

**Archaeological watching brief
at Wolverton Farm,
Lower Wolverton,
Worcestershire**

WSM 41910

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Archaeological watching brief, at Wolverton Farm, Lower Wolverton, Worcestershire

Introduction

A watching brief was undertaken at Wolverton Farm, Lower Wolverton, Worcestershire (SO 9212 5099; Fig 1) at the request of Mr Paul Bowness of Halls Worcester LLP, on behalf of his client Mr P R Jeavons according to a brief provided by Worcestershire County Archaeology Service (planning ref W/06/1336; WSM 32343). The watching brief comprised observation of the preliminary strip of the ground within the footprint of the proposed stable, before construction took place.

Brief background to the site

Documentary research took place on 21st September 2009 at Worcestershire County Record Office and the Worcestershire Historic Environment Record.

The map evidence

The tithe map for Stoulton of 1840 (Fig 2) shows the field, known as Oaky Leasow, in which the proposed stable was to be built. The Ordnance Survey map of 1884-5, which cannot be reproduced for reasons of copyright, shows a small rectangular building and paddock adjacent to the site of the proposed stable. The Ordnance Survey map of 1904 (Fig 2) shows the same building.

Information from Worcestershire Historic Environment Record

Immediately to the north-east of the Saw Brook is a possible Romano-British settlement site (WSM 29675) attested by numerous finds derived from metal detecting.

Analysis

The fieldwork

The watching brief took place on the 2nd October 2009. A trench approximately 20m long and 5m wide was excavated in the position shown on Figure 1.

The watching brief: description

The excavation comprised removal of between 250 and 300mm of material over the footprint of the proposed stable (Fig 4).

The only context recorded was the topsoil (context 001; Profile of deposits - Figs 3 and 5), a medium grey brown sandy loam with occasional small rounded pebbles. The excavation was not deep enough to reach below the topsoil and the presence or absence of subsurface features could not be determined.

No finds were recovered during the watching brief.

Discussion

No features were recorded and no finds recovered. It is possible that the watercourse, now known as the Saw Brook, was the south-western limit of occupation of the Romano-British settlement currently known only from finds recovered during metal detecting.

Summary

An archaeological watching brief was carried out at Wolverton Farm, Lower Wolverton, Worcestershire. The excavation for the proposed stable did not penetrate below the topsoil and no features could be identified.

Acknowledgements

The author would particularly like to thank Mr P R Jeavons, Mr Paul Bowness and Mike Glyde of Worcestershire County Council for their kind cooperation.

