

**Manor House Farm, Wilson's Lane, Longford, Coventry
Warwickshire**

An Archaeological Excavation

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The dairy under excavation

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SUMMARY

During August and September 2014 Trent & Peak Archaeology carried out an archaeological excavation on behalf of Bellway Homes on the site of the former Manor House Farm, Wilson's Lane, Coventry, Warwickshire. The work was required as part of Coventry City Council planning permission APP/U4610/A11/2158113 prior to the site's redevelopment for housing.

The site is located in Longford, Coventry (SP 3465 8442) at approximately 100m above the Ordnance Survey Datum and overlooks the valley of the River Sowe. It lies in close proximity to a medieval moated site situated to the north. Manor House Farm was originally set within an agricultural landscape, encroached upon by modern housing in the decades following the Great War.

Manor House Farm is recorded in the Victoria County History as being of principally 18th century date with a 17th century west frontage. Cartographic evidence indicates that the farmhouse comprised a north to south orientated range with a rear wing extending to the east forming an L-shaped building with a further small room extending from the northern wall. The farmhouse occupied the south western part of a rectangular farmyard bounded by building ranges on each side. The farmhouse remained largely unchanged from 1888 until its demolition between 1957 and 1970. Additions were made to the northern and western ranges between 1952 and 1970 and to the eastern range between 1980 and 1992. The ranges around the farmyard were demolished in 2014.

An archaeological evaluation in 2013 undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology uncovered 18th and 19th century phases of the farm including foundations and floor surfaces of Manor House Farm, a number of domestic refuse pits, boundary walls and ditches. Tentative evidence for late medieval activity was also present.

The agricultural prosperity of the Georgian period resulted in farmhouses in large parts of England being embellished and extended. Manor House Farm is one such example, the excavation supporting the assertion made in the Victoria County History that the farmhouse had 17th century origins and that this phase was demolished, with the exception of its western frontage and cellar, during the 18th century when it was rebuilt as an L-shaped farmhouse. The farm was also remodelled at this time with the land immediately to the south-east of the farmhouse being opened up by the removal of 17th boundary walls, possibly creating a garden, and the southern boundary of the farmyard formalised by the construction of a new wall. The farmyard surfaces and ranges are however later, dating to the first half of the 19th century.

Additions and alterations were made to the house in the following centuries notably the rebuilding of the dairy, probably during the 18th century, the construction of a wash-house prior to 1888 and the building of an outside toilet block in the latter half of the 20th century. The principal internal changes recognised during the excavation were to the main range which underwent several phases of subdivision and the laying of a quarry tile floor.

Two circular pits and a potential post-hole were encountered to the south and south-east of the farmhouse which are likely to date to the 19th century. The pits were possibly used for the disposal of domestic rubbish. An earlier pit located within the footprint of farmhouse contained medieval pottery with further residual sherds recovered from the north-west corner of the building suggestive of medieval occupation in close proximity to the farmhouse.

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CONTENTS

| | Page |
|---|---|
| Summary | 2 |
| List of Contents | 3 |
| List of Illustrations | 4 |
| Acknowledgments | 6 |
| 1. Introduction | 7 |
| 2. Site background | 7 |
| 3. Archaeological and Historical Background | 7 |
| 4. Excavation | 9 |
| 5. Results | 9 |
| 6. Conclusions | 13 |
| 7. Bibliography | 14 |
| | |
| Appendix 1 | Coventry HER (DHER) Events and Non-Designated Heritage Assets (Monuments) within 500m of Manor House Farm. |
| Appendix 2 | Context Summary |
| Appendix 3 | Assessment of the medieval pottery from Manor House Farm, Wilson's Lane, Longford, Coventry, Warwickshire. Paul Blinkhorn |
| Appendix 4 | Assessment of the post-medieval pottery from Manor House Farm, Wilson's Lane, Longford, Coventry, Warwickshire. Lee Elliott |
| Appendix 5 | Specification for an Archaeological Excavation of Land at Manor House Farm, Wilson's Lane, Coventry Rob Bourne 2014 CgMs Report RB/KB/15732 |

LIST OF FIGURES

- Figure 1: Site location 1:20,000. Insert depicts the site boundary in red.
Figure 2: Trench location plan showing archaeological features.
Figure 3: Location of the known Historic Environment (HER) entries within 500m of the boundary of the site
Figure 4: Manor House Farm highlighted on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1888.
Figure 5: Manor House Farm highlighted on the Ordnance Survey map of 1904.
Figure 6: Manor House Farm highlighted on the Ordnance Survey map of 1913.
Figure 7: Manor House Farm highlighted on the Ordnance Survey map of 1936.
Figure 8: Manor House Farm highlighted on the Ordnance Survey map of 1950.

Figure 9: Map of 2014 showing the outbuildings associated with Manor House Farm prior to their demolition

Figure 10: Trench 11 post excavation plan.

Figure 11: Manor House Farm principal building phases of the farmhouse and section locations.

Figure 12: North facing section of the cellar wall 1189 and vault 1219. Scale 1:20.

Figure 13: South facing section of wall 1187 showing construction cut 1199. Scale 1:20.

Figure 14: North facing section of coal chute 1217. Scale 1:20.

Figure 15: East facing section of foundation trench 1130 cutting foundation trench 1127. Scale 1:20.

Figure 16: North facing section of foundation trench 1146 for wall 1165. Scale 1:20.

Figure 17: East facing section of post-holes 1201 and 1203. Scale 1:20.

Figure 18: West facing section of pit 1104 cut by former electric cable trench. Scale 1:20.

Figure 19: North-west facing section of pit 1243. Scale 1:20.

LIST OF PLATES

Plate 1: Trench 10 west facing section, viewed looking south-east.

Plate 2: Trench 11 during excavation with the north end of the main range in the foreground, viewed looking east.

Plate 3: The cellar during excavation, viewed looking south-west.

Plate 4: The 17th century wall 1188 abutted the 18th century wall 1230, viewed looking east.

Plate 5: Ash pit 1221 after excavation, viewed looking south-west.

Plate 6: General view of the main range with 18th century wall 1187 and the later quarry tile floor 1193 in the foreground. Note how both have been truncated by an electric cable trench, viewed looking north-west.

Plate 7: General view of the wing taken from Room H, viewed looking south-east.

Plate 8: Room B under excavation, viewed looking north-east.

Plate 9: Walls 1161 in the foreground and 1143 in the background abutting wall 1174, viewed looking north-west.


Plate 10: Wall 1166 after a slot was excavated through the feature, viewed looking south.

Plate 11: Eastern end of yard surface 1156 with Room D in the background, viewed looking south-west.

Plate 12: Cobbled surfaces 1140 and 1141, viewed looking south-east.

Plate 13: Pit 1243, after the excavation of its north western half, viewed looking south-east.

Plate 14: Pit 1104, and electric cable trench truncating it to the south, after the excavation of their western halves, viewed looking east.

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1. INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of an archaeological excavation that was carried out by Trent & Peak Archaeology (TPA) on behalf Bellway Homes. The work was undertaken in August and September 2014 on the site of the former Manor House Farm, Wilson's Lane, Longford, Coventry, Warwickshire centred on National Grid reference SP 3465 8442 (Figures 1 and 2) prior to the site's redevelopment for housing as part of Coventry City Council planning permission APP/U4610/A11/2158113. It followed on from an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in 2013 (Stone 2013), that uncovered elements of Manor House Farm, a building thought to principally date to the 17th -18th century and tentative evidence for late medieval activity.

The planning authority imposed the following condition attached to the Inspector's decision:

14. *No development shall take place until the appellants, or their agents or successors in title, have secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work and recording the existing buildings on the site in accordance with a written scheme of investigation and recording which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the local planning authority.*

A written scheme of investigation (WSI) was subsequently submitted by CgMs Consulting, and approved by Coventry City Council of which the current work forms a part. The WSI stated that the excavation be carried out in accordance with appropriate professional standards, as defined in the Institute for Archaeologists' (IfA) *Standards & Guidance for an Archaeological Excavation* (1999).

The overall study has employed the methodology developed by Trent & Peak Archaeology for use on similar projects in the region. This methodology conforms to the standard requirements of planning authorities where consent applications are made for development. These follow guidelines to be found in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (2012) which replaces conservation planning document *Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment* (PPS 5, 2010).

The TPA site code is CWL 1.

2. SITE BACKGROUND

Topography

The site comprises an irregular block of pasture to the west of Wilson's Lane, Longford, a suburb on the northern outskirts of Coventry. The site is bounded by Wilson's Lane and the gardens of properties fronting on to Wilson's Lane to the east, and farmland to the south, west and north. A cluster of former farm buildings, since demolished, and a farmyard occupied the southern corner of the site. The site is located on a gentle west-south-west facing slope, at approximately 100m above Ordnance Survey Datum and overlooks the valley of the River Sowe.

Geology

The underlying geology is Whitacre Member Carboniferous sandstones and mudstones (<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html>).

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Known Heritage Assets Within 500m of Manor House Farm (Figure 3)

The Coventry Historic Environment Record (HER) records no known sites of archaeological interest within the proposed development area, other than it being the site of Manor House Farm. The building is described in the Victoria County History as being:

'mainly of 18th century brick construction, but the rear facade (west side) belongs to the 17th century. It is divided into bays by means of three fluted Doric pilasters, which stand on pedestals each supporting a triglyph, but the cornice over has been removed. These features are of brown sandstone, and except for a stone plinth and stringcourse the remainder is of brick with sash windows of a later date. The whole appears to constitute a central bay and a south wing, slightly recessed, the balancing wing to the north having being demolished. The original centre door architrave remains, with two flanking Doric columns supporting blocks of entablature and a segmented pediment'. (Salzman 1951, 87).

