

An Archaeological Desk-based Assessment of Land at
Bank House Farm, Yockleton,
Shropshire, 2012

by
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Archaeology Service



**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT OF LAND AT
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A Report for

Nock Deighton Agricultural LLP

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SUMMARY

There is currently a proposal to erect two poultry units on land at Bank House Farm, Yockleton, Shropshire. The proposed development site comprises agricultural land to the west of the village. The site lies immediately to the north of the line of the Roman road from Wroxeter to Forden Gaer, a road still in use as the modern B4386 road from Shrewsbury to Westbury. The site may lie in land that formerly was part of a medieval park on the west side of Yockleton. Because of the scale of the development and the potential archaeological significance of the site, an archaeological desk-based assessment has been carried out as part of an Environmental Impact Assessment of the proposed development. The archaeological assessment finds that there is a low potential for archaeological remains of prehistoric to Roman date being within the proposed development site. It recommends that adequate provision for the development would be met by an archaeological watching brief on groundworks associated with the proposed development.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Archaeology Service, Shropshire Council, has been commissioned by Nock Deighton Agricultural LLP to produce a desk-based assessment of an area of land at Bank House Farm, Yockleton, Shropshire (centred on NGR SJ 3853 1022). There is currently a proposal to erect two poultry units on the site.

1.2 Yockleton is a village 9km to the west of the centre of Shrewsbury, Shropshire. The proposed development site lies on the edge of a field 825m to the west of Yockleton village and 350m to the north of the hamlet of Stoney Stretton. It is proposed to create an access track running southeast for 500m from the poultry units to the B4386 Shrewsbury to Montgomery road.

1.3 The scope of this desk-based assessment was agreed with the Principal Archaeologist, Shropshire Council, following consultation with English Heritage. This assessment includes the proposed development site itself (the site) and an area of archaeological assessment within a 500m radius around the site (the study area). (See Fig. 1) However, an informal area of wider search for statutory heritage designations extended from the site for a distance of about 1.5km radius of the development site.

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 National policy for archaeology is contained in the National Planning Policy Framework [NPPF] paras. 126-141 (Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012). Paragraph 128 of the NPPF states that local planning authorities should require an applicant for a development to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected by a development, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance.

2.2 The aim of this archaeological desk-based assessment is to provide information that will enable an informed and reasonable decision to be taken regarding the archaeological provision for the area affected by the proposed development of the land at Bank House Farm, Yockleton.

2.3 The objectives were:

- a) To locate any known archaeological features and deposits within the study area.
- b) To assess the likely survival, quality, condition and relative significance of any archaeological features, deposits and structures.
- c) To assess the likely impact of the proposed development on the designated and non-designated heritage assets and their setting within the study area (as defined in 1.3 above).
- d) To assess the likely impact of the proposed development on the setting of designated heritage assets within the wider, informal study area (as defined in 1.3 above).
- e) To identify and recommend options for the management of the archaeological resource, including any further archaeological provision where necessary.
- f) To recommend a strategy for further archaeological field evaluation where the character and value of the resource is not sufficiently defined to permit a mitigation strategy or other response to be devised.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 The methodology for this assessment is based on requirements agreed with the Principal Archaeologist of the Historic Environment Team, Shropshire Council.

3.2 This desk-based assessment aims to examine and assess all appropriate sources. These have included: archaeological databases, historic documents (including cartographic and pictorial documents), aerial photographs, geotechnical information, and secondary and statutory sources. The assessment includes an outline history of the development and land use of the study area, supported by copies of relevant historic maps and documents.

3.3 The study area for this desk-based assessment comprises a 500m buffer centred on the proposed development site (Fig. 1). The size of the study area has been chosen to ensure that the documentary and cartographic sources provide sufficient information about the proposed development site and its setting to enable an assessment of the potential impacts on the heritage resource. All known heritage assets identified within and immediately adjacent to the boundary of this study area have been considered in this assessment. The potential impact of the development has been assessed on non-designated heritage assets within a 500m radius of the development site, and on designated heritage assets within a wider area of a 1.5km radius of the development.

3.4 The setting of the designated heritage assets within the wider, informal study area was assessed on the basis of the guidance provided by English Heritage (English Heritage, 2011: *The Settings of Heritage Assets: English Heritage Guidance*). Intervisibility between the development site and the designated heritage assets was assessed using Shropshire Council's GIS digital mapping with Panorama contours and Get Mapping digital aerial photography, and checked from the site during the walk-over survey.

3.5 A site visit and walk-over survey was also undertaken on 7th November 2012 in order to identify any potential archaeological features not recorded by the documentary or cartographic sources, and to assess possible factors, such as existing or previous land use, and their effect on the survival or condition of the archaeological resource.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 Designated sites and non-designated sites

4.1.1 Designated sites (Designated assets are individually listed in Table 1 in Appendix 1 of this report).

No World Heritage Sites or sites included on the Tentative List of Future Nominations for World Heritage Sites (January 2012) are situated within the study area or its vicinity. There is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (Fig. 2, Site 1: "Motte castle 250m west of Yockleton Hall", National Monument No.19226) 1.1km to the east of the development site, and another (Site 2: "Ringwork and bailey castle 100m north east of Heath Farm", National Monument No. 19211) 1.1km to the northwest. There is one Grade II* Listed Building (Fig. 2, Site 3: "Manor Farmhouse, Stoney Stretton", National Reference 259022) located 750m to the southwest of the development site. There are no Grade I, Grade II* or Grade II Registered Parks or Gardens or Registered Battlefields recorded within the site or the study area. Neither the site nor the study area lies within a Conservation Area.

There are 6 Grade II Listed Buildings (Fig. 2, Sites 4-9) within the extended study area around the development site (see sections 4.7.1-2 below & Appendix 1, Table 1). The majority of these lie in Yockleton village and the hamlet of Stoney Stretton.

4.1.2 Non-designated heritage assets (summary) (Non-designated heritage assets are individually listed in Table 2 in Appendix 1 of this report).

There are no recorded heritage assets within the site. There are nine heritage assets recorded on the Shropshire Council Historic Environment Record (HER) within or immediately adjacent to the 500m study area (Fig. 2, Sites 10-18). Four other heritage assets have been identified by this assessment (Sites 19-22).

