fact Glyndwr had no idea of the Percys plans and was in Carmarthenshire at the time of the battle. On the morning of the 21st Hotspur left Berwick and headed away from the river towards Harlescott. The battle had become inevitable.

The battle opened with an archery barrage using Longbows, the first time these weapons were used by English archers on their countrymen, during which the Percys' Cheshire bowman triumphed. Thomas Walsingham described how the Kings men "fell like leaves in the autumn". Under the barrage, the King's right, under the Earl of Stafford, gave and fled the field; the Earl himself was slain. The King's son, Harry was struck in the face by an arrow, but survived. The King's left held and apparently in some desperation Hotspur charged, possibly in an attempt to kill Henry. The King's standard was overthrown and its bearer, Sir Walter Blount, slain. Hotspur himself was slain in the charge, but his death was not immediately recognised by the two forces and the battle continued. The Northumbrian Knights later hailed the death of King Henry and acclaimed 'Henry Percy King'. King Henry retaliated shouting 'Henry Percy is dead'. The lack of a response confirmed this and the battle drew to a close. In fact many of the participants did not know who had won, but King Henry, despite suffering greater losses had won and retained his throne by the narrowest of margins.

In the immediate aftermath of the battle the surviving rebel leaders were bung, drawn and quartered in Shrewsbury. Hotspur was initially buried in Whitehurch by his nephew. Rumours that he had survived the battle led King Henry to order the body be disinterred. The body was then salted and set up in Shrewsbury, impaled on a spear between two millstones. The body was later quartered and sent to Chester, London, Bristol and Newcastle upon Tyne, his head was then taken to York and impaled on the North Gate, facing his ancestral lands. The remains were eventually returned to his widow and buried in York Minister in November. The power of the Percy family had been shartered.

King Henry ordered and paid for the memorial chapel to be built on the grave site in Battlefield, payers and masses were said continually, perhaps in realisation of how close he had been to defeat. The Chapel was replaced by a church in 1460, which was again largely rebuilt in 1862, during which a grave pit was said to have been partially uncovered.

# 5.2 Archaeological Background

A search of the Shropshire Historic Environment Record (HER) covering a radius of 1km centred on the proposed development area was carried out as part of this assessment on June 18th 2014 (Appendix (*Ergure 21*)).

# Prehistoric

As yet no finds or sites known to date from the Prehistoric period are recorded by the HER within the search area.

# Roman & Romano British

As yet no finds or sites known to date from the Roman and Romano British period are recorded by the HER within the search area.

# Anglo Saxon

As yet no finds or sites known to date from the Anglo Saxon period are recorded by the HER within the search area.

# Medieval

The town of Shrewsbury has a well known medieval and earlier origin; however the proposed development area remained largely undeveloped and rural in nature until the modern period. There are, however a number of sites of medieval date within the vicinity of the proposed development area.

To the south west is Harlescott Grange (HER Ref 00114), a moated site and formerly a Scheduled Monument (Monument Ref No 1019297, revoked 2000). Limited excavations in 1960 (Event ID No ESA4299) confirmed that the moat itself was stone lined and recovered sherds of 13th Century pottery. Documentary sources suggest a large timber framed house once occupied the site (Blakeway, J.B *History of the Habitations of Shrewsbury* pp267). The site had been largely infilled and destroyed by 1981 (Event ID No ESA4300).

Approximately 260m north and north east of the proposed development area is the southernmost extent of the site of the Battle of Shrewsbury, 1403 (HER Ref 01615, English Heritage Registered Battlefield). A brief description of the battle has already been included in this assessment, see above. As a registered battlefield archaeological investigation has, as expected, been limited. In 1994 an archaeological evaluation (Event ID No ESA2156) was carried out on the preferred route of Battlefield Link Road (A5124). Nothing of archaeological significance was recorded by the evaluation. A subsequent archaeological watching brief, preceded by a metal detector survey of the proposed route, was carried out in 1998 (Event ID No ESA5078) and also yielded nothing of archaeological significance. The metal detector survey recovered 320 items, the majority being iron nails, nuts, bolts and washers; corroded and unidentifiable lumps of iron made up the majority of the remainder of the finds. The only item of interest recovered was a late 17th or early 18th century lead or lead alloy trade or bowling green token. A second metal detector survey was carried out in advance of the construction of a new access road to Battlefield Farm (Event ID No ESA6179); this recovered only four modern metal objects and nothing of archaeological significance. The results of both othese investigations have led Shropshire HER to surmise that the battle itself was centred to the western edge of the registered battlefield.

A medieval buckler (HER Ref 03397) was found on the battlefield before 1880. The buckler is described by the HER as being formed of several layers of stout leather compacted by means of brass rivets and 13.5 inches in diameter.

To the south of Battlefield Church is an area of standing earthworks, interpreted as a moat and fishpends (HER Ref 02603). The moat is described as being in a poor condition and largely filled in, only the eastern arm is watered, the remaining arms show as shallow depressions and light scarps. An archaeological desk-based assessment carried out in advance of the proposed Battlefield Link Road in 1994 (Event ID No ESA2156) and subsequent archaeological evaluation report concluded that the road would not seriously affect the setting of the Battlefield Church.

Two areas of standing ridge and furrow earthworks, indicating the remnants of medieval and early post medieval ploughing are recorded by the HER. Approximately 450m west-north west of the proposed development area, adjacent to the Ellesmere Road (A528) ridge and furrow earthworks were seen on a 1983 aerial photograph (HER Ref 08507) and were identified during the archaeological desk-based assessment in advance of the construction of the Shrewsbury North West Relief Road (Event ID No ESA4836). More immediate to the

proposed development area is an area of ridge and furrow earthworks north of the A5124 (HER Ref 04471). As with the Ellesmere Road earthworks these too were recorded by the North West Relief Road assessment (Event ID No ESA4836). In 1998 a topographical survey was carried out in advance of the construction of the A5124 (Event ID No 5078). The survey showed a radial pattern of ridge and furrow converging on a group of ponds, possibly naturally or artificially created to collect water drained from the furrows.

#### Post Medieval & Modern

The remainder of the HER records record post medieval and modern features of archaeological significance. These include the site of the former Toll House at Harlescott (HER Ref 15406), west-south west of the proposed development area. An archaeological watching brief during the construction of the Battlefield Link Road (A5124) recorded limited remains possibly associated with the Toll House (Event ID No ESA5078). The location of a second Toll House is recorded to the south east of the proposed development area (HER Ref 15407) on Battlefield Road. To the south of the site of this Toll House is a late 18th or early 19th century metal milepost (HER Ref 21074), the milepost is inscribed "WHITCHURCH / 17 1/2 / SHREWSBURY / 2".

The location of two historic farmsteads identified by the Historic Farmsteads Characterisation Project 2008-2010 (Event ID No 6427) are also recorded by the HER within the vicinity of the proposed development area. To the south west is the location of Harlescott House (HER Ref 26994) identified on the Ordnance Survey map published in 1900. To the east-south east of the proposed development area is the recorded location of Godfrey Hall (HER Ref 26995) again identified on early edition Ordnance Survey by the Historic Farmsteads Characterisation Project.

Immediately to the south of the proposed development area is Chatwood Safes, an engineering works (HER Ref 06780) now known as STADCO, automotive engineers. Having bought the Harlescott Estate, Chatwood Safes moved their manufacturing base from Lancashire to Shrewsbury in the 1920s.