The range of farm buildings associated with Manor House Farm arranged around the farmyard are thought to be those depicted on the 1850 Tithe map; their appearance would suggest a construction date in the first half of the 19th century (Stone 2013 4).

A moated site of likely medieval date lies approximately 300m to the north of the site (HER WA1659). Further heritage assets are present within 500m of Manor House Farm concentrated to the south-east. The 18th century assets are three houses (MCT353) and a section of the Oxford Canal (MCT8679). There are four assets dating to the 19th century comprising the Longford and Exhall Railway Station (MCT481), a former tramway (MCT493) and two houses (MCT721). The only 20th century asset is a canal bridge carrying the Longford Road/Bedworth Road over the Coventry Canal (MCT12).

Cartographic Analysis (Figures 4-9)

Consultation of historic maps that depict the development site were consulted. A cartographic date range of 1888 to the present was obtained showing that despite housing encroaching upon the farmhouse after the Great War, Manor House Farm remained largely unchanged until its demolition, comprising a north to south orientated range with a rear wing extending to the east forming an L-shaped building with a further small room extending from the northern wall. The farmhouse was one of a number of buildings enclosing the farmyard. It is of note that on the Ordnance Survey map of 1950 the range occupying the northern edge of the farmyard is labelled as being a 'Casting Works' indicating that some of the buildings were being used for industrial rather than farming activities. A driveway is depicted on the 19th century maps extending from Wilson's Lane to the southern end of the house which appears to have been retained into the 20th century.

The principal changes occurred after 1913 when a small outbuilding to the east of the wing was removed and after 1936 when it appears that the wing was enlarged to the south. The buildings around the farmyard remain unchanged, though those on the west side are recorded as being a 'Ruin' in 1950, until additions were made to the northern and western ranges between 1952 and 1970 and to the eastern range between 1980 and 1992. Manor House Farm was demolished between 1957 and 1970 and the farm buildings in 2014.

Previous Archaeological Work

An evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in 2013 (Stone 2013) which revealed tentative evidence for late medieval activity on the site comprising a shallow pit containing a likely residual sherd of 13th/14th century pottery. Residual medieval pottery was also recovered from the subsoil and made-ground.

Foundations and floor surfaces from the 18th and 19th century phases of Manor House Farm were revealed in the southern end of the site. To the south of the farmhouse, and contemporary with it, were a number of pits which had been excavated to dispose of domestic rubbish. Contemporary ditches were encountered in the northern and central part of the site, two of which are present on the Ordnance survey map of 1888.

To the north and west of the farm buildings made-ground was recorded with some of the deposits being industrial in nature comprising clinker and a white limey concretion.

4. EXCAVATION

Objectives

The objectives of the fieldwork were in accordance with the WSI produced by CgMs Consulting on behalf of Bellway Homes and agreed by Chris Patrick the Conservation and Archaeology Officer for Coventry City Council (Appendix 5).

All excavation and recording was carried out in line with IfA Guidelines and standard archaeological practice.

Methodology

The trench numbering system adopted during the 2013 evaluation by Cotswold Archaeology was continued during the excavation hence the two trenches opened during 2014 being numbered Trenches 10 and 11.

Topsoil and modern levelling material was removed using a tracked excavator with a toothless ditching bucket under archaeological supervision. The site was excavated at a level which archaeological features or deposits were encountered or, if not present, to the top of the natural substrata.

All deposits were hand cleaned and representative sections were photographed and drawn at a scale of 1:20 or 1:10. Plans were drawn at 1:50 or 1:100. Archaeological features and natural deposits were given an individual four figure context number e.g. 0001. All recovered artefacts were given an individual code e.g. AAA and bagged by context.

5. RESULTS

Trench 10 (*Figure 2, Plate 1*)

Trench 10 was located in the centre of the former farmyard. It was north to south orientated and measured 25m x 1.8m. Two deposits were encountered, (1000) and (1002) which are of 20th century or later date. Deposit (1000) was confined to the northern half of the trench. It was the uppermost of the two layers and comprised very dark brown sandy clay with modern inclusions including plastic. Deposit (1002) was bluish black gritty clay, likely to be gas work ash, containing modern inclusions including tarmac. The layers extended to a depth of c. 1m at which point natural red sand and clay (1001) was encountered. No archaeological features were present cutting the natural substrata.

Deposits (1000) and (1002) are probably the same modern levelling deposits recorded in Trenches 5-8 located to the north of the farmyard during the evaluation of 2013. Their depth is such that it is likely that they would have truncated any earlier archaeological features.

Trench 11 (*Figure 2, Plate 2*)

Trench 11 was 35m x 20m and targeted the footprint of Manor House Farm in the south-west corner of the development site.

The Farmhouse (*Figures 10-14, Plates 3-9*)

The foundations, former walls, floors and other features associated with Manor House Farm were encountered beneath very dark brown sandy silt loam topsoil (1101) at a depth of between 0.01m and 0.30m. The farmhouse comprised a north to south orientated range with a rear wing extending to the east forming an L-shaped building with a further small room extending from the northern wall. The principal rooms are lettered A-H. The wall footings and floors were set into the underlying dark yellowish brown sandy loam to silt loam subsoil (1102), (1142), (1183), (1244). A well is located immediately north of the farmhouse within yard [1156].

Phase 1

The west exterior wall [1188]/[1241] is the frontage mentioned in the Victoria County History as being of 17th century date (Salzman 1951, 87). It comprises a shallow sandstone foundation of up to two courses, bonded with light reddish brown clay, upon which the brick courses are laid. The bricks are hand-made, measure 8 inches x 4 inches x 2 inches and are bonded with a pinkish white mortar. The wall is not tied into the principal walls [1230] and [1187] which extend to the east forming the north and south walls respectively of the farmhouse. However, the west wall is tied into the southern cellar wall [1189] indicating that the cellar is also of 17th century date. The cellar wall [1189] extended above floor level, becoming wall [1192] to the east thus dividing the principal room of the main range.

The cellar is brick built with a vaulted roof [1219] and [1220] which had been broken during the demolition of the farmhouse in the late 20th century. It exceeded 0.88m in depth, 3.5m in width and 3m in length; it could feasibly extend beneath the entire of Room G. Well compacted red sand (1222) was dumped over the vault creating a level surface for the floor above which comprised quarry tile floor [1245], the tiles measuring 5½ inches x 5 inches set in mortar. However, it is probable that the floor relates to the re-building programme of the 18th century discussed below rather than to the 17th century.

Entry into the main range was through a centrally placed doorway, the lower step [1218] of which survives. However, although some mortar is present the bricks are principally bonded with dark grey silt loam suggestive of later repair.

Situated centrally and immediately north of wall [1189] is brick feature [1221]. It is 0.72m in width and 0.32m deep and had been truncated to the north during the buildings demolition. The base of the feature is the vault of the cellar [1220]. It had been infilled with ash deposit [1246], a single pipe bowl dating to between 1670 and 1720 was present at the base of the deposit raising the possibility that feature [1221] may date to the 17th century. A likely interpretation is that it is an ash pit for a former fireplace set in wall [1189] which is likely to have been retained during the 18th century rebuilding programme providing the principal heat source for the main range.

It must be noted that a more usual location for the fireplace would have been in the south gable wall of the main range as opposed to in wall [1189]. It could be that the farmhouse was simply built this way or it may be that earlier building evidence has been lost. Foundations relating to the demolished 17th century building were not encountered though judging by the shallow nature of the footings for the surviving west frontage wall this is probably due to them being too insubstantial to have survived the 18th demolition and re-building.

Phase 2

Exterior walls [1173], [1175], [1187] and [1230] are all likely to be of contemporary 18th century date due to their similar characteristics. The bricks used in each are handmade and 2½ inches thick and bonded with a grey to pinkish grey lime mortar. The foundations below are of well dressed sandstone, up to two courses and bonded with reddish brown clay. Foundation trench cuts were only visible in the cases of [1187] and [1230]. Excavation of [1187] established its foundation cut [1199] was 0.44m in depth and contained two fills, the lowest of which (1240) contained brick fragments. Interestingly a residual sherd of 15th century pottery came from [1230]. The east wall of Room C, [1174], may also relate to this construction phase as it too uses handmade bricks 2½ inches thick. The wall is constructed differently however, being of a rubble core faced with brick. On the other hand, as it was originally a gable wall, and not a side wall, a different construction technique would not be unexpected. External wall [1176] is contemporary with [1174] as it uses identical mortar. Abutting [1176] and [1230] is sandstone feature [1177], its worn nature and position suggesting that it was the threshold of a doorway providing access into the wing of the farm.

Internal wall [1190], brick built on a stone foundation, also belongs to the 18th century phase discussed above as it is tied into wall [1187]. It extends north where it abuts wall [1189] thus creating further sub-divisions in the southern end of the main range of the building. The northern part of the main range was divided by internal wall [1224]. It was built of bricks 2½ inches thick bonded with pinkish grey mortar. Whether it had stone foundations was not

established though it post-dated wall [1188] and the similarity of its bricks and mortar to other 18th century features suggests that it is contemporary with [1190]. Dividing the main range and the wing is wall [1178] which is also built of bricks 2½ inches thick on a sandstone foundation. It does not extend right across the building indicating the position of the doorway between the main range and wing.

Heating the wing was a fireplace [1179] located to the south of entrance [1177]. It had been heavily truncated and unfortunately produced no dating evidence.

The 18th century phase of Manor Farm House comprises a main range and a rear wing. The main range was entered by a central doorway in the retained 17th century west frontage wall leading into Room G, the parlour, which was probably heated by a fireplace on the south wall retained from the earlier building. A further unheated room was located to the south, Room F, probably used as a store. The main range was subdivided in the north creating Room H. Room C in the wing had a fireplace in the west wall and a brick floor suggesting that this was the kitchen. Therefore the unheated Room H is likely to be the pantry. The size of the foundations from this phase would suggest a house of three storeys or possibly two storeys with attic rooms. Such a layout conforms to the typical 18th century farmhouse which was often L-shaped in plan and comprised a central entrance hall or parlour with a pantry and kitchen to the rear. Access to the upper floor was usually via a staircase often positioned opposite the doorway (Braun 1969, 125-129).