Archive

The archive consists of

- 1 Annotated scale drawing
- 1 CD-ROM

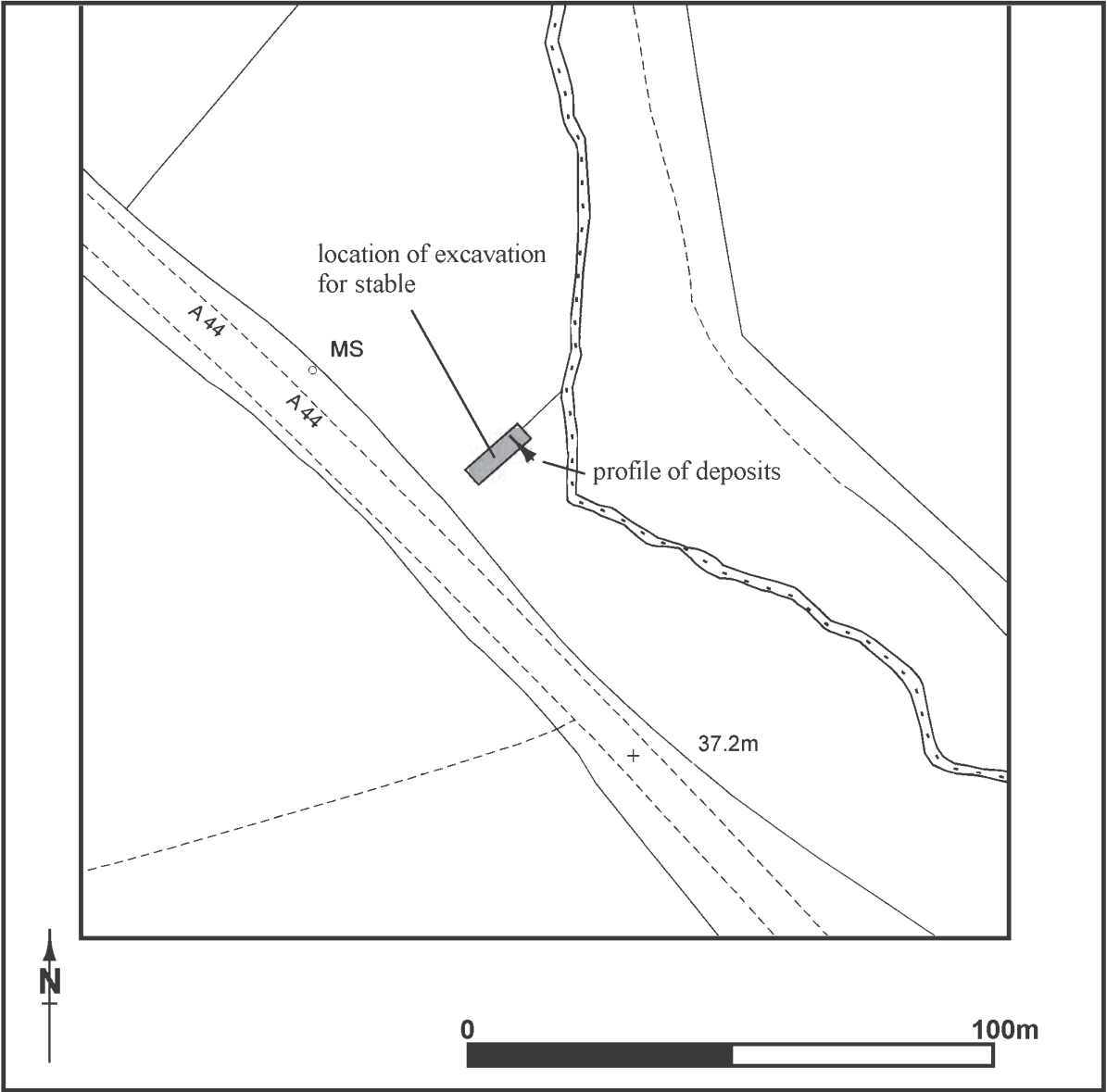
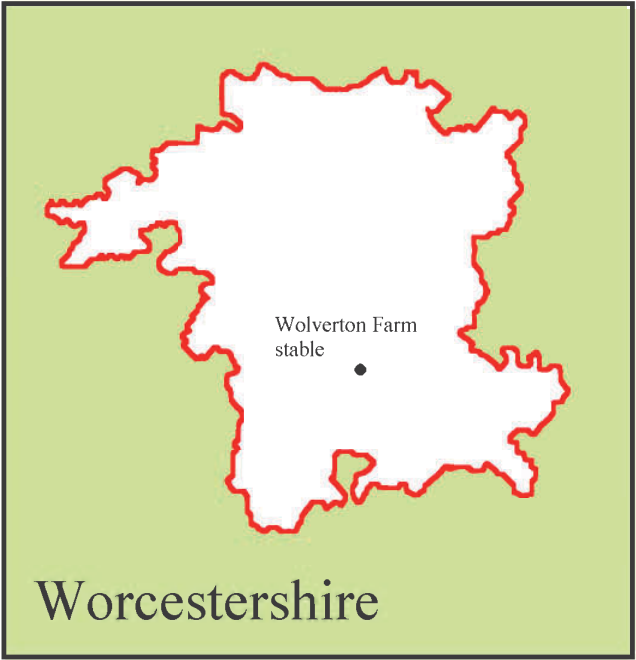
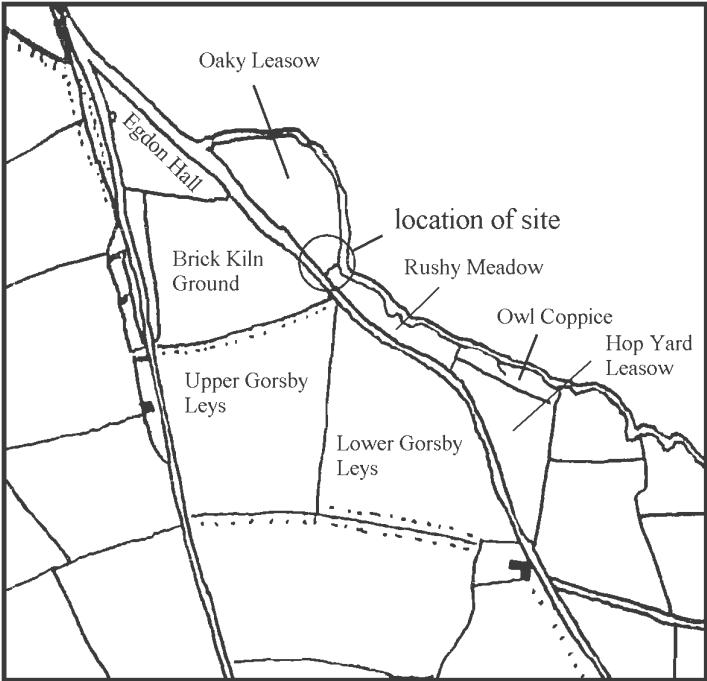