The alignment of the Crewe and Shrewsbury Branch of the London & North Western Railway (LNWR) is also recorded (HER Ref 05501). The line also forms the easternmost boundary of the registered battlefield, north east of the proposed development area. Adjacent to the railway line, to the south east of the proposed development area is the recorded location of a World War II pillbox (HER Ref 03399).

# Undated

As yet no undated finds or sites are recorded by the HER within the search area.

# 6. Standing Buildings

There is only 1 standing building of historical interest recorded by the HER within the search area (*Figure 21*). The Church of St Mary Magdalene & Battlefield College is Grade II\* listed.

The Church of St Mary Magdalene & Battlefield College (HER Ref 00981) is located towards the north easternmost part of the battlefield, approximately 1km north east of the proposed

development area; the church is Grade II\* listed (Listed Building No 1246192) and a Scheduled Monument (SM No 1103717). The church was built in the years following the battle to mark the site of the battlefield and serve as a memorial. The church was largely rebuilt and restored in 1862. The HER records the church thus:

Church. Early C15, restored 1862 by Pountney Smith. Coursed and squared limestone with plain tiled and Welsh slate roofs. West tower, nave with single south aisle, chancel.

EXTERIOR: 2-stage west tower with doorway and 2-light traceried window over in west wall, and paired foiled bell chamber lights in the upper stage. Stair turret projects from south wall. Embattled parapet with quatrefoil frieze and angle pinnacles. Nave of 3 bays divided by pilaster buttresses, with doorways to north and south. Windows mostly recut on restoration in late Decorated style, though one window to north has reticulated tracerv of an earlier pattern. Long chancel, with reticulated traceried windows to south, partially concealed by chapel added during restoration to north. Foundations of further range of building visible towards south east. Plain parapet to nave, openwork quatrefoil parapet to chancel. Gargoyles, some representing fighting figures. 5-light Perpendicular east window with statue of soldier King Henry IV in niche over.

INTERIOR: single space, single span with tall double chamfered tower arch and hammer beam roof with shields as kosses, pendants, and traceried panelling between braces and rafters. Timber screen with traceried panels and ogee central arch dividing the nave, inserted during restoration and marking a division of the building made during the CIV, when only the eastern end was in use. Encaustic tiled floor throughout, possibly by Maw's. Sedilia, squint and blocked doorway in south wall adjacent to altar, the squint formerly accessed from vanished southern range Reredos with high relief nativity, crucifixion and resurrection in traceried panels. Emblematic stained glass throughout, and figures of apostles to chancel, and Mary Magdalene in the east window. Corbet family mortuary chapel to north, with stained glass dated 1864, and fragments of C15 place originating in Normandy. Corbet tomb to north of chancel, 4 traceried panels forming vaulted sanctuary. Wood Pieta on north wall resited from the church at Albright Hussey.

HISTORICAL NOTE: the church was built as a chantry established by King Henry IF to commemorate the Battle of Shrewsbury fought nearby in 1403. After 1545, it became the parish church for the old parish of Albright Hussey, and is now maintained by the Redundant Churches Fund. Slight traces of collegiate building at E end of S wall of church, and traceable on the ground. Three? storey building with staircase in the SW corner King Henry IV, annno regni II, or Roger Ive clerk, erected and endowed a little College of a master and five secular chaplains in honour of St Mary Magdalene, together with a Hospital for several poor persons. Their yearly revenues were worth 56 pounds 1s 4d, 26 Henry VIII.

There are no further listed buildings nor un-listed buildings of interested recorded by the HER within the search area. Chatwood Safes, immediately to the south of the proposed development area is recorded by the HER, but the buildings themselves, based upon an external examination all appear to be modern in date.

## 6. Cartographic Sources

All maps reproduced with north to top of page, following Ordnance Survey standards unless indicated otherwise with appropriate north arrow and key.

During this assessment a number of late 18th and early 19th century maps of the area were examined at Shrewsbury Archives. The most relevant of which were the Albrighton Estate Map of 1789 (Ref No 1267/2) and Parish Tithe Maps of the mid 19th century (Ref No's 1781/4/1 & PF8/1). None of these maps covered the battlefield site or the proposed development area.



Figure 3 First Edition Ordnance Survey 1889. (Sheet No XXVIII.15).

The earliest readily available map showing the proposed development area is the First Edition Ordnance Survey 6inch to 1mile (*Figure 3*). The map was surveyed in 1881 and published in 1889. The lack of any significant landscape features, due to the scale causes some difficulty in accurately locating the proposed development area. There are, however two tracks, which are likely to be the precursors of Battlefield Way and Vanguard Way. The battlefield is clearly recorded to the north east of the proposed development area as is Harlescott Grange to the south west. The proposed development area itself is recorded as un-developed.

The battlefield is clearly marked to the north east of the proposed development area and is centred on St. Mary's Church. Kings Croft is also clearly marked to the south east of the church.

The map also records a number of ponds to the north east of the proposed development area. It appears that the mapping confirms the results of the earthwork survey carried out in 1998 (Event ID No 5078).

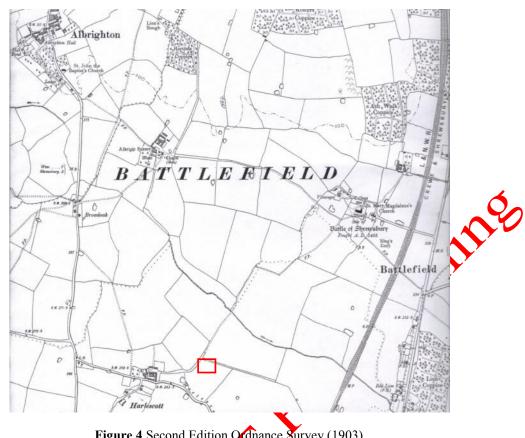


Figure 4 Second Edition Ordnance Survey (1903) (Sheet No XXVII.15).

The Second Edition Ordnance Survey (*Figure 4*) was surveyed in 1881 and revised in 1900 and published in 1903, it shows no significant alterations to the First Edition.

There was no Third Edition Ordnance Survey of the proposed development area.

There are a number of on lite versions post World War II maps which record the proposed development area in detail, these, however cannot be re-produced due to copyright constraints. The maps show the proposed development area identical to Figure 5. The Chatwood Safes buildings appear in the mid 1960s as did a series of linear buildings to the north west of the proposed development area. These buildings are identified on the 1962 1:1250 Ordnance Survey (SJ 501 SE) as Brick Hill Farm.

Later, post 2000 maps show the emergence and development of the current Battlefield Enterprise Park.

# 7. Site Walkover

The proposed development area was visited on 27th June 2014 in order to assess the present state of the site. As part of the site walkover, the adjacent battlefield was also visited using public rights of way and permissive paths in order to assess the contribution made by its setting to its significance. Battlefield 1403 farm shop, Church of St Mary Magdalene; the viewing mound adjacent to the A5124, as well as publicly accessible areas adjacent to Albright Hussey Manor Hotel were also visited for a visual assessment towards the proposed development area from these locations.

The proposed development area is a level open field of rough grassland (*Figures 6, 7, 8, & 9*), bounded to the north by Vanguard Way and a wire fence and to the west by Battlefield Way and an identical wire fence. The eastern boundary is the access road to the STADCO site, which also forms the southernmost boundary (*Figure 2*).