4.2 Previous archaeological work

4.2.1 There have been no recorded previous archaeological investigations on the site itself. However, a watching brief was carried out in 1997 on excavations for a water main along the B4386 Shrewsbury to Montgomery road between Nox and Westbury, where it follows the course of a Roman road (HER 00098). In the stretch of road between Stoney Stretton crossroads and "Greenlands" an earlier road surface was seen to underlie the modern road. This earlier surface consisted of pebbles and gravel on the surface of the brown natural clay subsoil, and of pebbles and cobbles on a red clay formation layer. Although no dating evidence was recovered the construction of this earlier road surface was similar to other known Roman roads in the area around Wroxeter. (Hannaford, 1998, pp5-8). In one place, the early road was seen to seal a linear feature which crossed the line of the road from north to south; this feature consisted of a shallow u-shaped cut 0.35m deep (Hannaford, 1998, p6; HER 20909). The site and study area also fall within the area of the Wroxeter Hinterland Project (HER event ESA 4787). An Historic Building Appraisal has recently been carried out former stables at Stoney Stretton Hall (Frost, 2012).

4.3 Geology and topography

4.3.1 The bedrock within the study area comprises mudstone, sandstone and conglomerate rocks of the Salop Formation. These sedimentary rocks were formed approximately 256 to 308 million years ago in the Permian and Carboniferous Periods, in a local environment dominated by rivers depositing mainly sand and gravel in river terrace deposits and silt and clay on floodplains. (BGS, 2012)

4.3.2 The superficial geology comprises Quaternary glacial till of the Devensian phase , formed from c. 80,000 years ago to the end of the last Ice Age c. 13,000 years ago when ice sheets spread south across the Shropshire landscape depositing moraines of till with outwash sand and gravel deposits from seasonal and post glacial meltwaters. (BGS, 2012; Toghil, 1990)

4.3.3 The proposed development site lies on gently undulating ground on the 120m contour on the northeast side of a low hill 130m above sea level. The site sits on the western edge of an arable field on the north side of the B4386 Shrewsbury to Westbury road. There are distant views from the site across to the tops of The Wrekin in the east, Earl's Hill and the Stiperstones to the south, and Middleton Hill and The Breidden to the west, although the views of the middle-distance landscape are largely obscured by the landform.

4.4 Prehistoric (pre-43AD)

4.4.1 There are no known prehistoric period sites on the proposed development site. Two possible Bronze Age barrows 900m northeast (HER 01573) and 1,400m southeast (HER 01738) of the development site indicate the presence of communities in the area in the late Neolithic to Bronze Age periods (c 2,400BC – 750BC). Both features survived as low mounds into the middle of the 20th century, but had been levelled by 1971.

4.4.2 There is a cropmark enclosure site of probable prehistoric date just to the southeast of the study area (HER 04234). The enclosure is described as an incomplete single ditch sub-rectangular enclosure of unknown date (Fig. 2, site 17). A second cropmark enclosure, a single ditched sub-circular enclosure with an entrance on the southeast side, has been recorded on recent aerial photographs at New Bridge, Stoney Stretton 1,220m southwest of the development (HER 28637, site 19). Both cropmark enclosures are of a type usually considered to represent the remains of Iron Age or Romano-British farmsteads (750BC – 410AD), but which may represent sites of earlier date and may have served other functions (Whimster, 1989, p36). Neither site has been subject to archaeological investigation. A linear feature (HER 20909) of possible prehistoric date was seen to underlie possible Roman road surfaces 465m southeast of the development site, just inside the study area (site 16). The feature consisted of a shallow u-shaped cut 0.35m deep filled with greyish-brown silt and brown clay; the feature, probably a silted-up ditch, was aligned north to south (Hannaford, 1998, p6). No dating evidence was recovered but the feature may have been associated with the enclosure HER 04234).

4.5 Roman (43AD – 410AD)

4.5.1 A Roman road (HER 00098; site 10) runs from east to west through the study area, and is followed by the modern B4386 Shrewsbury to Montgomery road. The Roman road ran between Wroxeter (Viroconium Cornoviorum) and the military complexes at Forden Gaer (Lavobrinta) and Caersws (?Mediomannum). The road is likely to have been constructed by the Roman army early in the Roman occupation of the region, perhaps initially as part of Ostorius Scapula's consolidation of the Severn-Trent frontier in 47-8 AD (Collingwood and Richmond, 1969, p72) or during his campaigns against Caratacus and the Silures and Ordovices, or perhaps as a prelude to the conquest of Wales by Suetonius Paulinus a decade later (Webster, 1970, pp184-193 and 1975, pp24-5 and 53 and Cunliffe, 1991, pp203-5). Observations of the road were

made during a watching brief along the modern road between Nox and Westbury in 1997 (Hannaford, 1998).

4.5.2 In the 19th century a Roman fibula (brooch) (HER 02978) was found c.610m south of the development site (230m east of Shrubbery Farm). A hoard of coins (HER 00283), possibly of Roman date, were found in the front garden of Siteley, 1,600m west-southwest of the development site, in the mid-20th century.

4.6 Early medieval (5th century - 1066AD) and Medieval (1066 – 1540)

4.6.1 There are no recorded early medieval features within the study area. By the time of the Domesday Survey of 1086, the study area occupied parts of two manors (Yockleton and Stoney Stretton), both of which were late Saxon manors. The northwestern edge of the study area lay within the southeastern edge of the fields of Amaston manor. The place-name evidence places the origin of these manors within the Saxon period. It has been suggested that Yockleton (*loclehuile* in the Domesday Book) derives from *geoc* “yoke” and *hyll* “hill” (Gelling, 1990, p333-4). Gelling dismisses the suggestion that the first element of the name derives from *geocled* a Kentish term for a small manor. “Stretton” comes from the Old English *straet-tun* meaning “settlement on a Roman road”. The Roman road here was known as “The Stonye Causeway” in 1512. (Gelling, 1990, p287 & 1995, p64). The Roman road crossed two areas of marshy ground and in the medieval period was diverted slightly to the south to avoid these – this alignment was described as “via regia” (the king’s road). The Roman road was turnpiked in 1758 and the highway reverted to this route (VCH p 300). Amaston (*Enbaldestune* in the Domesday Book) is “Eanbald’s estate”. The hamlet shrank to a single farmstead, which was re-named “Heath Farm” in the 20th century. The part of the manor that lies in the study area was divorced from the township of Amaston by the construction of the Shrewsbury to Aberystwyth railway in the 19th century.