Phase 3

The wing was extended to the east with the addition of Room B1 comprising walls [1147], [1150], [1162], and [1170] and brick floor [1161] which were built using handmade bricks similar to those used in Phase 2 though there were no sandstone footings, suggesting that it may have been of a single storey. Prior to construction the ground was levelled creating deposit (1158) and (1168) which wall [1147] subsequently cut. Room B1 clearly post dates Room C as wall [1162] abuts [1174] though the use of handmade bricks of similar dimensions suggest that they may actually be contemporary or built within a small number of years of each other.

Phase 4

Room B1 was subsequently demolished and replaced with a slightly larger building Room B2 comprising a south and east wall [1143] constructed using bricks 2¾ inches in size, and a north wall [1146], which used the same size bricks on a sandstone foundation, and the wall of Room C [1174] which [1143] abuts. The northern wall [1146] is on the same alignment and uses the same type of footings as wall [1115] to the east raising the possibility that the north wall [1146] reuses earlier wall foundations. Smooth sandstone blocks [1145] forming part of the northern wall are likely to be the threshold of the former doorway into this part of the building. Within the room beneath modern demolition layer (1159) are the fragmentary remains of a brick floor [1151]/[1152] comprising bricks which have been halved and pressed end-on into the underlying sandy silt loam deposits (1158) and (1168). Brick features [1148] and [1149] are also likely to relate to this phase of the building.

It is likely that Room B was the dairy, a building considered an essential part of the house, and usually located at the rear of the property beyond the kitchen with easy access to the farmyard (Brown 1985, 83-4). The insubstantial foundations of both phases suggest a single storey structure.

It is possibly during this time that brick feature [1217] was added to the west wall [1241]. The bricks used are a similar size as those used in wall [1143] and were bonded with a sand based pale red mortar. It measured 1.03m x 0.9m and extended into the cellar, the western edge having a 60 degree slope. It is likely that this shaft is a coal chute inserted to allow coal bags to be slid into the cellar from the outside.

Phase 5

Cartographic evidence indicates that prior to 1888 a building (Room D), was added to the north elevation of the farmhouse comprising two surviving brick walls [1205] and [1206]. The length of the walls is unknown as they have been truncated by modern demolition deposits

[1208], [1209], and [1210]. The walls cut through the brick yard surface [1156] though the yard surface was retained inside. A doorway was present in the east wall [1205] providing access to the yard and a brick step presumably let up to a doorway leading into Room C. A lead pipe indicates that the room had running water and there was a drain immediately outside.

During the late Georgian period there was a tendency to add a single storey outshot to farmhouses which were used as a wash-house (Braun 1969, 126). The location of Room D being close to the well and the presence of a water pipe into the room and drain immediately outside, combined with the retention of the well-laid surface [1156] suggest that this is likely to be just such a wash-house.

Phase 6

At some point after 1950 a small rectangular building, Room A, was constructed using wall [1115] as its north wall. It had a concrete floor upon which a brick wall of a single course was built along its west, east and south edge. Water and sewer pipes fed into the building indicating that it was an outside toilet. The upper face of the bricks had no mortar present suggesting that it was a wooden building set on a brick foundation.

Undated Walls and Flooring

A number of features remain undated. Within Room C are the fragmentary remains of two floor surfaces, [1181] and [1182], both of which are set into the subsoil (1183). Feature [1181] comprises a number of stone flags and very small fragmentary brick or tile pieces, possibly later repairs, bonded with brown sandy loam located immediately south of the doorway threshold [1177]. Feature [1182] is made of bricks, possibly 18th century in date, bonded with brown silt loam. Though there is no relationship between the two [1182] is probably the later as it is of brick.

At an unknown date brick wall [1191] was built extending from [1189] northwards. However, it has been truncated by [1223], a modern demolition deposit, so its full extent is unknown, though presumably it extended to wall [1187] further subdividing the main range. It is possible that at this time wall [1192] was demolished; the creation of wall [1191] and the demolition of [1192] thus creating Room E which has a tile floor [1193] bedded in a hard pinkish mortar layer (1200). The floor originally extended northwards to wall [1187] but has been lost since the evaluation of 2014. During the 20th century the tile floor [1193], and wall [1187], were truncated for the insertion of electric into the property.

Very fragmentary floor surfaces survive in Room F comprising an earlier floor of red quarry tiles [1194], each measuring 6½ inches x 6½ inches, overlaid by one of brick [1195].

The Farmyard Walls (Figures 10-11 and 15-16, Plate 10)

A number of walls were encountered during the excavation. At the east end of the trench was north to south orientated wall [1108] which is not present on the 1888 First Edition Ordnance Survey map. It was built of unmortared sandstone in a foundation trench [1106]/[1127] which was up to 0.22m in depth and cut the underlying yellowish brown sandy clay subsoil [1102]/[1129]. The trench was infilled with reddish brown sandy clay (1107)/(1128) which contained residual pottery sherds dating to the 14th and 15th century and later insitu sherds dating to the 16th/17th century. It was cut by the foundation trench [1130] of a sturdy square brick feature [1117], probably a gatepost relating to 18th century wall [1115]/[1118] discussed below.

A further north to south orientated wall [1165] was recorded in the western part of the site. It extended from the southern baulk running parallel with the main range and terminated 2.5m from the wing. It was up to 0.8m wide and constructed of 2⅞ inch thick bricks bonded with pale red lime mortar on a foundation of terracotta tile. The wall was within foundation cut [1166] which had been backfilled with yellowish red sandy loam containing small brick and tile fragments (1167). The bricks are suggestive of an 18th century date for wall [1165] which had been removed by the time that the First Edition Ordnance Survey map had been published.

To the immediate south of the junction of walls [1173] and [1174] and to the north of wall [1165] is a square brick and stone feature [1164]. It measures 0.67m x 0.54m and was 0.27m in depth. Unfortunately its stratigraphic relationship with the other features could not be established. However, as its west face is on precisely the same alignment as the east face wall of [1165] the two could be associated, the most likely explanation that a gate was hung from [1164] which extended across to [1165].

The two north to south orientated walls [1108] and [1165] are likely to be former boundary walls or farmyard walls relating to the 17th century farm removed during the re-modelling of the property in the 18th century. The removal of walls [1108] and [1165] opened up the area to the south-east of the house, as shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1888, possibly creating a garden.

Extending from the eastern edge of the excavation to the north western corner of the farmhouse was a brick wall on sandstone foundations [1115]/[1118] which is depicted on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map. It was abutted by brick structure [1117] and had been laid over the stonework of wall [1108]. It probably dates to the 18th century when the farmhouse was rebuilt enclosing the southern boundary of the farmyard.

The Farmyard Surfaces (*Figures 10-11, Plates 11-12*)

Abutting the northern edge of the farmhouse is a well laid surface [1156] comprising blue bricks laid flat and bonded with brown silt loam. The surface corresponds to an area depicted on the Ordnance Survey map of 1888. The yard has been truncated to the north and west by modern demolition deposit (1210) and is bound to the east by a contemporary brick wall [1154]/[1155]. The wall [1154]/[1155] is abutted by well preserved cobbled surfaces [1140] and [1141]. Pottery within the silt loam bedding material indicating that they were laid down in the 19th century. The cobbles were cut by two modern features [1201] and [1203], possibly post-holes, where they abut wall [1155]. The cobbles originally extended to the northern edge of the farmhouse but have been removed, probably during 20th century demolition.

The Pits *Figures 10-11 and 18-19, Plates 13-14*

Located in Room H cutting the subsoil (1244) was oval pit [1243]. It measured 0.62m x 0.4m and was very shallow, only 0.04m deep with concave sides and a flat base. It was infilled with brown sandy loam (1228) which contained a single sherd of 14th century pottery. Notably the subsoil (1244) in this part of the excavation also contained a residual sherd of 14th century pottery.

In the south-east corner of the trench cutting the subsoil (1102) was circular pit [1104]. It was 1.6m x 1m and up to 0.14m deep and contained dark reddish brown fill (1103) which contained 19th/20th century finds. The feature had been truncated by an electric cable extending westwards across the site from Wilson's Lane into the south-west corner of the farmhouse. To the west of [1104] was a similar pit [1109] which also contained finds dating to the 19th century. The pits are similar to a number encountered during the 2013 evaluation interpreted as being likely to relate to the disposal of domestic refuse.

Adjacent to pit [1109] it was a small post-hole [1111] measuring 0.44m x 0.4m and 0.28m in depth. It was undercut to the west indicating that the post within leaned to the west. The fill 1112 was reddish brown sandy loam containing late post-medieval/modern finds.

6. CONCLUSIONS

The agricultural prosperity of the Georgian period resulted in farmhouses in large parts of England being embellished and extended (Braun 1969, 125). Manor House Farm is one such example, the excavation supporting the assertion made in the Victoria County History that the farmhouse had 17th century origins and that this phase was demolished, with the exception of its western frontage and cellar, during the 18th century when it was rebuilt as an L-shaped farmhouse, probably of three storeys. The ground floor comprised a parlour, kitchen, pantry, and storage rooms with a single storey dairy abutting the west gable wall.

Elements of the farm were also re-modelled when the farmhouse was re-built. The land to the south-east of the farmhouse was opened up by the removal of 17th boundary walls, possibly creating a garden, and the southern boundary of the farmyard formalised by the construction of a new wall. The yard surfaces exposed during the excavation are however later, dating to the first half of the 19th century, and are probably contemporary with the no longer extant farm buildings,

Additions and alterations were made to the house in the following centuries notably the rebuilding of the dairy, probably during the 18th century, the construction of a wash-house prior to 1888 and the building of an outside toilet block in the latter half of the 20th century. The principal internal changes recognised during the excavation were to the main range which underwent several phases of subdivision and the laying of a quarry tile floor.