The walkover did not reveal any evidence for the presence of archaeological remains, either below ground or as standing earthworks within the proposed development area. There are a number of service hatches (*Figures 2, 6, & 7*) adjacent to the Battlefield Way frontage, suggesting a number of buried services within this part of the proposed development area. Capital Construction, as project managers for the Battlefield Enterprise Park indicated that a large storm drain crosses the proposed development area adjacent to the Battlefield Vay frontage. It is likely that this drain will have had a significant impact on any potential earthfast archaeological remains; it is likely that any potential earthfast archaeological remains have been either destroyed or severely truncated by this work. The easternmost part of the proposed development area appears un-disturbed.

The battlefield itself consists of undulating agricultural land, rising up from the south towards the north. The majority of the fields are arable; two fields to the south east are under pasture. The permissive paths used during the walkover follow the line of established post enclosure hedgerows and skirted the edges of the arable fields. The visual assessment of the proposed development area from the battlefield site is discussed in detail below (sect 8, *The Battlefield*).

## 8. Appraisal of the Development Impact

The proposed development consists of the construction of a commercial/retail building and associated infrastructure including vehicular accesses and landscaping. The proposed development area is currently un-developed former agricultural land within an existing industrial development. The exact location of the proposed units are currently established (*Figure 19*) and follows the established build lines of existing units on the south side of Vanguard Way.

# Physical Impact

#### Archaeology

The topsoil strip and excavation of the footings for the development and associated infrastructure and services will have a detrimental effect on any earthfast archaeological remains that might be contained within the proposed development area. Consideration could be given to the relocation of significant ground disturbance in order to avoid potential archaeological remains if indentified.

The historic map regression carried out as part of this assessment indicates that the footprint of the proposed development has not been developed previously and has been under pasture since at least the post-medieval period. Both the site visit and geotechnical investigations appear to support this. The extent of the ground disturbance caused by the buried services on the Battlefield Way frontage is currently difficult to confirm, but is likely to be substantial.

The preservation of any archaeological remains is difficult to predict, but any potential earthfast archaeological remains are likely to be best preserved on the eastern side of the

proposed development area, away from the area of known disturbance. The archaeological potential of this part of the proposed development area could be investigated through a programme of archaeological evaluation, specifically targeting those areas of proposed building work and infrastructure. However, based upon the largely negative results of previous archaeological investigations and to be confirmed in conjunction with the Archaeology Service, Historic Environment Team, Shropshire County Council this archaeological attendance could be reduced to an archaeological watching brief carried out during ground works.

#### Standing Buildings

The only standing building of historical significance within the search area is the Grade II\* listed St. Mary Magdalene & Battlefield College (HER Ref 00981). There is no direct physical impact on this historic building from the proposed development.

#### Impact on Setting

English Heritage define setting as: "the surroundings in which an asset is experienced" (English Heritage 2011, revised June 2012). Elements of setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral. They recommend the following staged approach to assessing impacts to setting.

- Step 1: identify which heritage assets and their settings are affected;
- Step 2: assess whether, how and to what degree these settings make a contribution to the significance of the heritage asset(s);
- Step 3: assess the effects of the proposed development, whether beneficial or harmful, on that significance;
- Step 4: explore the way of maximising enhancement and avoiding or minimising harm;
- Step 5: make and document the decision and monitor outcomes.

This assessment has carried out steps 1 to 3, and has not identified any significant harm.

# Archaeology

There is unlikely to be any direct impact upon the setting of any of the known and currently identified archaeological remains within the vicinity of the proposed development.

# Standing Buildings

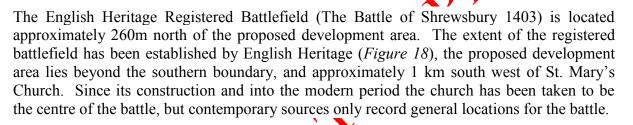
The only Listed Building within a 1km radius of the proposed development area recorded by the Shropshire County Council Historic Environment Record (HER), is the Grade II\* Listed St. Mary Magdalene & Battlefield College (HER Ref 00981). The setting of the church is its rural location and historical association with the Battle of Shrewsbury. The proposed development will have no impact upon either of these characteristics. From the churchyard of St. Mary's the location of the proposed development is not visible (*Figure 12*). Further to this, there are already a number of mid 20th century and more recent developments within Battlefield Enterprise Park, including the recently completed Mercedes Benz car dealership which lies between the proposed development area and the church, none of which affect the

setting of the Church. An archaeological desk-based assessment carried out in advance of the proposed Battlefield Link Road (Event ID No ESA2156) the alignment of which is between the proposed development and the Church led to the Shropshire County Council Archaeological Service to conclude that the road would "not seriously affect the setting of the Battlefield Church as a Scheduled Ancient Monument". A heritage assessment submitted in support of the Mercedes Benz development (ABRS Report 2012-VWBS) also concluded that the setting of the church was not affected by that development; a conclusion supported by Shropshire County Council in approving that application.

By far the most important aspect of the setting of St. Mary's Church is its relationship with Haughmond Abbey to the south east, this, without doubt would have influenced the original 15th century builders. The relationship has been severely compromised by the construction of the Shrewsbury Livestock Market.

The proposed development has no significant impact upon the setting of the Church.

## The Battlefield



Various sources record the Battle of Shrewsbury as the Battle of Berwick Field, the Battle of Bull Field, the Battle of Husse Field and Old Field. In the 19th century the traditional location where Henry Hotspur fell was identified as being a mile to the west of the Church near Albright Hussey, at the very western edge of the current registered battlefield. It is likely, therefore as English Heritage describes "*the battle itself may have become one of combat between groups, rather than an engagement which retained any strong cohesion*". Chroniclers at the time recorded that fighting and causalities were spread over an area of 3 miles. Charles Darwin writing in 1881 mentions a large number of arrowheads being found in a field north of the river Severn, close to Shrewsbury and John Priestly writing in 1979 suggests that Old Field may have been some way south of the church. Two authors writing in the 19th century have recorded significantly different troop deployments also (*Figure 5*).

It is clear, therefore that the precise location of the battle within the registered battlefield is un-established and open to debate and interpretation. As a result of recent archaeological intestigations (Event ID No's ESA2156, ESA6179, & ESA5078) Shropshire HER has surmised that the battle itself was centred to the western edge of the registered battlefield.

The recently constructed viewing mound north of the A5124 has gone someway to establishing the setting of the battlefield to the north of the new road, away from the Battlefield Enterprise Park. Visitors are encouraged to view the battlefield from this point, from the Visitors Centre adjacent to St. Mary's Church and a number of permissive footpaths crossing the battlefield. From within the grounds of the church the proposed development area is not visible (*Figure 12*), nor is it visible from the Battlefield 1403 farmshop (*Figure 13*). It is possible that the proposed development area is visible from the Church tower; this however was not accessible at the time of the site visit. It is likely that parts of the proposed

development will be visible from some parts of the footpaths within the registered battlefield during winter months where it will form a continuation of the existing Battlefield Enterprise Park (*Figure 14, 15, & 16*). At the time of the site visit, as a result of tree screening and the recent Mercedes Benz building, it could not be said with any certainty that the proposed development could be seen from any of these footpaths (*Figures 14, 15, & 16*).