4.6.2 At the time of the Domesday Survey Yockleton (which presumably included the hamlet of Stoney Stretton) was held by Roger (son of) Corbet from Roger of Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury. At Domesday, the manor of Yockleton was a reasonably prosperous manor, occupied by 19 villagers and 6 smallholders with 8 ploughs between them, and with a further 3 ploughs and 8 slaves in lordship. There was a mill and woodland for fattening 100 pigs. The manor was worth £6 in 1086, but had been worth £8 before the Norman Conquest, when it had been held by a freeman, Edric (probably Edric the Wild). In 1094, Roger Corbet gave the tithes of Yockleton to Shrewsbury Abbey. In 1274 the Corbets were said to have 4 carucates (ploughlands) in the township with a further 1½ carucates being held by Roger Burnel (Fletcher, 1907). The ruins of a small chapel stood in 1655 at the eastern end of the village in a field still known as Chapel Field in the 19th century. (VCH p 303 and Foxall, 1964)

4.6.3 In 1086 the manor of Amaston (Heath Farm) was held directly from Roger of Montgomery by Almund and his son Alward, who were also the pre-Conquest holders. There were two taxable hides in the manor with enough land for 3½ ploughs; there were 4 villagers and 3 smallholders on the manor. The manor formed part of the Honour of Montgomery, and was subsequently held by William de Cantilope, and Eudo de la Zouche, before passing to the Mortimers, earls of March (Thorn & Thorn, 1986, 4,27,17 & notes).

4.6.4 The Corbets seem to have been given their lands in this part of the Marches by Earl Roger as part of his plans for both the control of the central Marches and the

defence against and conquest of the Welsh in the borderlands. The motte and bailey castle (HER 01085; site 1) at Yockleton was built at the end of the 11th or beginning of the 12th century, and is one of a number of small motte and bailey or ringwork and bailey fortifications in this area. The motte and bailey at Yockleton is strategically sited adjacent to a ford where the Roman road crosses the Yockleton Brook. A ringwork and bailey castle at Heath Farm (HER 01084, site 2) probably also dates from the end of the 11th or beginning of the 12th century. Both the castles at Yockleton and Heath Farm are Scheduled Ancient Monuments (“Motte castle 250m west of Yockleton Hall”, National Monument No.19226 and “Ringwork and bailey castle 100m north east of Heath Farm”, National Monument No. 19211). The sites of the castles lie 2km apart and are not inter-visible, being hidden from each other by the landform.

4.6.5 Roger Corbet’s lands remained in the Corbet family and formed the Barony of Cause (named from Caus Castle, southwest of Westbury). Yockleton and Stoney Stretton were held in lordship by the Corbets until 1347, when, on the death of Beatrice Corbet, the manors passed to Robert, son of Robert of Harley and Margaret of Brompton (a descendant of Thomas Corbet). Yockleton passed by descent and marriage to the Lingen family, who held it until 1641 (VCH p311-2).

4.6.6 Thomas Corbet had formed a park (HER 07717) to the west of Yockleton hamlet by 1274 (VCH p299); by 1300 the park was 70 acres (28ha) in extent (site 11). The group of “park” “hay” and hey” fieldnames in the west part of Yockleton township and eastern part of Stoney Stretton townships may mark the extent of this former parkland (see section 4.8.3 below). However, soil marks on current GIS Aerial Photography (Get Mapping, 2010) indicate that the western of these “hay” fields (those in Stoney Stretton township) were under ridge and furrow cultivation in the medieval period (site 20). Park Farm (site 12) was established by the 16th century and is thought to post-date the enclosure of the park.

4.7 Post-medieval (1540 – 1800) and Modern (1800 – present)

4.7.1 In 1672, Yockleton had 20 householders (Shropshire Hearth Tax Roll, 1672). There are 3 Grade II Listed Buildings in the modern village within the study area. These are: The White House, (Nat Ref 259045), a mid- to late 17th century cruck-built cottage with later brick alterations and additions (Fig. 2, site 4); The Cop, 6,7, Yockleton (Nat Ref 259046), a mid-17th century timber-framed farmhouse with later additions and alterations (site 5); and Upper House Farmhouse, (Nat Ref 259047), a late 16th-century timber-framed house within an early 19th century brick house (site 6). There are a number of other brick houses and buildings of 18th and 19th century in the village. The church was built in 1861 (VCH, p304). The proposed development site is hidden from these heritage assets within the village by other existing buildings in Yockleton, by the landform and by woodland. Park Farm (HER 27798) lies outside the village on its northwestern side, and includes a farmhouse of possible late 16th century date (HER 15201) (Fig. 2, site 12). The farm is visible from the proposed development site, but the site is hidden from the farmhouse by some of the farm’s large modern agricultural buildings.

4.7.2 The 1672 Hearth Tax role lists 12 householders in Stoney Stretton (Shropshire Hearth Tax Roll, 1672), and four of the households listed had two or more hearths. There is one Grade II* Listed Building within the hamlet of Stoney Stretton, Manor Farmhouse (Nat Ref 259022), which is a cruck-built timber-framed open-hall house, probably of mid-to late 15th century date with 17th and 19th century alterations (Fig. 2, site

3). There are a further three Grade II Listed Buildings in the hamlet: Lower House Farmhouse, (Nat Ref 259020), is a mid-17th century timber-framed house with later alterations and partial rebuilding (site 7). Stoney Stretton Hall, (Nat Ref 259021), the principal building in the hamlet, is a house built soon after 1813 for John Parry, but incorporating a late 17th century core (site 8). About 500m west of the hamlet, is a derelict 17th century timber framed house (House east of Yew Tree Farm, Stoney Stretton, Nat Ref 461888) (site 9). The non-designated heritage assets in Stoney Stretton include a 17th to early 18th century timber frame house with brick and stonework (House adjacent to Colston, HER 15228; site 13), and a late 18th or 19th century stone-built house (Patches, HER 15242; site 15). A milestone (HER 21152) of late 18th or early 19th century date lies on the south side of the B4386 road about 130m east of Stoney Stretton crossroads (site 14). The proposed development is hidden from the hamlet of Stoney Stretton by the landform, and is separated contextually by the B4386 road.

4.7.3 The lane running north from Stoney Stretton crossroads to Stretton Heath is labelled “supposed Roman Road” on the OS 1st edition 25” (1882) map and the 6” maps of 1890 and 1902. There appears to be no basis for this attribution. The 19th century cartography also documents the squatter-type settlement of Stretton Heath along this lane in the northwestern corner of Stoney Stretton township, to the northwest of the study area. The tithe award map of 1842 shows a pattern of small fields or “patches” with at least sixteen cottages; by 1882 the number had halved, though the small fields remained until the middle of the 20th century (SA P319/T/1/2A; OS 1882, 1902, & 1954).

4.8 Land use in the Post-medieval and Modern periods

4.8.1 To the south and east of the former Roman road the historic landscape in the study area is characterised by the settlement at Stoney Stretton, and the immediately adjacent fieldscape of small planned enclosure or re-organised piecemeal enclosure.

4.8.2 Shropshire’s mid-19th century field names were captured and recorded on a series of field-name maps by H D G Foxall from the Tithe Apportionment and maps of c. 1830 – 1848. The study area falls within the field name maps for Westbury parish, Yockleton township, 1839, and Stoney Stretton township, 1842 (Foxall, 1964).