Two circular pits and a potential post-hole were encountered to the south and south-east of the farmhouse dating to 19th or 20th century. The pits were possibly used for the disposal of domestic rubbish. An earlier pit located within the footprint of farmhouse contained medieval pottery with further residual sherds recovered from the north-west corner of the building suggestive of medieval occupation in close proximity to the farmhouse.

6. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Appendix 1: Coventry HER (DHER) Events and Non-Designated Heritage Assets (Monuments) within 500m of Manor House Farm

| HER REF | RECORDTYPE | NAME | SUMMARY |
|---------|------------|---|---|
| MCT12 | Monument | Longford Canal Bridge; Longford Road/Bedworth Road, Longford | A 20 th century canal bridge that carries Longford Road/Bedworth Road over the Coventry Canal. It was built in 1918 replacing an earlier bridge |
| MCT353 | Building | 243-7 Longford Road | Houses that probably date to the late 18 th century and are recorded on the 1775 Foleshill Enclosure Map. The buildings are locally listed |
| MCT481 | Monument | Longford and Exhall Railway Station | Longford and Exhall Railway Station, which was probably built around 1850 when the Coventry and Nuneaton railway line was opened |
| MCT493 | Monument | Tramway; Longford Road/Bedworth Road | A tramway is depicted on the 1880 First Edition Ordnance Survey map extending down Bedworth Road, Longford Road, Foleshill Road, Leicester Row and Bishop Street. It is also visible on the 1936 Ordnance Survey map but is not shown on the 1950 map |
| MCT721 | Building | 1-3 Sydnall Road, Longford | Two houses that were probably built at the same point in the 19 th century. No1 was probably originally two separate dwellings. The buildings are locally listed |
| MCT722 | Monument | Site of Manor House Farm, Wilsons Lane, Longford | The site of Manor House Farm, a farmhouse and outbuildings. The house was built during the 17 th century with 18 th century additions and was demolished at some point between 1957 and 1970. Prior to demolition it was described as being of mainly 18 th century brick and tile construction, but the rear facade (west side) belongs to the 17 th century. It is divided into two bays by means of three fluted Doric pilasters, which stand on pedestals each supporting a triglyph, but the cornice over has been removed. These features are of brown sandstone, and except for a stone plinth and stringcourse the remainder is of brick with sash windows of a later date. The whole appears to constitute a central entrance bay and a south wing, slightly recessed, the balancing wing to the north having been demolished. The original centre door architrave remains, with two flanking Doric columns supporting blocks of entablature and a segmental pediment. |
| MCT8679 | Monument | Former section of Oxford Canal between Longford and Hawkesbury Junction | A section of the Oxford Canal that ran between Longford and Hawkesbury Junction, parallel to the Coventry Canal, which was built after 1768 and was in use until 1802 when Hawkesbury Junction was opened. Sections of the |

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| | | | former canal survive as earthworks. |
| HER WA1650 | MCT8679 | The site of a moated house | Rectilinear and water filled moat. Excavation substantial sandstone walls and rubble spreads present on the eastern side of the island and stone revetting against the inner lip of the moat. The moat was partially infilled in the 18 th century. |

Appendix 2: Context Summary

| Context | Description | Interpretation | Date |
|-----------|---|---|------------------|
| 1000 | Very dark brown sandy clay loam, <5% rounded stones up to 30mm in size, <1% brick fragments, <1% charcoal, 1% plastic | Demolition deposit | Modern |
| 1001 | Red sand with 25% patches of red clay | Underlying natural substrata | Geological |
| 1002 | Bluish black very slightly gritty clay, 5% brick frags, 1% concrete, tarmac present towards base and re-deposited natural | Gas work waste | Modern |
| 1101 | Weak very dark brown sandy silt loam, 1% rounded stones up to 20mm in size, 1% brick frags overlying entire site | Topsoil | Modern |
| 1102 | Loose sandy loam dark yellowish brown 10% stones rounded to angular up to 100mm in size same as 1102, 1142, 1183, 1244 | Subsoil | Medieval/earlier |
| 1103 | Loamy sand, 5% charcoal, sub-angular stone present up to 0.04m in size, dark reddish brown | Fill of pit 1104 | Post med/modern |
| 1104 | Oval, 1.60m x 1.00m up to 0.14m deep, concave sides, north edge steep 70 degrees, south slope 35 degree concave slope, irregular base deepest at north end 0.14m deep, cut by electric, cuts 1102 | Pit | Post med/modern |
| 1105 | Spread E end of site | | 21st century |
| 1106/1127 | Linear, north to south aligned, 14m length exposed, 1.32m wide up to 0.10m deep, shallow concave sides, 20 degree slope, undulating base, cuts 1102, infilled with 1107. Cut by 1130 | Foundation trench for wall 1108 | 17th century |
| 1107/1128 | Loamy sand, 1% charcoal flecks, reddish brown | Fill of 1106/1127 | 17th century |
| 1108 | Stone linear, sandstone unworked, angular, up to 0.6m x 0.4m and 0.08m thick, unmortared, | Bottom course of drystone wall in foundation cut 1106/1127 | 17th century |
| 1109 | Circular, 0.80m, 0.06m deep, flat base though towards east becomes 0.12m deep at with steep 80 degree slope, cuts 1102, infilled with 1110 | Pit | 19th century |
| 1110 | Friable very dusky red loamy sand, brick frags present, <5% charcoal 1% pea gravel inclusions, | Fill of pit 1109 | 19th century |
| 1111 | Circular, 0.44m x 0.4m and 0.28m deep, undercut to west, slightly concave base, cuts 1102, infilled with 1122 | Post hole, undercut suggests post leaned to the east | 19th century? |
| 1112 | Reddish brown sandy loam <2% rounded stones up to 2mm in size | Fill of 1122 | 19th century? |
| 1113 | Rounded cobbles between 0.08m x 0.05m in size to 0.17m x 0.18m in size set into a sandy clay loam, weak 7.5YR 4/2 brown, 1% tiny brick frags <1% mortar | Same as 1140 cobbled yard surface replacing an earlier one, 0114, below | 19th century |
| 1114 | Rounded cobbles 0.08m x 0.05m up to 0.6m x 0.4m set into weak sandy clay loam 7.5YR 4/3 brown, <1% charcoal flecks | Same as 1141 cobbled surface | 19th century |
| 1115 | West to east linear 4.3m long, 0.4m wide and 0.1m deep brick wall, no cut visible, no complete bricks present, 2 ½ inches (64mm) thick, bonded with 7.5YR 4/2 weak sandy silt | Farm wall probable continuation of 1118 | 18th century |

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| | loam. Laid in irregular manner bottom course flat and on edge. Cuts 1102, overlays 1108, abutted by 1117 | | |
| 1116 | Irregular hollow truncation between 1115, 118 and 1117, 2m x 0.7m up to 0.4m deep, irregular sides and undulating base filled with loose 5YR 4/6 yellowish red sand, 5% mortar 20% angular to sub-angular limestone pieces, up to 0.25m x 0.25m, <1% charcoal. Cuts 1102. | Entrance between 1115 and 1118 which became increasingly worn away resulting in material being dumped into the hollow to level the ground | Victorian/modern |
| 1117 | Square, 600mm x 600mm brick built, irregular courses, bricks 250mm x 110mm x 65mm with light yellow brown sandy mortar, cuts 1102, abuts 1115 | Gatepost contemporary with 1118 | Victorian/modern |
| 1118 | Linear brick and stone built wall, east to west orientated, 7.1m exposed, single course of brick survives on 1 to 3 courses of sandstone. Bricks 240mm x 111mm x 6mm and bonded to the stone with sandy pinkish/beige mortar with white inclusions. Width of sandstone varies from 300mm to 600mm, stone up to 0.2m thick, some pieces worked, sandstone bonded with greyish brown with inclusions of grit mortar. Cuts 1102. Same wall as 1115 | Farmyard wall in cut 1125 | 18th century |
| 1119 | VOID | VOID | VOID |
| 1120 | VOID | VOID | VOID |
| 1121 | VOID | VOID | VOID |
| 1122 | VOID | VOID | VOID |
| 1123 | Loamy sand, yellowish red, 5% rounded to sub angular stones up to 20mm in size, 1% charcoal | Backfill of trench containing wall 1118 | 18th century |
| 1124 | Silty sand, <15% charcoal flecks, 5% rounded stones up to 5mm in size. | Re-deposited topsoil cut by trench 1125 containing wall 1118 | 18th century |
| 1125 | Cut, vertical sides, flat base, 0.48m wide, 0.2m deep infilled with 1126 | Foundation trench cut for 1118 | 18th century |
| 1126 | Dark grey sandy clay with inclusions of sub-rounded pebbles 20-30mm in size, 10% charcoal flecks present | Fill of foundation trench 1118 | 18th century |
| 1127/1106 | Linear cut, west to east aligned, 4m exposed, up to 0.3m in depth, south edge shallow 15 degrees extends for 0.3m before reaching base, which is flat | Foundation trench for 1108 which cuts 1129 and is in turn cut by the gatepost foundation 1130 | Post-medieval |
| 1128/1107 | Mid reddish brown sandy clay with inclusions of sub-rounded pebbles 20-30mm in size, 10% charcoal flecks | Fill of foundation trench 1127 | Post-medieval |
| 1129 | Light yellowish brown sand, slightly clayey, sandstone and few pebble inclusions present | Undisturbed subsoil | Medieval/earlier |
| 1130 | Cut, vertical sides, flat base, 0.4m in depth, 0.44m in width exposed. Cuts earlier wall foundation trench 1127 and layers 1128 and 1129. | Foundation trench for gatepost 1117 | Post-medieval |
| 1131 | Dark grey sandy silt with few sub-rounded stones present | Fill of foundation trench cut 1130 | Post-medieval |
| 1132 | West-east orientated wall, 2 course on sandstone footing up to 0.35m wide and 3.5m long | Continuation of 1115 used as N wall of toilet block Room A | 18th century |
| 1133 | Rectangular brick structure, 1 course thick, 4 courses deep | Chamber for sewer pipe | Modern |