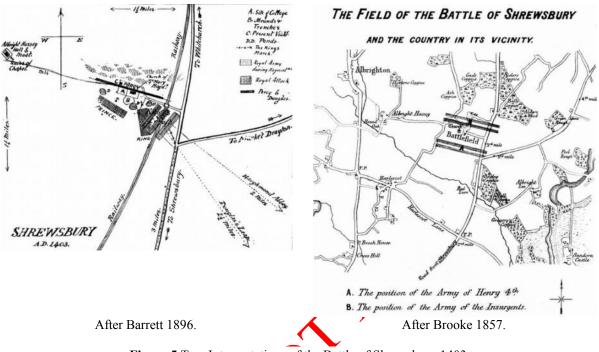


Figure 5 Two Interpretations of the Battle of Shrewsbury 1403.

From the viewing mound the development area is also screened by extensive tree planting on the mound and along the road corridor (*Figure 11*). It may be glimpsed briefly when leaving the mound during winter if leaf cover is reduced. Of the existing developments in Battlefield Enterprise Park only the older STADCO site (Chatwood Safes (HER Ref 06780)) and the Mercedes Benz building can be seen, but only from the access road to the mound car park, although these two buildings are rapidly disappearing behind the tree screening. STADCO is both taller and has a larger footprint than the proposed development, the proposed new building will be viewed against the backdrop of this STADCO building from the Battlefield and will be concealed by Mercedes Benz and will, therefore be less visible. Being within a development zone it is also envisaged that further development will occur between the battlefield site and the proposed development area, to the north of Vanguard Way. Shropshire County Council has previously granted planning permission for a development north of the proposed development area, abutting the A5124 (Planning Application No 1103191/FUL, since lapsed) which will (if re-submitted) lead to a further development between the assessment area and the registered battlefield and, planning conditions permitting allow additional landscaping to further enhance Battlefield Enterprise Park.

The Historic Environment Practice Guide states "Parks and gardens and battlefields may be registered if they are of special historic interest" (sect 3, para 14). Shrewsbury Battlefield has been registered for its historic significance, as it was the first use of longbows in a civil conflict and cemented the Tudor dynasty. The ridge to the north, where Hotspur massed his troops, along with other topographic features within the battlefield aids understanding of documentary accounts of the battle. The setting of the battlefield is undulating arable land to the west, north and east with the town of Shrewsbury to the south. The proposed

development will have no impact upon either of these characteristics. Modern expansion of the town has brought the urban area closer to the battlefield, but has not surrounded it and the battlefield remains north of the town in open country beyond the A5124 which effectively forms the edge of the urban area. The proposed development is south of the boundary of the Registered Battlefield, within an extensive area of existing industrial development and represents a minor change to the setting of the battlefield with no impact to the historic significance.

#### 9. Conclusion

This assessment has been carried out following English Heritage guidance document *The Setting of Heritage Assets* (2011, revised June 2012).

The Historic Environment Record for Shropshire shows that there a number of known sites of archaeological significance within the vicinity of the proposed development area as well as a listed building.

The proposed development area lies beyond the southern edge of the registered battlefield of Shrewsbury. Both the proposed development area and the surrounding landscape have altered little in the post medieval era, but there has been significant 20th century development. Twentieth century development began as early as the 1920s with the establishment of Chatwood Safes and more recently with the establishment of the Battlefield Enterprise Park.

The proposed development area appears to have been under pasture since at least the postmedieval period, which may have protected any potential archaeological remains. The site visit suggests that the western edge of the proposed development area is likely to have been impacted by the construction of a storm drain, which means there is a low potential for archaeological remains to be present within this part of the proposed development area. The remained of the proposed development area may be largely undisturbed, with a greater potential for earthfast archaeological remains.

There is a single listed buildings within the vicinity of the proposed development area, St. Mary Magdalene & Battlefield College (Grade II\*). The proposed development will not have any significant visual impact upon the Church or its setting.

The proposed development area is located within Battlefield Enterprise Park, approximately 250m south of the registered battlefield with the recently built A5124 forming a significant visual boundary between the battlefield to the north and the proposed development to the south. The recently constructed viewing mound also draws the visitors' attention to the north, away for the proposed development area and the other recent developments and possible future developments within Battlefield Enterprise Park. The proposed development will, therefore, not have any significant visual impact nor result in substantial harm to the significance of the battlefield or its setting.

Given the amount of development that has already taken place around the application site, together with the new road, it is considered that the proposed new development will not have any additional material impact, over and above that which has already occurred.

To conclude, this proposal will have a negligible impact upon the Battlefield and its setting, or, to use the terminology of paragraph. 134 of the National Planning Policy Framework, there will clearly be 'less than substantial harm' thereto.

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The Shropshire Archives July 2014 Maps

Ordnance Survey Maps (Shropshire Archives)

Geological maps viewed at http://www.bgs.ac.uk/ July 2014

# 12. Colour Plates





**Figure 9** Eastern End of Proposed Development Area. (Looking South East).



Figure 11 View Towards Proposed Development Area from Viewing Mound. (Looking South).



Figure 12 View Towards Proposed Development Area from St Mary's Church (Approximate Location of Proposed Development Arrowed). (Looking South West).

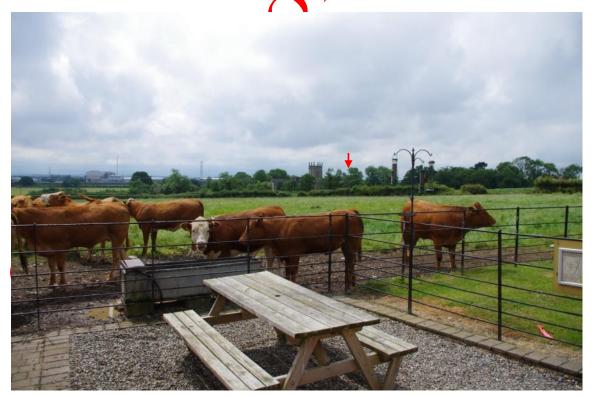
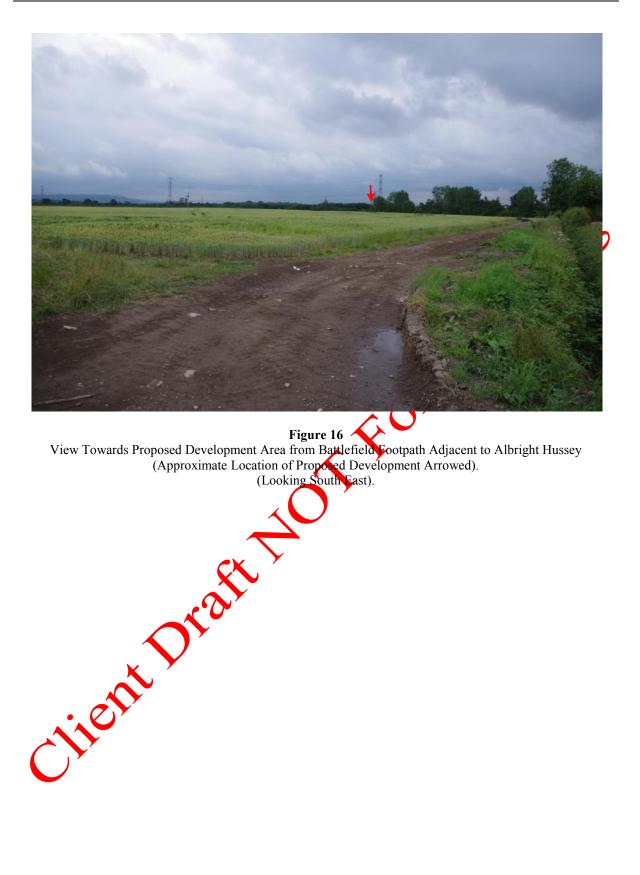


Figure 13 View Towards Proposed Development Area from Battlefield 1403 Farm Shop (Approximate Location of Proposed Development Arrowed). (Looking South).