4.8.3 The field-names in the northern and eastern part of the study area (see Fig.3) provide some evidence for the existence of the former Yockleton Park (HER 07717; site 11). “Park Corner” in the northwestern part of the study area lies against the border of Amaston township, and probably marks the northwestern extent of the park. Park Farm probably lies close to the eastern edge of the former park. A series of field-names include the element “Hays” and “Heys”, which is thought to derive from the Medieval Latin *haia* “part of a forest fenced off for hunting” (Gelling 1995 p11), or *(ge)haeg* “enclosure” (Gelling, p65, & p76) or “enclosure in the forest” or “hedged enclosure” (Langton & Jones, 2010). This may reflect a survival in folk-memory into the mid-19th century of the former enclosed park.

4.8.4 However cropmark and soil-mark traces of former ridge and furrow ploughing (site 20) immediately to the west of the study area suggest that in the medieval period this area was under strip cultivation for at least part of the time. Part of this field had the name “North Furlong” (also suggesting former ploughland), and it is probable that this area lay within of one of Stoney Stretton’s medieval open fields.

4.8.5 The northern part of the study area appears to have bordered on an area of former heathland that may have extended in patches an arc from Wattlesborough Heath in the west through Stretton Heath to Ford Heath, around the edges of the medieval settlements. Field names immediately to north of the study area suggest marginal land (“Bogs” and “Peak Moor”) some of which was coppice woodland (e.g. “Big & Little Coppice”, Far Coppice”). However, the extensive earthwork and cropmark remains of medieval ridge and furrow ploughing around Heath Farm (Amaston) to the northwest of the study area indicate the limits of the heathland.

4.8.6 The open fields of the study area were probably enclosed piecemeal from the later medieval period into the 17th century, and the mid to late 19th century mapping documents the end of this process. Traces of the 19th and early 20th century field boundaries on the proposed development site are visible as faint crop-marks on the current Shropshire digital aerial photography (site 22). The present large fields of the study area are a product of the post-WWII period in the 20th century.

5 IMPACT ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST

5.1 Impact on the Setting of Designated Heritage Assets

5.1.1 PPS5 defines the setting of a heritage asset as “the surroundings in which (the asset) is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a 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.” (English Heritage, 2011, p3.) This definition remains unchanged for the current National Planning Policy Framework (*English Heritage Commentary on the National Planning Policy Framework*, March 2012)

5.1.2 Designated Heritage Assets There are no Designated Heritage Assets within the study area around the proposed development site (i.e. within a radius of 500m from it). However, because of the size and scale of the proposed development, this assessment has considered the impact on the setting of Designated Heritage Assets in an extended zone with a radius of 1.5km of the proposed development site. There are two scheduled ancient monuments, one Grade II* Listed Building and 6 Grade II Listed Buildings within this zone (as shown on Fig. 2).

5.1.3 The proposed development site is hidden from the Scheduled Monument at Yockleton (Motte castle 250m west of Yockleton Hall, Mon. No. 19226) by rising ground to the west of the monument. The context of the monument lies in its setting on the edge of the village of Yockleton to the east and south and a large modern field to the north and west. The monument and its setting will not be adversely impacted on by the proposed development.

5.1.4 The development is screened partially by the landform and partially by mature trees from the Scheduled Monument at Heath Farm (Ringwork and bailey castle 100m north east of Heath Farm, Mon. No. 19211). There may be some inter-visibility if the trees were to be felled at some future date and so there is a potential for a low adverse visual impact on the setting of this asset. The setting of this monument has already been adversely affected by large modern agricultural units at Heath Farm itself, and by poultry units at Wood End Farm 325m east of the monument and at Silverdale farm 580m to the southwest. The Shrewsbury to Aberystwyth railway also now physically separates the ringwork at Heath Farm from the study area. The overall impact of the proposed development on the ringwork and its setting are therefore considered to be negligible to minor.

5.1.5 There are three designated heritage assets within the village of Yockleton. These are all Grade II Listed Buildings (sites 4-6), and the setting of these assets lies within the context of the modern and historic village. The proposed development site is screened from the village by the landform of rising ground to the west of the village. The magnitude and effect of the impact of the proposed development on these assets is considered to be negligible.

5.1.6 The remaining designated heritage assets comprise a Grade II* Listed Building (site 3) and three Grade II Listed Buildings (sites 7-9) within the hamlet of Stoney Stretton, and the setting of these assets lies within the context of this settlement. The proposed development site is screened from this settlement by rising ground to the north of the B4386 road. The magnitude and effect of the impact of the proposed development on these assets is considered to be negligible.

5.1.7 The extended study area is bisected from east to west by the modern B4386 road (following the line of a Roman road) to the south of the development site, and by the Shrewsbury to Aberystwyth railway to the north. To the north of the B4386 road, the immediate setting of the proposed development site is within very large post war (late 20th century) fields created from piecemeal post-medieval enclosed fields. Beyond this the landscape is characterized by dispersed farmsteads set within piecemeal post-medieval enclosed fields. The majority of these farmsteads now include large modern agricultural buildings, including a number of large poultry units. The hamlet of Stoney Stretton is physically separated from the proposed development site by the B4386 road, and by the modern fieldscape. It is considered that the opportunity to appreciate the significance of the designated heritage assets within the extended study area will not be affected by the proposed development.

5.2 Impact on the non-designated assets

5.2.1 Significance of recorded archaeological features This desk-based assessment has not identified any significant archaeological features within the area of the proposed development site itself.

5.2.2 Potential for archaeological remains There is evidence for prehistoric or Romano-British activity in and just outside the study area in the form of two cropmark enclosures (sites 17 & 19), a linear feature (site 16), and a Roman road (site 10), and there is significant activity of these periods in the surrounding landscape. There is a low potential for archaeological features or deposits of these periods to be present within the proposed development site itself. The site formed part of the medieval, post-medieval and modern agricultural landscape, and the potential for archaeological remains of these later periods is also considered to be low.

5.2.3 Survival of archaeological remains Because the proposed development site has been in agricultural use in the medieval, post-medieval and modern periods, the potential survival of any archaeological remains present within the site is considered to be high.

5.2.4 Potential impact of the proposed development The current proposal is for the erection of two poultry units on the development site, and the creation of an access track from the units to the B4386 road. The impact of this development on any below ground archaeological remains would be high, due to the construction of the units. However, given that the assessment for the archaeological significance of the development site is low, the impact of the proposed development is considered to be negligible to low.