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| 1134 | Concrete raft 2.5m x 1.3m and 0.10m thick | Base for toilet block Room A | Modern |
| 1135 | W, E and S brick walls, 1 brick wide, no mortar on top face of bricks | Room A toilet block foundations, lack of mortar indicates wooden toilet | Post 1950 |
| 1136 | Loose brownish grey silt loam | Demolition deposit | 1957-1970 |
| 1137 | Loose brownish grey sandy silt loam | Backfill of 1133 sewer chamber | Modern |
| 1138 | Irregular tarmac pieces | Capping for 1133 | Modern |
| 1139 | Loose sandy loam to sandy silt loam dark grey, 25% stone, tarmac, and pebbles, <1% charcoal, 5% mortar | Demolition deposit | 1957-1970 |
| 1140 | Cobbles between 0.2 x 0.15m and 0.05m x 0.10m in size, 0.7m in width orientated W-E to N of building A and Room B, set in dark brown silt loam. Overlie cobbles 1141 and abut 1156 | Cobbled surface, truncated in front of farmhouse, element of 1141 | 19th century |
| 1141 | 3 narrow N-S cobbled strips up to 0.25m in width, rounded cobbles up to 0.18m x 0.12m infilled with smaller rounded cobbles average size 0.08m x 0.08m set in dark brown silt loam. Abuts 1155, cut by 1203 and 1201 | Yard surface | 19th century |
| 1142 | Loose sandy loam dark yellowish brown, 5% mortar, <1% charcoal | Re-worked subsoil beneath cobbles and what features dug into | Subsoil, certainly top few centimetres reworked |
| 1143 | Room B South and East wall, 4 courses deep, 2 courses wide (0.24m), bottom course on edge. Bricks 215mm x 105mm x 67mm, mortar 7.5YR pink to 7.5YR 6/2 pinkish grey with 1% white inclusions. Overlies 1174, abuts 1144, and 1153. Cuts 1161 | Exterior wall, final phase, of Room B the dairy | Final phase of Room B dairy Late 18th/19th century |
| 1144 | Room B North-east corner of wall, rough sandstone up to 0.48m in width and 1.50m in length, depth not established, mortar very hard very pale brown <5% tiny white inclusions. Extends beneath 1153 and is abutted by 1143 | Probably an extension of 1132/1115 utilised as the north wall for room B | 18th century |
| 1145 | Room B smooth, rounded, worn sandstone 0.73m x 0.50m and 0.15m in depth set in loose brown loamy sand | Doorway into Room B | Final phase of Room B dairy Late 18th/19th century |
| 1146 | Room B part of north wall, 3.38m long up to 0.36m wide rough sandstone with a single course of brick laid flat on top. Bricks 228mm x 111mm x 65mm mortar 7.5YR 8/2 pinkish white no inclusions. Abuts 1174 | Part of north wall Room B | Final phase of Room B dairy Late 18th/19th century |
| 1147 | Room B west to east orientated wall 4.5m long, up to 0.25m in width, 2 fragmentary courses survive, bottom course laid on edge, upper course flat, bricks 235mm x 114mm x 52mm handmade mortar 7.5YR 6/4 light brown <5% white fleck inclusions <1% charcoal flecks, cut by 1143 and possibly 1148 | Initially thought part of dairy furniture, more likely to be exterior wall belonging to first phase of dairy – part of wall 1162 | First phase of Room B dairy 18th/19th century |
| 1148 | Room B west end U-shaped brick structure 0.4m x 3m. Abuts 1146, cuts 1147 | Foundation for dairy furniture | Final phase of Room B dairy |

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| | | | Late 18th/19th century |
| 1149 | Room B, south end, L-shaped brick structure 0.9m x 1.8m, 2 courses survive, lower course laid on edge, upper course flat. Bricks same as 1147 mortar same as 1143 | Bricks reused from first phase to make foundation for dairy furniture | Final phase of Room B dairy Late 18th/19th century |
| 1150 | Room B north to south orientated brick wall, 0.8m exposed, probably extends for 1.70m but obscured by 1170, up to 0.32m in width, bricks laid flat, depth not established, bricks same as 1149 | Continuation of 1162 | First phase of Room B dairy 18th century |
| 1151 | Room B north-east corner ½ bricks laid into 1168, fragmentary, overlaid by 1159 | Brick floor | Final phase of Room B dairy Late 18th/19th century |
| 1152 | Continuation of 1151 | Brick floor | Final phase of Room B dairy Late 18th/19th century floor |
| 1153 | Abuts east wall of Room B, 1 brick thick, unmortared, laid flat, 2.2m x 0.45m, overlies 1144. Bricks are blue, 225mm x 105mm x 65mm | Exterior path | Late Victorian/ modern |
| 1154 | North to south orientated wall abuts north wall of Room B, 0.7m x 0.23m, 2 courses in depth, lower course bricks on edge, bricks 224mm x 105mm x 56mm mortar 7.5YR 6/3 light brown, 5% white inclusions. Cuts 1142 abutted by 1156 | Farm yard wall, possibly part of 1155, relationship between two lost due to post hole – gate post? | Pre-888 |
| 1155 | North to south orientated wall length 2.66m exposed, 0.24m wide, 6 courses deep, 2 courses wide, bricks 225mm x 109mm x 70mm mortar 7.5YR 6/1 grey to 7.5YR 6/1 pinkish grey, 1% white inclusions, overlaid by 1156 | Farm yard wall | Pre-1888 |
| 1156 | Brick surface extending from Room B west to the, and including, Room D the wash house, northern extent not established. Bricks 230mm x 111mm x 73mm bonded with loose dark brown silt loam, 1 brick thick laid flat. Abuts all north walls of farmhouse, cut by walls for Room D 1205 and 1206 | Exterior yard surface | Pre-1880 |
| 1157 | Room B located between 1146 and 1147, weak sandy silt loam brown, 10% mortar, <1% charcoal, 2% small tile frags. | Demolition/levelling deposit for construction of Room B | 18 th century |
| 1158 | Room B Weak sandy silt loam brown, 10% mortar, <1% charcoal, 2% small tile frags beneath top soil | Demolition/levelling deposit for construction of Room B | 18 th century |
| 1159 | Room B weak to loose sandy silt loam, very dark greyish brown, 10% brick frags, 5% mortar, <2% tile, overlies 1168, 1151, 1152, 1150, 1158 | Demolition | 1957-1970 |
| 1160 | Loose sandy loam dark yellowish brown, 5% mortar, <1% charcoal | Re-worked subsoil beneath cobbles and what features dug into | Subsoil, certainly top few centimetres reworked |
| 1161 | South of Room B, brick surface, 2.12m x 0.29m, 1 brick thick, bricks 237mm x 118mm x 54mm handmade, unmortared, rest upon a | Interior floor | First phase of Room B dairy 18th century |

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| | layer of mortar 0.15m thick 7.5YR 6/4 light brown, 15% white inclusions, 1% charcoal flecks. Bonded to 1162, cut by 1143 | | |
| 1162 | South of Room B, brick wall, west to east orientated 2.94m, then originally turned north (only robbed footings trench 1163 survives) 2 courses deep, 1 course wide bricks 237mm x 118mm x 54mm handmade, mortar 7.5YR 6/4 light brown, 15% white inclusions, 1% charcoal flecks. Overlies 1174 | Southern and part of the north to south wall | First phase of Room B dairy 18th century |
| 1163 | L-shaped continuation of 1162, L-shaped feature orientated west to east 0.9m then north 0.6m, is 0.34m in width. Little more than a stain comprising mortar, brick fragments and 1% charcoal | Southern and part of the north to south wall | First phase of Room B dairy 18th century |
| 1164 | Immediately to the south of the south-east corner of Room C, rectangular brick and stone structure 0.67m x 0.54m and 0.27m deep, no cut visible | Foundation for a gate post, gate extended between west face on same alignment as east face of wall 1165 | 17th century |
| 1165 | North to south orientated linear extending from southern section for 6.84m, up to 0.8m in width, and 0.22m in depth constructed of bricks measuring 235mm x 115mm x 54mm, lime mortar 10YR 7/2 pale red with 1% charcoal on a foundation of terracotta tile . Cuts subsoil | Boundary wall | 17th century |
| 1166 | Linear cut, steep almost vertical sides with abrupt break of slope, slightly concave base | Foundation cut for 1165 | 17th century |
| 1167 | Sandy loam, yellowish red 10% charcoal, some small subangular CBM frags and small rounded pebbles up to 2mm in size | Fill of 1166 | 17th century |
| 1168 | Room B north-east corner loose dark greyish brown sandy silt loam, cut by 1147, 115, overlaid by 1159 and 1157 | Levelling deposit | Associated with/pre-dating first phase of Room B dairy 18th century |
| 1169 | Same as 1159 but in south east corner of Room B weak to loose sandy silt loam, very dark greyish brown, 10% brick frags, 5% mortar, <2% tile, overlies 1168, 1151, 1152, 1150, 1158 | Demolition | 1957-1970 |
| 1170 | South-east corner Room B smashed brickwork of former wall | Continuation of 1162 | First phase of Room B dairy 18th century |
| 1171 | Weak sandy silt loam brown, 10% mortar, <1% charcoal, 2% small tile frags beneath top soil | Demolition/levelling deposit in Room B | Relates to final building phase of Room B the dairy 19th? |
| 1172 | Same as 1142 ie Room B north-west edge, hard compacted sandy silt loam, 7.5YR 5/4 1% mortar flecks | Re-worked subsoil compacted to form surface | Subsoil, certainly top few centimetres reworked |
| 1173 | Room C south-east wall, west to east orientated, dressed sandstone footings 3m long 0.5m wide stones up to 0.84m x 0.5m topped with brick wall 0.28m wide bricks handmade no complete ones survived – 111mm x 54mm mortar 7.5YR 7/2 pinkish | External wall of farmhouse | 18th century |