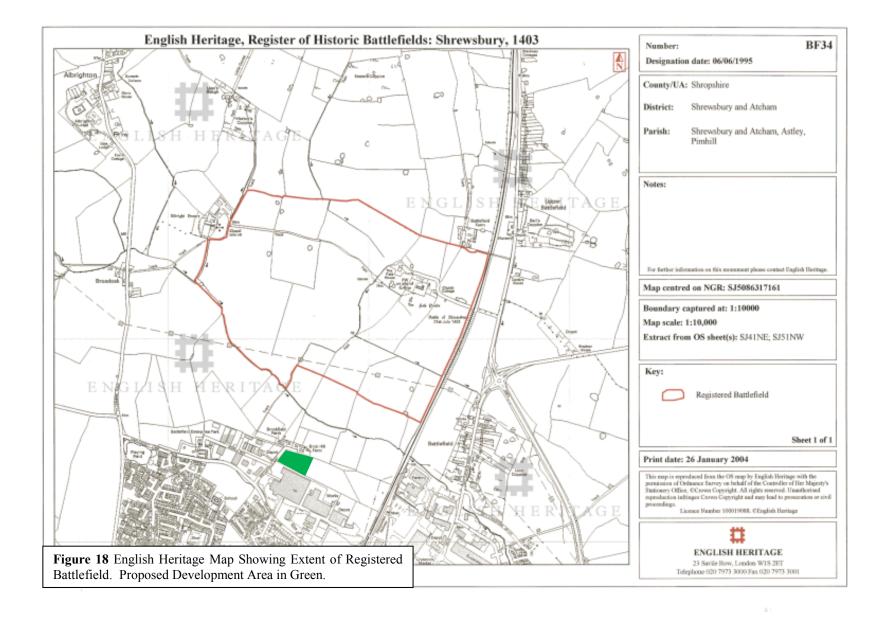


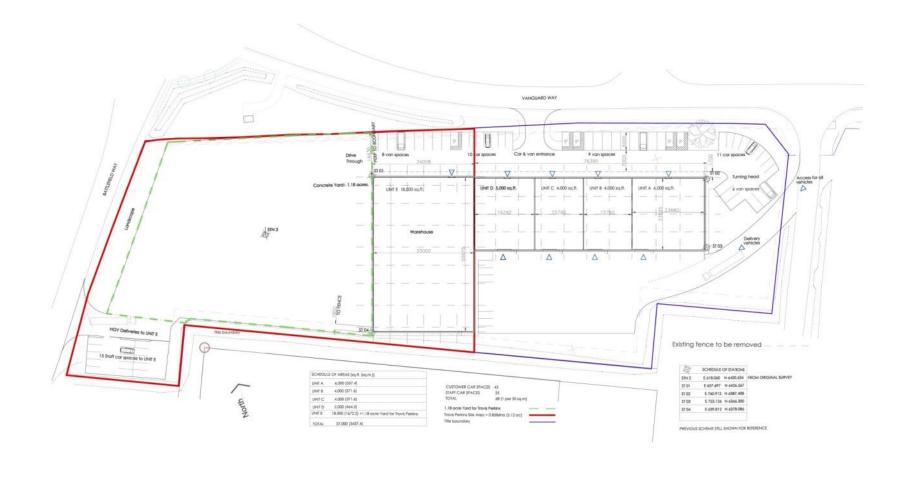


Figure 15 View Towards Proposed Development Area from Battlefield Footpath (STADCO Site Arrowed) (Looking South).

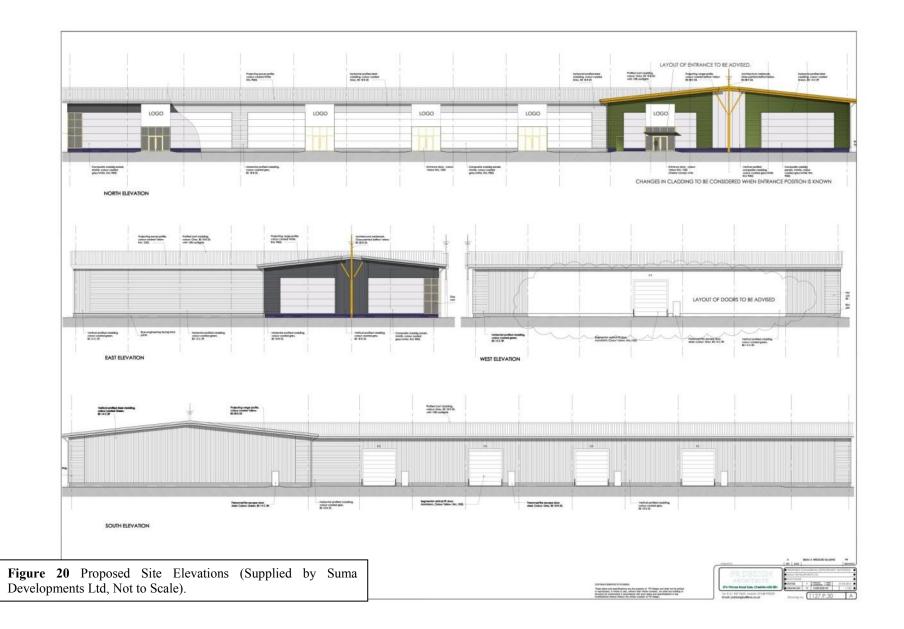


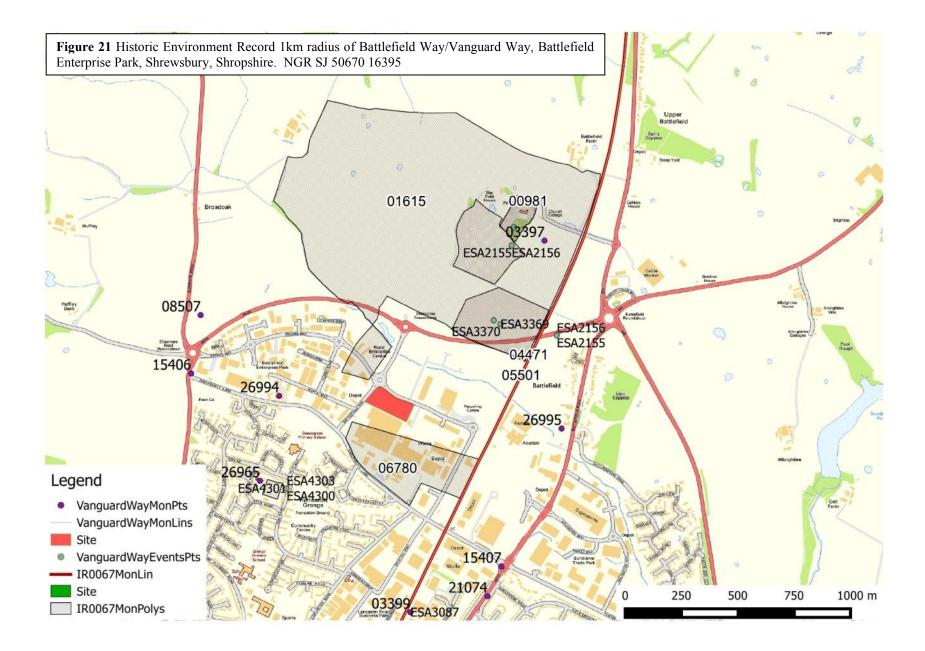






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**Appendix:** Historic Environment Record 1km radius of Battlefield Way/Vanguard Way, Battlefield Enterprise Park, Shrewsbury, Shropshire. NGR SJ 50670 16395