5.3 Recommended further archaeological provision

It is recommended therefore that a programme of archaeological work should be included in any mitigation strategy for the proposed development. Such a programme of archaeological work might comprise the archaeological monitoring of groundworks (an archaeological watching brief) associated with the construction of the proposed development and its access track.

6 REFERENCES AND SOURCES CONSULTED

6.1 Sources

6.1.1 The repositories and sources consulted for the desk-based assessment included the Shropshire Historic Environment Record (HER) and Shropshire Archives.

6.1.2 Shropshire Historic Environment Record

Aerial Photographic Record

Oblique Photographs (colour & black and white prints):

SJ3709/A-E

SJ3711/A-K: HER 01084

SJ3909/A-B: HER 04234

SJ3910/A-C: HER 01085

Vertical Photographs - Cartographic Services (Southampton) Ltd, County of Shropshire 30th July 1983, 1:10,000, frame 6533 (black and white prints)

HER computer files for Primary Record Numbers (PRNs):

Scheduled Ancient Monuments

HER 01085 Motte castle 250m west of Yockleton Hall, National Monument No. 19226

HER 01084 Ringwork and bailey castle 100m north east of Heath Farm, National Monument No. 19211

Listed buildings

HER 15052, Manor Farmhouse, Stoney Stretton, Grade II*, National Reference 259022

HER 14938, Grange Farmhouse, Alberbury with Cardeston CP, Grade II, National Reference 258909

HER 18607, Lower House Farmhouse, Cardeston, Grade II, National Reference 258947

HER 19662, Heath Farmhouse, Yockleton Road, Grade II, National Reference 361537

HER 15613, Yockleton Mill and Cottage, Yockleton, Grade II, National Reference 361538

HER 15193, The White House, 3, Yockleton, Grade II, National Reference 259045

HER 15194, The Cop, 6,7, Yockleton, Grade II, National Reference 259046

HER 15186, Upper House Farmhouse, Yockleton, Grade II, National Reference 259047

HER 15262, Lower House Farmhouse, Stoney Stretton, Grade II, National Reference 259020

HER 13398, Stoney Stretton Hall, Stoney Stretton, Grade II, National Reference 259021

HER 19966, House east of Yew Tree Farm, Stoney Stretton, Grade II, National Reference 461888

HER 18640, Dovecote approximately 50 metres to north east of Lower Newton Farmhouse, Westbury C. P., Grade II, National Reference 259005

HER 18347, The Red House, Edge, Grade II, National Reference 259487

HER 13361, Edgemoor, Edge, Grade II, National Reference 259485

HER 18346, Barn approximately 30m north-east of Edgemoor, Edge, Grade II, National Reference 259486

Non-designated sites

HER 00098 Wroxeter to Forden Gaer Roman road

HER 07717 Yockleton Park

HER 15228 House adjacent to Colston, Stoney Stretton (building)

HER 21152 Milestone on B4386, by entrance to Barnfield, Stoney Stretton

HER 20909 Boundary ditch east of Greenlands

HER 27205 Lower House Farm

HER files for events (ESAs):

HER event ESA 4787 1994-1999 Wroxeter Hinterland Project

HER event ESA 5077 1997-1998 WB on the Westbury-Nox mains rehabilitation scheme

HER event ESA 6722 2012 Historic building appraisal of the former stables at Stoney Stretton, Yockleton

6.1.3 Shropshire Archives

Among the various sources consulted at Shropshire Archives, the following proved the most productive sources of information for the particular requirements of this assessment of the study area:

Cartographic sources:

Ordnance Survey 1882 & 1902 1:2500 (25") Shropshire Sheet No. XXXIII.14 & XL.2

Field-name maps by H D G Foxall from the Tithe Apportionment and maps

Transactions of the Shropshire Archaeological and Historical Society

6.2 Other sources and bibliography

- British Geological Survey** 2010: *Geology of Britain Viewer*. Online resource at http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer_google/googleviewer.html viewed November 2012
- Ellis, P, Evans, J, Hannaford, H R, Hughes, G, & Jones, A**, 1994: *Excavations in the Wroxeter Hinterland 1988-90: The Archaeology of the A5/A49 Shrewsbury Bypass*, TSAHS vol. LXIX, 1994, pp1-119
- English Heritage**, 2011: *The Settings of Heritage Assets: English Heritage Guidance*
- Eyton, Rev. W**, 1858: *Antiquities of Shropshire*, vol vii
- Fletcher, Rev. W G D (ed)**, 1907: *The Shropshire Lay Subsidy Roll 1327*, Oswestry
- Foxall, H D G**, 1980: *Shropshire Field-Names*, SAS, Shrewsbury
- Frost, P**, 2012: *Former Stables at Stoney Stretton, Yockleton, Shropshire*, Castlering Archaeology Report No. 382
- Gaydon, A T (ed)**, 1968: *A History of Shropshire (Condover Hundred and Ford Hundred)*, vol VIII, Oxford University Press pp295-332
- Gelling, M**, 1990: *The Place-Names of Shropshire*, EPNS, Vols. LXII/LXIII (Part One)
- Hannaford, H R**, 1996: *Salvage Recording during the Construction of the A5 Shrewsbury Bypass*, SCCAS Report No. 98
- Langton, J, & Jones, G**, 2010: *Forests and Chases in England and Wales, c. 1000 to c. 1850*, Oxford <http://info.sic.ox.ac.uk/forests/glossary.htm> (accessed 02/11/12)
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- White, K W**, 2006: *Mediomannum?: Large Roman Fort & Minor Romano-British Settlement* <http://www.roman-britain.org/places/caersws.htm> (accessed 02/11/12)
- Thorn, F and Thorn, C (eds)**, 1986: *Domesday Book, Shropshire*, Phillimore, Chichester

Cartographic sources

- 1752 **Rocque, J**, 1752: *Actual Survey of the County of Salop*
- 1808 **Baugh, R**, 1808: *Map of Shropshire*, Llanymynech
- 1827 **Greenwood, C**, 1827: *Map of the County of Salop*
- 1839 Tithe Apportionment map for Yockleton Township in the Parish of Westbury (SA ref: PF297)
- 1839 **Foxall, H D G**, 1964: Fieldname map based on Tithe Apportionment and Map for Yockleton Township in the Parish of Westbury, 1839
- 1842 Tithe Apportionment map for Stoney Stretton Township in the Parish of Westbury (SA ref: PF297)
- 1842 **Foxall, H D G**, 1964: Fieldname map based on Tithe Apportionment and Map for Stoney Stretton Township in the Parish of Westbury, 1842
- 1881 **OS** 1882 25" Shropshire Sheets XXXIII.14 & XL.2
- 1902 **OS** 1902 25" Shropshire Sheets XXXIII.14 & XL.2
- 1999 **UK Perspectives**, 1999 (digital aerial photography)
- 2010 **GetMapping**, 2010 (digital aerial photography)