Fig 1: Location of site

1840 Stoulton tithe



not to scale

1904

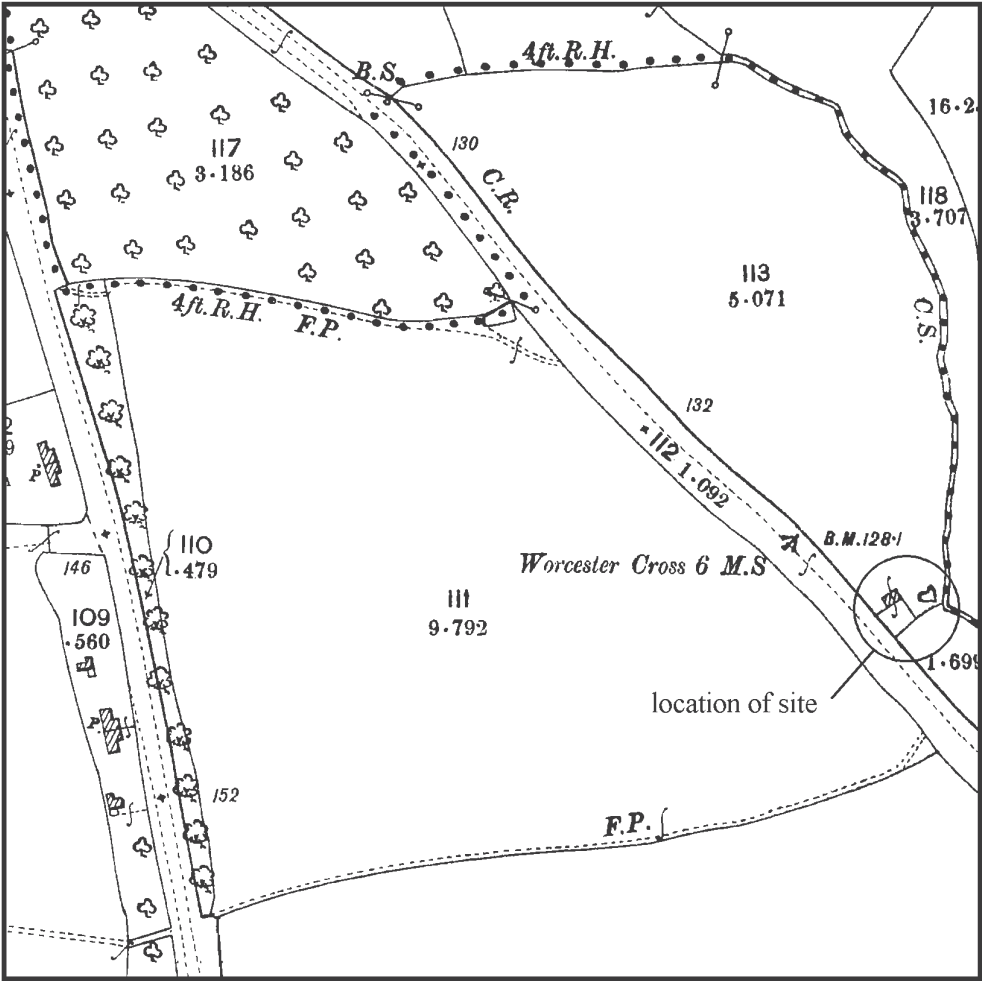


Fig 2: Historic mapping

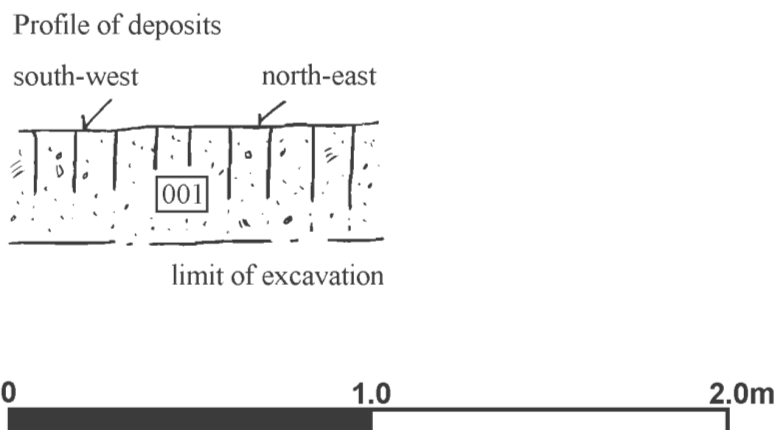


Fig 3: Profile of deposits



Fig 4: General view of completed excavation



Fig 5: Section 1 showing context 001

Appendix 1: List of contexts

Context Number	Description	Interpretation
001	Medium grey brown sandy loam with occasional small rounded pebbles	Topsoil