00114 Harlescott Grange moated site

Map Sheet: SJ51NW

Grid Reference: Centred SJ 5014 1602 (10m by 10m)

**Summary**: Scheduled Monument: Despite some modification, this a good example of a medieval moated residence which has been shown by early excavation and later finds to contain archaeological remains of construction and occupation.

**Description**: No remains of original structure recorded in 1417. The moat was lined with masonry on both sides. Excavation carried out in 1960. No finds but small sherds of 3th century date.

Large timber framed house recorded at the moat by Blakeway, some of the wood from which may have be used in the present house. Not present now.

In 1981 it was noted that the site was becoming increasingly dilapidated and destroyed as a result of it being used as an unofficial children's play area and also due to dumping of rubbish in the moat ditch.

Evaluated for MPP in 1990-1, Medium score as one of 133 Moated ites.

Scheduling revised in 2000.

Scheduling description:

The monument includes the earthwork and buried remains of a medieval moated site, situated on a gentle north east facing slope. It is now surrounded by a modern housing estate, but from this location there would originally have been extensive views of the surrounding area. The moat is now visible as a slight earthwork having been drained in 1950 and largely infilled following the construction of the housing estate. The arms of the moat, which survive as buried features, are between 12m and 15m wide and define a rectangular island approximately 40m by 46m. Material excavated from the moat has been used to raise the surface of the island between 1.2m and 2m above the level of the surrounding ground. An account of the site in 1937 indicated that the sides of the moat were lined with masonry and when the moat was drained, 13th century pottery was found. Sherds of medieval pottery were also found when a small-scale archaeological excavation was conducted in 1960.

A number of features are excluded from the scheduling, these are; all fences and modern walls, all paths and a litter bir; the ground beneath all these features is, however, included.

00981 Church of St Mary Magdalene and Battlefield College, Battlefield, Shrewsbury

Map Sheet: SISINW

Grid Reference: Centred SJ 5123 1722 (10m by 10m)

**Summary:** Scheduled Monument and Grade II\* Listed Building: The buildings of the medieval church complex set up by the lord of Albright Hussey manor in the years following the Battle of Shrewsbury (1403) as a memorial to its many victims.

Description: Listed Building description:

Church. Early C15, restored 1862 by Pountney Smith. Coursed and squared limestone with plain tiled and Welsh slate roofs. West tower, nave with single south aisle, chancel.

EXTERIOR: 2-stage west tower with doorway and 2-light traceried window over in west wall, and paired foiled bell chamber lights in the upper stage. stair turret projects from south wall. Embattled parapet with quatrefoil frieze and angle pinnacles. Nave of 3 bays divided by pilaster buttresses, with doorways to north and south. Windows mostly recut on restoration in late Decorated style, though one window to north has reticulated tracery of an earlier pattern. Long chancel, with reticulated traceried windows to south, partially concealed by chapel

added during restoration to north. Foundations of further range of building visible towards south east. Plain parapet to nave, openwork quatrefoil parapet to chancel. Gargoyles, some representing fighting figures. 5-light Perpendicular east window with statue of soldier King Henry IV in niche over.

INTERIOR: single space, single span with tall double chamfered tower arch and hammer beam roof with shields as bosses, pendants, and traceried panelling between braces and rafters. Timber screen with traceried panels and ogee central arch dividing the nave, inserted during restoration and marking a division of the building made during the C18, when only the eastern end was in use. Encaustic tiled floor throughout, possibly by Maw's. Sedilia, squint and blocked doorway in south wall adjacent to altar, the squint formerly accessed from vanished southern range. Reredos with high relief nativity, crucifixion and resurrection in traceried panels. Emblematic stained glass throughout, and figures of apostles to chancel, and Mary Magdalene in the east window. Corbet family mortuary chapel to north, with stained glass dated 1864, and fragments of C15 glass originating in Normandy. Corber tomo to north of chancel, 4 traceried panels forming vaulted sanctuary. Wood Pieta on north wall resited from the church at Albright Hussey.

HISTORICAL NOTE: the church was built as a chantry established by King Henry IV to commemorate the Battle of Shrewsbury fought nearby in 1403. After 1545, it became the parish church for the old parish of Albright Hussey, and is now maintained by the Redundant Churches Fund.

Slight traces of collegiate building at E end of S wall of church, and traceable on the ground. Three? storey building with staircase in the SW corner King Henry IV, anno regni II, or Roger Ive clerk, erected and endowed a little College of a master and five secular chaplains in honour of St Mary Magdalene, together with a Hospital for several poor persons. Their yearly revenues were worth 56 pounds 1s 4d, 26 Henry VIII.

An evaluation in 1994 of the route of the proposed Battlefield Link road included a review of the documentary evidence for the Battlefield Church. In the evaluation report it was concluded that the preferred route will not seriously affect the setting of the Battlefield Church scheduled ancient monument.

The site is surrounded by a moay See PRN 02603].

01615 Site of Battle of Shrewbury

## Map Sheet: SJ51NW

Grid Reference: Ceptred SJ 509 172 (100m by 100m)

**Summary**: Site of Battle of Shrewsbury which took place on the 21st July 1403 between the armies of Heary IV and Hotspur (Harry Percy), Duke of Northumberland. Hotspur was killed and the army routed. The site is protected as a Registered Battlefield.

**Description** Took place 21st July 1403 between the armies of Henry IV and Hotspur (Harry Fercy), Duke of Northumberland. Hotspur was killed and the army routed. Before the battle, the royal army was deployed south of Battlefield Church, and King's Croft (SJ 5140 1710) no doubt marks the position of the King's own division. Approach to Battlefield marked by a notice board, no ground features related to the battle visible. OS FI 1964.