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| | grey with 35% GLEY 1 7/N light grey, 25% white inclusions, 1% mortar. Bricks handmade unevenly fired, stone inclusions up to 18mm in size. Cuts 1183, abuts 1174 | | |
| 1174 | Room C east wall north to south aligned, 5.25m long 0.70m wide, 0.3m in depth, brick faced, rubble core. No complete bricks survived, 107mm x 54mm, sandy mortar 5YR 5/6 yellowish red, bricks handmade, unevenly fired contain rounded stone inclusions up to 11mm in size. Abutted by 1173, same mortar as 1176, abutted by 1162, overlaid by 1143 | External wall of farmhouse | 18th century |
| 1175 | Room C south-west wall, east to west orientated, 1.70m long, 0.5m wide dressed sandstone footings 3m long 0.5m wide stones up to 0.84m x 0.5m topped with brick wall 0.28m wide bricks handmade no complete ones survived – 111mm x 54mm mortar 7.5YR 7/2 pinkish grey with 35% GLEY 1 7/N light grey, 25% white inclusions, 1% mortar. Bricks handmade unevenly fired. Abutted by 1178 | External wall of farmhouse | 18th century |
| 1176 | Room C north brick wall east to west aligned foundations not exposed, 3.62m long, 0.3m wide bricks 231mm x 110mm x 60mm contain rounded stone inclusions up to 20mm in size, possibly handmade mortar 7.5YR 6/1 grey 40% 7.5YR 6/2 pinkish grey, 1% charcoal | External wall of farmhouse, similarity between mortar of 1174 suggests contemporary | 18th century |
| 1177 | Room C north wall sandstone blocks 2.10m x 0.32m and 0.22m high from the ground level, bonded with brown sandy silt loam. Abutted by 1207, 1207, 1156 | Threshold of doorway into farmhouse | 18th century |
| 1178 | Room C north to south orientated dividing wall, 3.5m x 0.4m depth not established, brick built on stone footings, bricks 274mm x 135mm x 56mm mortar hard 7.5YR 8/1 white to 8/2 pinkish white. Abuts 1175, cuts 1183, likely doorway at north end | Internal dividing wall | 18th century |
| 1179 | Room C rectangular black ash and pinkish red deposit 1.15m x 0.85m, fragmentary brick edging | Fire place 1184 fill | 18th century |
| 1180 | VOID | VOID | VOID |
| 1181 | Room C curvilinear stone flags immediately south of 1177, 1.24m x 0.58m, brick frags incorporated, bonded with mid brown sandy silt loam set in 1185 and 1183 | Fragmentary remains of flag floor | 18th century |
| 1182 | Room C brick surface, 0.80m x 0.6m modern/late Victorian bricks 231mm x 115mm x 52mm bonded with brown sandy silt loam set in 1183 | Fragmentary remains of a brick floor. | 18th or 19th century |
| 1183 | Room C silt loam dark yellowish red (dries into a yellowish brown) 5% rounded pebbles up to 40mm in size | Subsoil, similar 1102 | Undisturbed subsoil |
| 1184 | Room C cut 1.15m x 0.85m, depth concave sides, flat base infilled with 1179, cuts 1183 | Fireplace pit | 18th century |
| 1185 | VOID | VOID | VOID |
| 1186 | Room C north end, sandy silt loam yellowish brown, 15% angular stone frage, 5% brick frags, 2% mortar flecks | Fill of cut for 1177 (unexcavated) | 18th century |

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| 1187 | U-shaped linear, 2.10m x 7.6m x 7m, 0.45m in width and 0.48m deep comprising 2 sandstone courses, lower course made up of roughly shaped blocks c. 0.20m wide and c. 0.35m long and the upper course of blocks c. 0.15m wide and c 0.65m long bonded with reddish brown clay., broken tile used to keep sandstone courses level. Brick wall, 2 courses surviving, on top of foundation, bricks 240mm x 120mm x 55mm mortared with strong lime mortar 5YR 8/2 pinkish white <5% charcoal flecks. Abuts 1241, in foundation trench 1199. Abutted by 1200 and 1193 and cut by electric cable trench | Exterior wall Room F and E | 18th century |
| 1188/1241 | West front of the farmhouse, north to south orientated, 13.50m long, 0.52m wide, 2 brick courses survive to a depth of 0.17m which rest upon a single rough stone course 0.08m deep. Bricks 205mm x 100mm x 50mm mortar 7.5YR 8/2 pinkish white, abutted by 1187 and not tied in properly to 1230 | Exterior wall pre-dating rest of walls ie 17th house rebuilt but retained the west front if the Victoria County History is to be believed. Certainly has different foundations and bricks and is poorly tied into the rest of the house | 17th century |
| 1189 | Dividing wall between Rooms G and F, west to east orientated, exceeds 0.88m in depth, 0.26m in width. Abuts 1241 and 1245. Bricks 257mm x 106mm x 55mm bonded with 10YR 7/2 light grey mortar with <10% charcoal. Tied into 1241, part of 1192, abutted by 1190 and 1191 | Internal dividing wall and south wall of cellar | 17th century |
| 1190 | Dividing wall between Rooms F and E, sandstone foundation with brick wall on top, bricks 236mm x 114mm x 58mm mortar hard 7.5YR 8/1 white to 8/2 pinkish white, tied into 1187, abuts 1189, abutted by 1195 | Internal dividing wall | Contemporary with 1187 and rest of 18th century build |
| 1191 | Room G south-east corner possible wall, N-S orientated dividing it from Room E truncated to north, 0.9m length survives, 0.32m in width, bricks 2 ½ inches, later than 1189 | Possible fragmentary remains of dividing wall, creating further divisions in house, not original, likely that fireplace 1212 placed centrally in this part of building – would not place in corner | Later room division |
| 1192 | Room E west to east dividing wall, continuation of 1189 | Internal dividing wall subsequently knocked down and tile floor 1193 laid over it | 18th century |
| 1193 | Room E tile floor, 2 types of tile used 9x9 inches and 6x6 inches, both 2cm thick laid on mortar layer 1200. Abuts 1187, 1190 overlies 1192 | Tile floor, possibly laid down when house subdivided, kitchen | Late 19th century? |
| 1194 | Room F fragmentary remains of red quarry tiles 6 ½ inches x 6 ½ inches set into 1197 | Tile floor | 18th century? |
| 1195 | Room F north-east corner, bricks, laid flat 260mm x 125mm white mortar used to bed them, overlays 1194 | Fragment of former brick floor | 20th century? |
| 1196 | Silt loam dark yellowish red (dries into a yellowish brown) 5% rounded pebbles up to 40mm in size | Subsoil, similar 1102 | Undisturbed subsoil |
| 1197 | Room F silt loam dark yellowish red (dries into | Levelling layer of | 18th century |

| | | | |
|------|---|--|--------------------------------|
| | a yellowish brown) 5% rounded pebbles up to 40mm in size, with brick, tile and mortar inclusions | reworked subsoil probably relating to farm rebuild | |
| 1198 | Yellowish brown sandy loam, 15% charcoal flecks, <1% tiny pea gravel, and mortar flecks | Upper fill of foundation trench 1199 | 18th century |
| 1199 | North to south linear cut 0.66m in length exposed, 0.7m wide, 0.44m deep, sides straight 30 degree slope, N-S orientated cutting 1102 | Foundation trench for exterior wall 1187 | 18th century |
| 1200 | Room E, hard mortar 7.5YR pink, 25% white inclusions above 1192, 1191, 1216 | Mortar layer for tile floor 1193 | Late 19th? |
| 1201 | U-shaped cut, 0.22m x 0.24m and 0.2m deep, sides 70 degree slope, convex, flat base | Post hole cutting cobbled surface 1141 | Modern |
| 1202 | Very dark brown loamy sand with 10% charcoal, and common small rounded pea gravel, <5% orange mottling | Fill of post hole 1201 | Modern |
| 1203 | U-shaped cut, extending beneath northern area edge, 0.28m x 0.22m and 0.24m deep, sides 80 degree slope, concave, flat base | Post hole cutting cobbled surface 1141 | Modern |
| 1204 | Very dark brown loamy sand with 10% charcoal, and common small rounded pea gravel, <5% orange mottling | Fill of post hole 1203 | Modern |
| 1205 | Room D east wall, north-south aligned 2.28m long but truncated to north, 0.23m wide, brick built, complete bricks not present, 115mm x 58mm, mortar 7.5YR 6/3 light brown, 50% very hard 7.5YR 5/1 grey, 25% white inclusions. Abuts 1177, cuts 1156. Gap in wall probable entrance | Room D has lead water pipe, close to the well, retained blue brick floor, close to well = likely to be a wash room | Pre-1880 |
| 1206 | Room D west wall, north-south aligned 1.80m long but truncated to north, 0.23m wide, brick built, complete bricks not present, 115mm x 58mm, mortar 7.5YR 6/3 light brown, 50% very hard 7.5YR 5/1 grey, 25% white inclusions. Abuts 1177, cuts 1156. | West external wall of wash room | Pre-1880 |
| 1207 | Room D raised brickwork abutting 1177, blue 230mm x 111mm x 73mm laid on edge bonded with mid brown sandy silt loam | Steps for access from Room D into Room C | Pre-1880 |
| 1208 | Truncates Room D – soil with plastic | Demolition | Late 20th century |
| 1209 | Truncates Room D – dark grey silt loam containing plastic | Demolition | Late 20th century |
| 1210 | Truncates Room D – redeposited subsoil 10% brick frags, 5% mortar, 5% rounded stones up to 40mm | Demolition | 1957-1970 or late 20th century |
| 1211 | Room G square structure measuring internally 1m x 1.1m formed by walls 1178, stonework of 1175 and bricks the same as 1178 ie 274mm x 135mm x 56mm | Fireplace? Though no evidence for burning | 18th century |
| 1212 | Fill of 1211 loose mid grey sandy silt loam | Backfill stabilising 1211 | ? |
| 1213 | Cut for 1214/1211 unexcavated | | ? |
| 1214 | Fill of 1213 hard brown sandy silt loam, 10% brick frags, <5% mortar, <1% rounded stones up to 20mm in size | Fill of 2013 | ? |
| 1215 | Room E dark yellowish silt loam, <1% charcoal flecks, <5% mortar flecks below 1200 above natural subsoil | Levelling deposit for 18th century building phase | 18th century? |
| 1216 | Room E dark yellowish silt loam, <1% charcoal flecks, <5% mortar flecks below | Levelling deposit for 18th century | 18th century? |