ABBREVIATIONS

BGS	British Geological Survey
BUFAU	Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit
EPNS	English Place-Name Society
HER	Historic Environment Record, Shropshire Council
OS	Ordnance Survey
RCHME	Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England
SA	Shropshire Archives, Castle Gates, Shrewsbury
SAS	Shropshire Archaeological Society
SCAS	Shropshire Council Archaeology Service
SCCAS	Shropshire County Council Archaeology Service
TSAS	Transactions of the Shropshire Archaeological Society
TSAHS	Transactions of the Shropshire Archaeological and Historical Society

APPENDIX 1: HERITAGE ASSETS

Site No	Name	Status	Ref No.	NGR (centre)
1	Motte castle 250m west of Yockleton Hall	SAM	Mon No 19226, HER 01085	SJ 3966 1025
2	Ringwork and bailey castle 100m north east of Heath Farm	SAM	Mon No 19211, HER 01084	SJ 3794 1132
3	Manor Farmhouse, Stoney Stretton	LB II*	Nat Ref 259022, HER 15052	SJ 3819 0947
4	The White House, 3, Yockleton	LB II	Nat Ref 259045, HER 15193	SJ 3995 1011
5	The Cop, 6,7, Yockleton	LB II	Nat Ref 259046, HER 15194	SJ 3990 1013
6	Upper House Farmhouse, Yockleton	LB II	Nat Ref 259047, HER 15186	SJ 3982 1001
7	Lower House Farmhouse, Stoney Stretton	LB II	Nat Ref 259020 HER 15262	SJ 3846 0962
8	Stoney Stretton Hall, Stoney Stretton	LB II	Nat Ref 259021, HER 13398	SJ 3831 0957
9	House east of Yew Tree Farm, Stoney Stretton	LB II	Nat Ref 461888, HER 19966	SJ 3778 0926

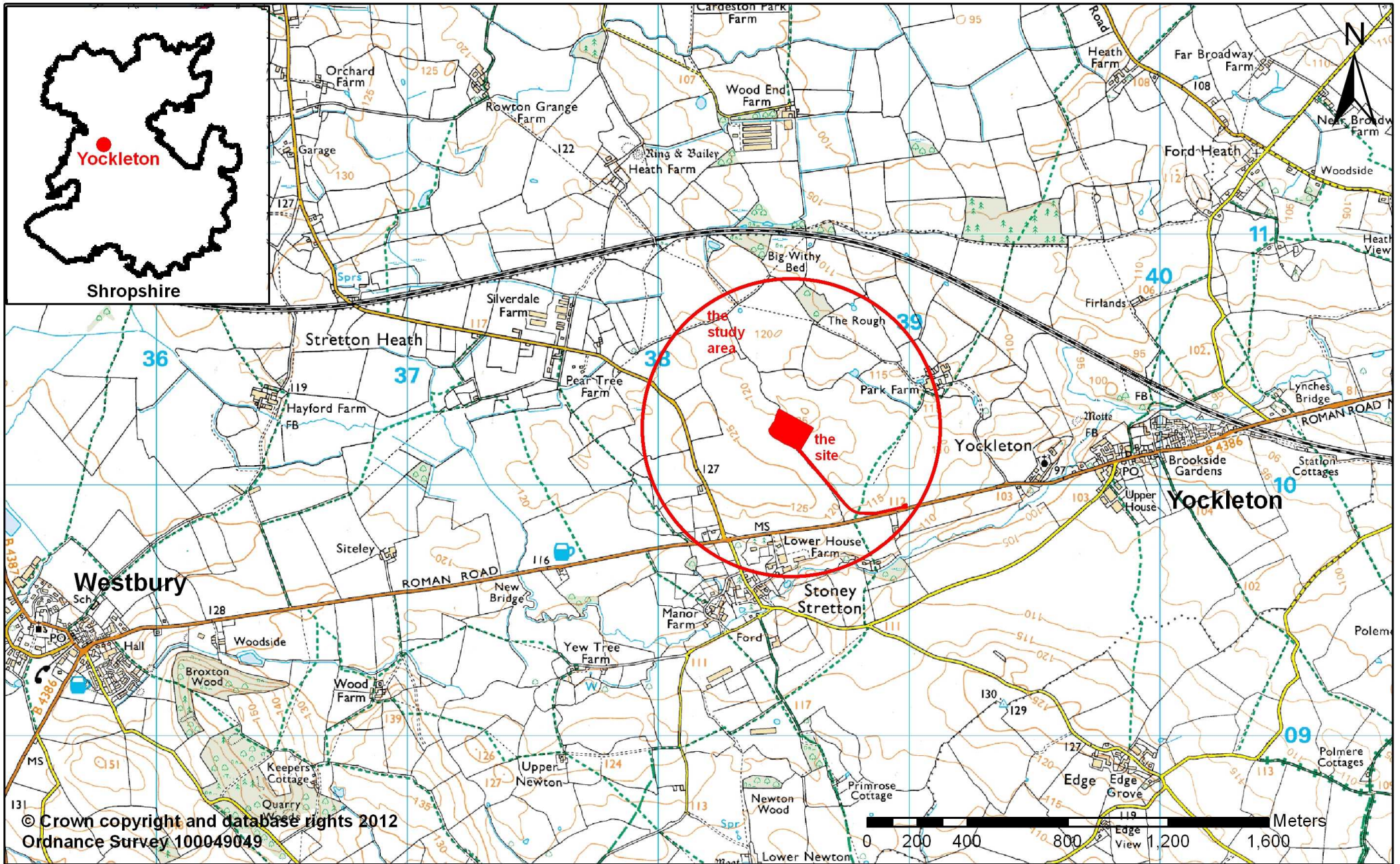
Table 1: Designated Assets within 2km radius

Site No	Name	Ref No.	NGR (centre)
10	Wroxeter to Forden Gaer Roman road	HER 00098	SJ 386 098
11	Yockleton Park	HER 07717	SJ 3914 1036
12	Park Farm	HER 15201 & 27798	SJ 3911 1040
13	House adjacent to Colston, Stoney Stretton	HER 15228	SJ 3817 0980
14	Milestone on B4386, by entrance to Barnfield, Stoney Stretton	HER 21152	SJ 3843 0980
15	Patches, Stoney Stretton	HER 15242	SJ 3881 0970
16	Boundary ditch east of Greenlands	HER 20909	SJ 3896 0989
17	Enclosure at Greenlands	HER 04234	SJ 3905 0983
18	Lower House Farm	HER 27205	SJ 3848 0966