In February 1994 an evaluation was made of the preferred route of the proposed Battlefield Link road. The documentary research indicated that the traditional location for the King's army was in the field known as King's Croft, which the first edition OS 1:2500 map locates immediately to the SE of the church at SJ514 171. This would be outside the preferred route corridor. However, documentary research suggests that in the C18 this name was applied to a field further south, centred on SJ514 167. The field immediately to the west, which contains well preserved ridge and furrow (PRN 4471) was also known as Trooper's Piece and Roushill. The preferred route cuts across these two fields. Thus it was recommended in the

evaluation report that a watching brief be maintained there during road construction to record any buried remains associated with the battlefield and any other archaeological features. Evaluation report

In 1998 a metal detecting survey was carried out in advance of the construction of the A5124 Battlefield link road, Shrewsbury. The metal detecting survey, carried out in February and March to locate the core areas of the battlefield proved largely negative. Some 320 items were found, the majority of which were iron nails, along with nuts, bolts washers, and corroded lumps of iron accounting for the majority of the remainder. The distribution of finds was such that around 95% came from west of the scheduled battlefield area. The lack of modern ploughing and disturbance within the registered battlefield area may account for this anomalous distribution. During the watching brief no evidence of the battle was uncovered in Phase 1, with only post medieval sandstone-lined drains and a 19th century yard surfaces identified to the west. During Phase 2, although no archaeological features of deposits were found, a metal detectorist uncovered a number of coins and what may have been arrowheads in the area of the ridge and furrow (PRN 04471). These had not been made available at the time of the report.

An evaluation in 2004 along the railway embankment found no archaeological evidence.

A metal detector survey was undertaken at Battlefield Farm, in advance of the construction of the new access road to the farm. During the investigation only four modern metal objects were recovered along the proposed corridor. No finds which could be associated with the 15th century battle were found. The survey has proved largely inconclusive. If anything the negative results only serve to show that the battle is likely to have occurred further to the west.

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the excavation of test pits during remedial works on the embankment of the Shrewsbury to Crewe railway at Battlefield, Shropshire. No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks, and no artefactual material was recovered.

02603 Earthworks of Styling Magdalene, Battlefield, Shrewsbury

Map Sheet: SJ51NW

Grid Reference: Centred SJ 5123 1722 (10m by 10m)

**Summary**: Scheduled Monument: Earthworks of the medieval church complex set up by the lord of Albright Hussey manor in the years following the Battle of Shrewsbury (1403) as a memorial to its prany victims.

**Description**: Centred at SJ5121 is a layout of fishponds with islands, connected to the moat. They are partly marsh filled. OS FI 1964.

The large restangular moat surrounding Battlefield Church (SA 981) is in poor condition and largely filled in. The E arm of the moat is best preserved being 1.8m deep and c5m wide, but this too is suffering serious infilling. The rest of its course is traceable by shallow depressions and slight scarps. The best feature of the site is the complex of five interconnected fishponds in the SE quadrant of the enclosure, divided from each other by banks and containing small islands in their centres. They are partly water filled and up to c2m deep. MDW FI.

Two acres of land, enclosed by a ditch, with two inlets and outlets, each 20ft wide. The earliest reference, of 28 Oct 1406, refers only two acres of land with appurtenances. The refs of 7 Feb 1409/10 and 27 may 1410 mention that the land was enclosed with a ditch, and that the church (SA 981) was constructed there.

In 1994 an evaluation of the preferred route of the proposed Battlefield Link Road was carried out. This included a review of the documentary evidence for this site. In the

evaluation report it was concluded that the preferred route will not seriously affect the setting of the Battlefield Church scheduled ancient monument.

Evaluated for MPP in 1990-1: High score as one of 133 Moated sites; High score as one of 52 Fishponds.

**03397** Find Spot before 1880 of a buckler at Pimhill.

Map Sheet: SJ51NW

Grid Reference: Centred SJ 514 171 (100m by 100m)

Summary: Buckler found upon the battlefield near Shrewsbury (SA 1615).

**Description**: Buckler found upon the battlefield near Shrewsbury (SA 1615). Diameter 13.5ins; Convex; spiked umbo within which is the handle 5ins in diameter. Spike extends 3.5ins beyond base. Formed of several layers of stout leather, compacted by means of brass rivets, passing through narrow concentric ban of iron thus forming a fretwork over the entire surface. There are 14 rows of rivets. Other examples from Salop-one figured in Vetusta Monumenta II pl xx found at Hen Dinas near Oswestry, Salop.

04471 Area of ridge and furrow at Battlefield, Shrewsbury

Map Sheet: SJ51NW

Grid Reference: Centred SJ 5115 1675 (10m by 10m)

**Summary**: An area of ridge and furrow still upstanding as earthwork features of medieval date.

**Description**: An area of ridge and furrow still upstanding as earthwork features. Photographed from the air by G Barrett in June 1990.

Also traceable on a 1983 vertical AP and plotted from that.

The site could not be visited as the farmer could not be contacted. The field to the South, which also appears to contain some traces of ridge and furrow, according to the CPD 1983 vertical AP, is to be developed for industrial units. The area containing the ridge and furrow photographed by G Barrett is to be developed at a later date.

Traces of earthwork ridge and furrow bound to extend to west and south over virtually the whole of the Harlescott Smallholding Estate, from the railway line to the A 528. D Haigh FI 1992.

In April 1993 Jenny Britnelt and her evening class surveyed another area of upstanding ridge and furrow to the north-west of the area recorded from the air, in the field adjoining the Battlefield Church (SA 981) and moated site/fishponds (SA 2603). This ridge and furrow is centred at SJ 511171.

In February 1994 the ridge and furrow was included in an evaluation of the preferred route for the proposed A49/A528 Battlefield Link Road. The documentary research revealed that the ridge and turrow had once been part of the common fields of the manor of Albright Hussey. The extent of ridge and furrow visible from the air in 1983 was plotted. It was found that much of the pastureland in the area has been improved since then, resulting in the loss of a substantial part of these earthworks. It was difficult to assign a date to this field system, although the fields were certainly in place by the C13. The area of well preserved ridge and furrow centred on SJ 511 168 was sketch plotted at a scale of 1:2500, as it lay along the preferred route of the proposed road. They were found to cover an area of about 6ha, and to radiate from a group of ponds in the centre and east of the field. The centres of the ridges are spaced at between 10m and 20m apart. The proposed road will cut a swathe 300m long by 50m wide through the middle of these earthworks, and a further 0.9ha will be destroyed by proposed tree planting along the north side of the new road. In the evaluation report these earthworks were considered to be of sufficient importance to merit preservation by record if the road is built. It was therefore recommended that a full measured topographical survey be made of them [see <10>], including those portions which lie outside the road corridor. The documentary research had revealed that the field containing the best preserved ridge and furrow had been known as Trooper's Piece and Roushill and that the adjacent field to the east had been called King's Croft in the C18. The latter name has been traditionally regarded as the location of the King's Army in the Battle of Shrewsbury (SA 1615). Thus it was also recommended that a watching brief be maintained during road construction across these two fields.

Evaluated for MPP in 1990-1, Low score as one of 91 Irregular Open Field Systems.

In 1998 a topographical survey was carried out in advance of the construction of the A5124 Battlefield link road, Shrewsbury. The earthwork survey carried out in March showed a radial pattern of ridge and furrow converging on a group of ponds, possibly naturally or artificially created to collect water drained from the furrows. The average span between the ridges was c.11m, although some variation occurred within a range of 5m to 20m. The best preserved ridges, to the south and west, stood c.1m above the furrows. The longest ridges were towards the southwest of the ponds and they displayed the distinctive reverse 'S' profile typical of medieval plough lands. All the other ridges in the field took a more direct and straight route to the pond features, although this may simple have been a reflection of the shorter length surviving of these earthworks. A 235m long swathe up to 60m xide across the southwestern corner of these earthworks was cut by the road.