| | | | |
|------|---|--|-------------------------------|
| | 1200 above natural subsoil | | |
| 1217 | Brick structure in west wall of house, measuring 0.9m x 103m and exceeding 0.6m in depth, west edge 60 degree brick slope. 2 different brick sizes used, all tied in nicely, those on the north face being 228mm x 116mm 61mm and those used for the slope 223 x 106mm x 68mm all using sand based 10YR 7/4 pale red mortar | Shaft into cellar, presumably for coal, post dating wall 1241 | Victorian? |
| 1218 | West wall, raised exterior brickwork, 1.32m x 0.76m, bricks 234mm x 116mm, x 60mm, tiny amounts of mortar present 7.5YR 6/3 light brown and 8/2 pinkish white generally, bonded with dark grey silt loam | Centrally located step into the house, however, poor nature of the feature suggests that it is a bodged repair rather than original step | 18th century |
| 1219 | Room G rectilinear brick feature exceeding 3m in length north to south and 2.04m 0.22m wide, curvilinear in section, bricks 230mm x 100mm x 65mm bonded with 7.5YR 8/3 pink lime mortar with 1% charcoal. The structure is tied into external wall 1241/1188 and below 1222 | Vault of cellar | 17th century |
| 1220 | Room G same as 1219 rectilinear brick feature exceeding 3m in length north to south and 2.04m 0.22m wide, curvilinear in section, bricks 230mm x 100mm x 65mm bonded with 7.5YR 8/3 pink lime mortar with 1% charcoal. The structure is tied into external wall 1241/1188 and below 1222 | Vault of cellar | 17th century |
| 1221 | Brick structure 0.74m though originally longer as truncated, 0.72m wide, 0.32m deep, 2 courses, base is the cellar vault, infilled with 1246 | Ash pit for a fireplace | 17th century |
| 1222 | Well compacted sand, red, 10% clay inclusions, 5% charcoal, 5% fragments of CBM and mortar | Deposit placed over the cellar barrel vault 1219 to create flat surface for the floor of room G | 17th century |
| 1223 | | | |
| 1224 | Room G / Room H dividing wall, west to east orientated 3m long, single brick thick, 3 courses exposed, bricks 220mm x 104mm x 54mm mortar 7.5YR 8/1 white to 7/3 pinkish white. Abutted by 1125, abuts 1188 | Dividing wall | 18th century |
| 1225 | Room G dog leg brick wall, 3 courses exposed, single brick wide, unexcavated | Later alteration to cellar/room | Unknown = 20th century? |
| 1226 | Room G north east corner 1.20m x 0.4m, tile with diagonal pattern overlaid by mortar identical to that on brickwork 2011 | Floor surface | 19th century? |
| 1227 | Room H | Demolition layer | Late 20 th century |
| 1228 | Firm brown sandy clay loam, <1% charcoal, 1% rounded stones up to 20mm in size | Primary fill of domestic pit 1243 | Possibly 14th century |
| 1229 | Room H very roughly hewn sandstone boulders, sub-angular, up to n0.6m x 0.4m covering an area 1.53m x 0.96m, not level so unlikely floor surface. Mortar adheres to some stones | Earlier yard surface possibly pre-dating house | Possibly pre-17th century |
| 1230 | Room H north exterior wall, west to east orientated, 1 course of sandstone foundations | Stone footing | 18th century |

| | | | |
|-----------|---|---|-----------------------|
| | bonded with reddish brown clay, up to 0.15m in depth, 0.47m in width and 5.5m long. Pinkish brown mortar on top suggest had bricks above on other walls on site, in places very fragmentary remains of bricks survive, 54mm thick. Very faint foundation cut indicates it post dates 1244 | Stone footings | |
| 1231 | VOID | VOID | VOID |
| 1232 | VOID | VOID | VOID |
| 1233 | VOID | VOID | VOID |
| 1234 | VOID | VOID | VOID |
| 1235 | VOID | VOID | VOID |
| 1236 | VOID | VOID | VOID |
| 1237 | VOID | VOID | VOID |
| 1238 | VOID | VOID | VOID |
| 1239 | VOID | VOID | VOID |
| 1240 | Red silty clay <10% charcoal and 1% pea gravel, brick and sandstone frags present, | Lower fill of foundation trench 1199 | 18th century |
| 1241/1188 | West wall, southern half, 2 course sandstone foundation, four surviving brick courses tied into 1219. Sandstone bonded with light reddish brown clay, bricks 205mm x 100mm x 50mm bonded with 10YR 7/2 light grey lime mortar with 5% charcoal | Continuation of 1188, western wall of house | 17th century |
| 1242 | Runs north to south adjacent to the west of west wall, north end, stone linear 3.75m long, 0.08m wide, exceeds 0.16m deep | Marks the extend of former pentice/verhanda | 17th or 18th century |
| 1243 | Oval 0.4m x 0.62m up to 0.04m deep, shallow sides flat base cut into 1244 | Domestic rubbish pit | Possibly 14th century |
| 1244 | Room H, same as 1196 ie Silt loam dark yellowish red (dries into a yellowish brown) 5% rounded pebbles up to 40mm in size | Subsoil, similar 1102 | Undisturbed subsoil |
| 1245 | Room G fragmentary quarry tiles 5 ½ inches x 5 inches 2 ½ inches (14cm x 13cm x 6cm) set in 10YR 8/2 pinkish white sandy lime mortar | Final floor surface of Room G | Modern/18th century |
| 1246 | Loose ash 2.5YR 3/1 dark reddish grey | Fill of ash pit 1221 | 17th century |

Appendix 3

Medieval Pottery from Manor House Farm, Wilson's Lane, Coventry, Warwickshire

Paul Blinkhorn

The pottery assemblage comprised 6 sherds with a total weight of 154g. It was recorded using the conventions of the Warwickshire Medieval and Post-Medieval Pottery Type-Series (Ratkai and Soden, in archive), as follows:

- SLM10:** Late Chilvers Coton ware, 15th century. 3 sherds, 40g.
Sq30: Chilvers Coton 'C' ware, 1300-1500. 2 sherds, 109g.
WW1: Chilvers Coton 'A' ware, 1250 -1300. 1 sherd, 5g.

The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Table 1. Each date should be regarded as a *terminus post quem*. The range of fabric types is very typical of medieval sites in the city. The sherds are all in fairly good condition, and appear reliably stratified.

Table 1: Pottery occurrence by number and weight (in g) of sherds per context by fabric type

| Cntxt | Spit | WW1 | | Sq30 | | SLM10 | | Date |
|-------|---------|-----|----|------|-----|-------|----|-------|
| | | No | Wt | No | Wt | No | Wt | |
| 1107 | 1 | | | | | 1 | 27 | 15thC |
| 1107 | 1 | | | | | 1 | 8 | 15thC |
| 1228 | Surface | 1 | 5 | 1 | 75 | | | 14thC |
| 1230 | | | | | | 1 | 5 | 15thC |
| 1244 | 1 | | | 1 | 34 | | | 14thC |
| | Total | 1 | 5 | 2 | 109 | 3 | 40 | |

Bibliography

Ratkai, S and Soden, I, in archive *Warwickshire Medieval and Post-Medieval Pottery Type-Series*