Table 2: Un-designated Assets within 0.5km radius

Site No	Description	Evidence	NGR (centre)
19	HER 28637 Cropmark enclosure c 100m SW of the New Bridge on the B4386, west of Yockleton	APs	SJ 3843 1000
20	Soil-marks of ridge and furrow to SW of the development site	APs	SJ 3835 1011
21	Cropmarks of possible quarry pits – 19 th century field-names Big and Little Quarry Bank	Field-name maps APs	SJ 3840 0990
22	Cropmarks of 19 th C field boundaries	OS 25" 1 st & 2 nd eds. APs	SJ 3870 1030

Table 3: Other relevant sites referred to in the assessment

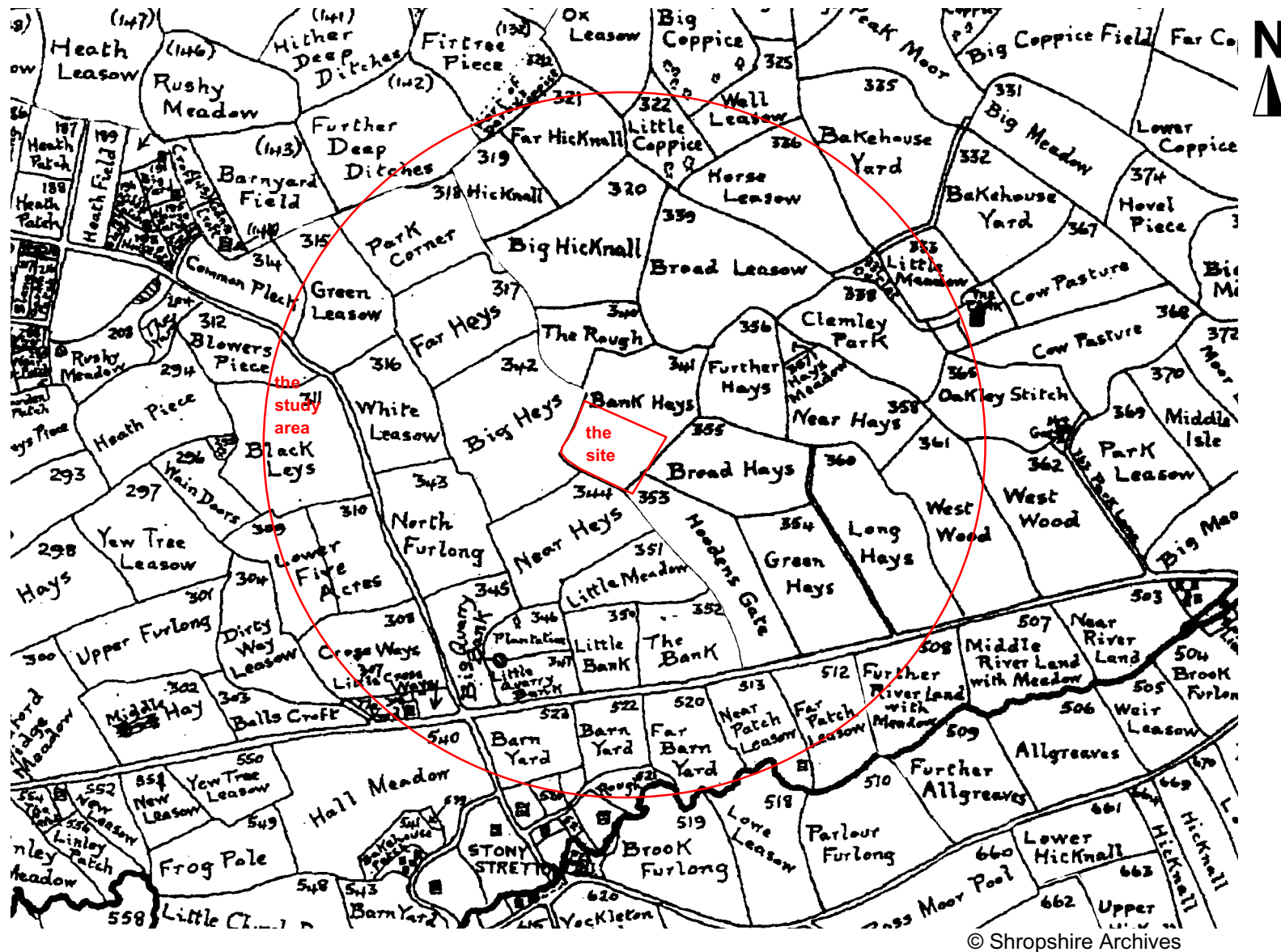


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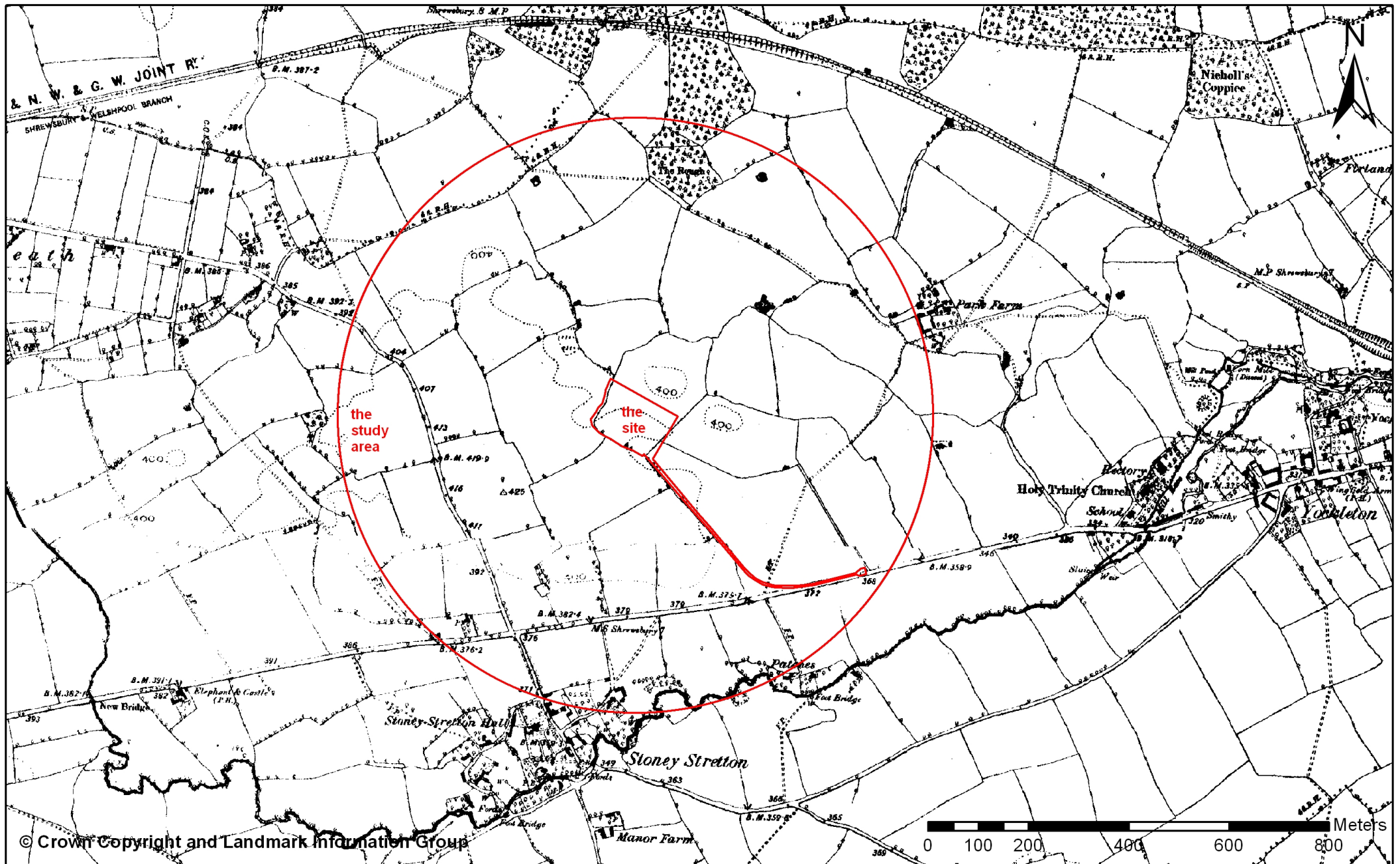
BANK HOUSE FARM, YOCKLETON 2012
 Figure 1: Location of the proposed development site and the study area