06780 Engineering Works for Chatwood Safes, latterly STADCO

## Map Sheet: SJ51NW

Grid Reference: Centred SJ 508 161 (100m by 100m)

**Summary**: In the mid 1920s, Hall Enginering of Lancashire relocated their Chatwood Safe company to Harlescott. In May 1924 the company purchased the 315 acre Harlescott Farm, planning to develop 50 acres for a factory and a village for the workers.

**Description**: Open space-fields.

Engineering Works.

In the mid 1920s, Hall Enginering of Lancashire relocated their Chatwood Safe company to Harlescott. In order to power the hydraulic presses, the new factory site needed a plentiful and reliable water supply. In the summer of 1923 a well was sunk at the Harlescott site and the water supply was found to fully meet the company's needs. In May 1924 the company purchased the 315 agree harlescott Farm, planning to develop 50 acres for a factory and a village for the workers.

05501 Jondon & North Western Railway (Shrewsbury to Crewe Branch) Map Sheet: 52NW

Grid Reference: Centred SJ 5144 2862 (10m by 10m)

Summary: Crewe and Shrewsbury Branch of the London and North Western railway of 19th century date.

**Description**: Crewe and Shrewsbury Branch of the London and North Western railway.

CMHTS Record Sheet.

CMHTS Report.

The LNWR's proposed Shrewsbury to Crewe Branch was authorised by Parliament in 1853. However, the initial proposal to come into Shrewsbury station from the east, over the Severn Bridge, was thrown out, and the line eventually joined the existing Shrewsbury & Chester tracks just west of Castle Foregate. The engineers on the line were Joseph Locke and J E Errington, and the contractor was Thomas Brassey, who had already been involved in most of the earlier railways in Shropshire. The line was initially only single track, and work proceeded quite slowly, mainly because of financial considerations. It opened in 1858. By 1862 the line was doing well and had been doubled to cope with increased traffic.

This continued to be an important line and survived nationalisation, although in 1958 a number of the less used stations were closed by BR.

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the excavation of test pits during remedial works on the embankment of the Shrewsbury to Crewe railway at Battlefield, Shropshire. No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks, and no artefactual material was recovered.

15406 The site of a former Toll House, Harlescott

Map Sheet:

Grid Reference:

The site of a former 18th/19th century toll house, since demolished. hing brief was carried out 1 Summary: **Description**: Demolished.

In 1998 a watching brief was carried out during the construction of the A5124 Battlefield link road, Shrewsbury. During Phase 1 a red sandstone lined drain with a hereit compacted pebble former yard surface either side was found at about SJ42781669, c.80m north of the tollhouse. The drain fill included mid to late 17th century powery in the lowest levels, suggesting the drain was in use at this time as a domestic or vard drain. It was postulated in the report that these features may have been associated with the (toll) house which formerly stood on the opposite side of Harelescott Lane, depicted on the 1881 OS 1:2500 plan.

The site of a former Toll House, Whitchurch Road, Harlescott 15407

SJ51NW Map Sheet:

Centred SJ 5133 1594 (10m by 10m) Grid Reference:

The site of a former 18th/19th century toll house, since demolished. Summary:

**Description**: Demolished. Exact location may be SJ 51197 15678 - 2nd Edition OS.

Areas of possible forper ridge and furrow in Shrewsbury 08507

Map Sheet: SJ41SE

Centred (\$7,4858 1217 (2107m by 5833m) (Centred on) Grid Reference:

This size represents: a possible ridge and furrow of medieval date. Summary:

**Description**: An area of possible former medieval ridge and furrow is visible on a 1983 aerial photographic lies just above the floodplain on the northeast bank of the River Severn, opposite Shelton Further ridge and furrow is visible on 1983 Aps in fields to the west of Crosshill and the north of Hencott Lane, to the east of Ellesmere Road and to the south of Huffley Lane

An area of ploughed out ridge and furrow was identified at The Knowles, near Meole Brace, during the 1994 car park evaluation. The medieval ploughing seemed to have been aligned east west. To the east and north of it were fields called the Sutton Stitches, the name indicating the selions of medieval common fields. Slightly further south, another ridge and furrow pattern was identified from aerial photographs of a field formerly called Lower Hay, though the medieval origin of this pattern was less certain. The Knowles used to be in Meole Brace parish, and Lower Hay in St Julian's, but all were part of the Pulley Estate.

26965 Harlescott House Map Sheet: SJ51NW Grid Reference: Centred SJ 5008 1605 (10m by 10m) **Summary**: Harlescott House, a farmstead first identified and classified by the Historic Farmsteads Characterisation Project, 2008 – 2010, (ESA6427), largely from the digital version of the c.1900 OS large scale mapping.

**Description**: Regular Courtyard with multiple yards. Additional Plan Details: Additional detached elements to main plan. Date Evidence from Farmhouse: 19th Century. Date Evidence from Working Building(s): None.

Position of Farmhouse: Farmhouse set away from yard. Farmstead Location: Isolated. Survival: Significant Loss - more than 50% alteration. Confidence: High.

Other Notes: Medieval moated site (PRN 00114). Open sided hay barns/Dutch barns lost.

26994Harlescott House

Map Sheet: SJ51NW

Grid Reference: Centred SJ 5016 1643 (10m by 10m)

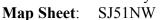
**Summary**: Harlescott House, a farmstead first identified and classified by the Historic Farmsteads Characterisation Project, 2008 – 2010, (ESA6427), largely from the digital version of the c.1900 OS large scale mapping.

**Description**: Regular Courtyard with multiple yards. Additional Plan Details: Regular Courtyard E-Plan. Date Evidence from Farmhouse: 19th Century. Date Evidence from Working Building(s): None.

Position of Farmhouse: Detached, side on to yard. Farmstead Location: Loose farmstead cluster. Survival: Extant - No apparent alteration. Confidence High.

Other Notes: Large modern sheds to the side of the historic farmstead suggest that the farmstead is still in use. Some Evidence for Conversion. No longer in agricultural use. Industrial units on industrial park. Broken RCe

26995 Godfrey Hall



Grid Reference: Centred SJ 5142 1628 (10m by 10m)

**Summary**: Godfrey Hall, a farmstead first identified and classified by the Historic Farmsteads Characterisation Project, 2008 – 2010, (ESA6427), largely from the digital version of the c.1900 OS large scale mapping.

**Description**: Loose Courtvard with farm buildings on two sides of the yard. Additional Plan Details: None. Date Evidence from Farmhouse: 19th Century. Date Evidence from Working Building(s): None.

Position of Farmhouse: Uncertain, because cannot identify which is farmho. Farmstead Location: Hamler, Survival: Farmstead totally demolished. Confidence: Low.

Other Notes: Farmhouse either set away (Godfrey Hall?) or part of the LC2 yard, and now demolished.

**03399** Fillbox by railway line at Harlescott, Shrewsbury Man Sheet: SJ51NW

**Grid Reference**: Centred SJ 5075 1547 (10m by 10m) **Summary**: Site of a pillbox of 20th century date.

**Description**: Hexagonal pillbox, disappeared by 1996

21074 Metal milepost on the A5112, Whitchurch Road, Shrewsbury
Map Sheet: SJ51NW
Grid Reference: SJ 5109 1554 (point)
Summary: A late 18th/early 19th century metal milepost. Superscription: "WHITCHURCH / 17 1/2 / SHREWSBURY / 2 "

**Description**: Milestone (M.S.) depicted here on the 1st edition County Series 1:10560 Map.

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