Archaeology Service
 Shropshire Council
 Historic Environment Team, Business, Growth & Prosperity,
 Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6ND
 1:20,000



BANK HOUSE FARM, YOCKLETON 2012

Figure 3: Extract from the Foxall field-name maps for Yockleton and Stoney Stretton townships, 1:10,000 scale

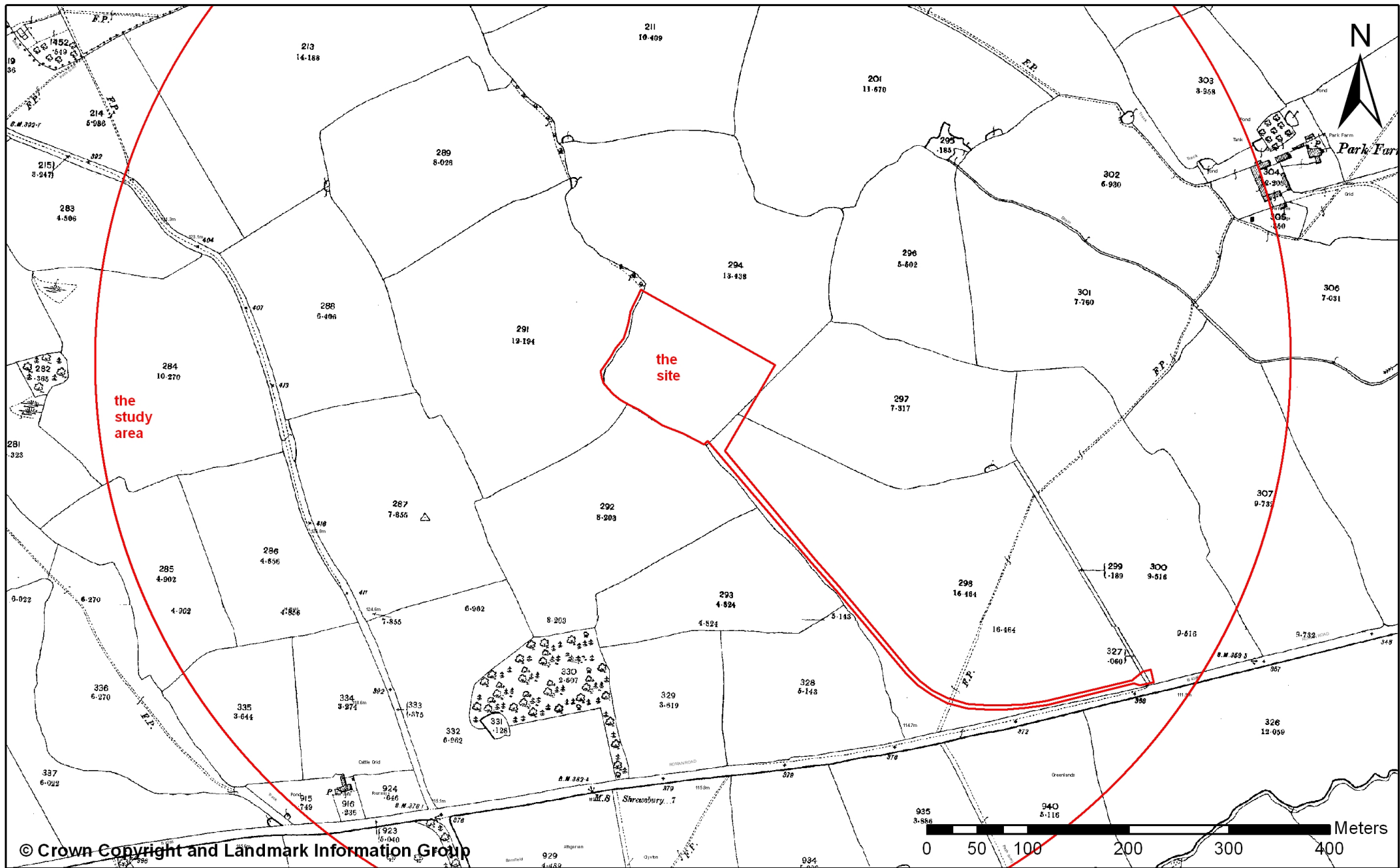


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 Figure 4: Extract from the OS 6" (1:10,560) map c. 1890 showing the study area

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 Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6ND
 1:10,000



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Figure 5: Extract from the OS 25" (1:2,500) 2nd Edition map, 1902, showing the proposed development site

Archaeology Service

Shropshire Council
 Historic Environment Team, Business, Growth & Prosperity,
 Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6ND
 1:5,000



Photo 1: The proposed development site, looking S



Photo 2: The proposed development site, looking N



Photo 3: The site of the access track, looking SE