Appendix 4

Pottery from Manor House Farm, Wilson's Lane, Coventry, Warwickshire

Lee Elliott

| FINDS | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|----------|--|--------|---------|------|---------|-------|--------|-----------|--|
| Site Code | Find Code | Material | Object | Period | Context | Cut | Spit | Count | NoBags | Weight(g) | Comment |
| CWL 11 | AAC | Pot | Base, Cistercian ware/Black Ware | P/M | 1107 | 1106 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 85 | L16/17th century thin walled Holloware |
| CWL 11 | AAE | Pot | Body frag, Cistercian ware/Black Ware | P/M | 1107 | 1106 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | L16/17th century, thin walled Holloware |
| CWL 11 | AAF | Pot | Slipware | P/M | 1107 | 1106 | Surface | 1 | 1 | 3 | Feathered decoration, Holloware LIT/E18 NSTAFFS? |
| CWL 11 | AAI | Pot | White bodied earthenware | P/M | 1110 | 1109 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 11 | Flatware 19th century, MGW |
| CWL 11 | AAJ | Pot | White bodied earthenware | P/M | 1110 | 1109 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | Blue transfer printed 19th century |
| CWL 11 | AAK | Pot | Body frag., black glaze (int.) coarse earthen ware | P/M | 1110 | 1109 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 20 | Earthen ware, possible Parchean, 17/18th century |
| CWL 11 | AAT | Pot | White bodied earthenware | P/M | 1140 | | | 1 | 1 | 3 | Blue transfer printed 19th century |
| CWL 11 | ABB | Pot | Body frag., orange glaze, Slipware? | P/M | 1167 | 1166 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | Abraded, surfaces missing 18/19th century slipware |
| CWL 11 | ABC | Pot | Body frag., Blackware | P/M | 1203 | 1201 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | Thinwalled, Holloware 17th/18th century |
| CWL 11 | ABF | Pot | Porcelain sherd, fine, decorated | P/M | 1204 | 1203 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 19th century cup |
| CWL 11 | ABL | Pot | Body frag., Creamware/Slipware | P/M | 1198 | 1199 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 20 | 18th century |
| CWL 11 | ACK | Ceramic | Cup handle, white bodied Earthenware | P/M | 1141 | | | 1 | 1 | 3 | 19th century |
| CWL 11 | ACP | Pot | Body frag., white bodied Earthenware | P/M | 1246 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | Ironstones 19th century MGW |
| CWL 11 | ACQ | Pot | Body frag., white bodied | P/M | 1246 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | Ironstones 19th century MGW |

| FINDS | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|----------|--------------------------------------|--------|---------|-----|------|-------|--------|-----------|---------------------------|
| Site Code | Find Code | Material | Object | Period | Context | Cut | Spit | Count | NoBags | Weight(g) | Comment |
| | | | Earthenware | | | | | | | | |
| CWL 11 | ACR | Ceramic | Clay pipe bowl | P/M | 1246 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 18 CE? |
| CWL 11 | BAF | Pot | Body frag., mixed | P/M | 1139 | | | 36 | 1 | 492 | Late 19th century |
| CWL 11 | BAJ | Pot | Body frag., white bodied Earthenware | P/M | 1139 | | | 1 | 1 | 13 | MGW |
| CWL 11 | BAK | Pot | Rim frag., coarse Earthenware | P/M | 1139 | | | 1 | 1 | 57 | Panceon/bowl |
| CWL 11 | BAL | Pot | Body frag., various | P/M | 1139 | | | 3 | 1 | 23 | 18th century |
| CWL 11 | BAM | Pot | Rim? white bodied Earthenware | P/M | 1101 | | | 1 | 1 | 30 | L19th/E20th Holloware MGW |
| CWL 11 | BAN | Pot | Base frag., Plant pot | P/M | 1101 | | | 1 | 1 | 66 | N of toilet block |

| | | |
|-----|---|--------------------------|
| BAF | White bodied Earthenware | 19th century |
| | Creamware | 18th – 19th century |
| | White salt glazed stoneware straight sided jar | L19th century |
| | White bodied Earthenware, blue transfer printed | 19th century |
| | Brown salt glazed bottle | 19th century |
| | Ceramic egg | 19th century |
| | Porcelain bowl | 18th – 19th |
| BAL | Course Earthenware – Flatware | 18 th century |
| | Slipware 1 x feathered 1 x trailed | 18 th century |
| | Yellow Ironstone | |
| | White bodied Earthenware | |



**SPECIFICATION FOR AN
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EXCAVATION**

**Land at Manor House Farm
Wilson's Lane
Coventry**

May 2014

Planning Heritage

Specialist & Independent Advisors to the Property Industry

**Local Planning Authority:
Coventry District Council**

Site centred at:

SP 3465 8442

Author:

Rob Bourn BA (Hons), MA, MIfA

**Report Status:
FINAL**

**Issue Date:
May2014**

**CgMs Ref:
RB/KB/15732**

CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Aims and Objectives
- 3.0 Machine Stripping
- 4.0 Excavation Strategy
- 5.0 Recording
- 6.0 Reporting
- 7.0 Archive
- 8.0 Monitoring & Liaison
- 9.0 Health and Safety

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Fig. 1 Site Location

Fig. 2 Proposed Trench Plan

Appendix 1

Cotswold Archaeology. 2013. Manor House Farm, Wilson's Lane, Longford, Coventry:
Archaeological Evaluation

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 CgMs Consulting has been commissioned by Bellway Homes, to organise an archaeological excavation of Manor House Farm, Wilson's Lane, Coventry.

1.2 Site Location And Description

1.2.1 The site comprises an irregular block of pasture to the west of Wilson's Lane, Longford, a suburb on the northern outskirts of Coventry (Fig. 1). The site is bounded by Wilson's Lane and the gardens of properties fronting on to Wilson's Lane to the east, and farmland to the south, west and north. A cluster of farm buildings and a farmyard, the remnants of Manor House Farm, occupy the southern corner of the site. The site is located on a gentle west-south-west facing slope, at approximately 100m above Ordnance Datum (aOD), and overlooks the valley of the River Sowe.

1.2.2 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Carboniferous sandstones and mudstones of the Whitacre Member (BGS 2013).

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 Planning permission has been granted on appeal (reference APP/U4610/A/11/2158113), for a residential development. The application site is currently occupied by Manor House Farm. The principal house which was located close to the southern boundary of the site was demolished sometime between 1957 and 1970, but many of the associated farm buildings are still standing. The Manor House is described in the 1951 Victoria District History of Warwickshire as being of 17th century origin, the remaining farm buildings that currently occupy the site look to be 19th century in date and may be those shown on the 1850 tithe map.

1.3.2 Condition 14 of the schedule of conditions attached to the Inspectors decision states:

'No development shall take place until the appellants, or their agents or successors in title, have secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work and recording of the existing buildings on the site in accordance with a written scheme of investigation and recording which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the local planning authority'. (Fig. 2).

1.4 Archaeological Background

- 1.4.1 Reference to the Coventry Historic Environment Record (HER) shows that there are no known sites of archaeological interest within the proposed development area, other than it being the site of Manor House Farm, which may have had its origins in the 17th century. The main farm building lay close to the southern boundary of the site and was demolished between 1957 and 1970, leaving a complex of farm buildings around three sides of a farmyard. These buildings (as well as the farmhouse) are visible on all maps from the First Edition Ordnance Survey of 1890, with additions to the northern and western ranges between 1952 and 1970 (this range was depicted as a 'casting works' in 1952) and to the eastern range between 1980 and 1992. The complex of buildings may be those depicted on the 1850 Tithe map; they presumably belong to decades preceding that map, as they have the appearance of 19th-century farm buildings. The surviving buildings are mostly single-storey, brick-built and in a state of dereliction.
- 1.4.2 Approximately 300m to the north of the site, at Chasewood Lodge Residential Home, excavation following evaluation revealed evidence for a medieval moated house, with walls on the island and traces of a bridge (HER WA1650). The site was reorganised in the 16th century and the moat was infilled in the 18th century (BUFAU 2002; 2006).
- 1.4.3 Cotswold Archaeology undertook an evaluation of the site in 2013 (Appendix 1). This revealed tentative evidence for late medieval activity in the form of a sherd of 13th/14th-century pottery from a shallow pit; the pottery was found in association with late medieval/post-medieval tile and brick, so it may be residual. Three residual sherds of medieval pottery were also collected from the subsoil and made-ground. In the northern and central parts of the site there were several linear ditches that appear to be aligned roughly perpendicular to the western boundary of the site. Two of the ditches are shown on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1890 and they were recorded as cutting the subsoil in most cases, so are likely to be 18th/19th-century in date. The map also shows a large pond in the eastern part of the site, the remains of which were identified in two trenches, backfilled with modern debris.
- 1.4.4 At the southern end of the site, excavation revealed the foundations of Manor House Farm, which is considered to date from the 17th century and was demolished in the mid-20th century. The foundations of part of the south and east elevations were identified, comprising sandstone and brick walls, with brick and tile floor surfaces. Modern made-ground was recorded to the north and west of the farm buildings; some of the deposits appeared to be imported industrial waste and may have been put down to form tracks or yards.

2.0 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 Objectives

2.1.1 In accordance with the principles of the NPPF, the objective is to examine the archaeological heritage assets of the site within a framework of defined aims, to seek a better understanding of the resource, to analyse the findings/record and then to disseminate the results of the work.

2.2 Specific Aims

2.2.1 To establish a relative and absolute chronological framework for the site. Priority is to be given to establishing an overall plan of the site and determining the various phases and sub-phases of activity.

2.2.2 To determine the internal morphology of the site and land-use, to identify the nature, date and range of zones of activity: residential, industrial, religious, etc. and to determine the dynamics of the spatial distribution of activities and changes over time. Within these parameters, the excavation presents an opportunity to address the following research objectives:

- Is there any evidence of early prehistoric activity along the line of the proposed road?
- What is the nature of the geophysical survey anomalies recorded along the line of the road?
- Can the existing detailed understanding of the character and chronology of the occupation of the area be enhanced by evidence from this development?
- What evidence is there for industrial, domestic and agricultural activity on the site?
- What evidence is there for ritual/religious activity on the site?
- What is the nature of the medieval occupation/activity within the site?

2.2.3 To determine the environmental history of the site and its immediate surrounding area throughout the sequence of human activity on the site.

2.2.4 To support the detailed assessment of the chronology of the artefactual and environmental material with a programme of radiocarbon samples if appropriate.

3.0 MACHINE STRIPPING

- 3.1 The area to be excavated is shown in Fig. 2. Trench 10 is 25m x 1.8m. The main trench is 35m x 20m.
- 3.2 A site grid is to be established, using an EDM or theodolite, and this is to be tied into the National Grid, at the outset of the project. The limits of the site will be defined prior to commencement of archaeological work on site.
- 3.3 A metal detector sweep will be undertaken prior to topsoil stripping. Spoil heaps will be regularly scanned by metal detector and by eye for small finds.
- 3.3 A full archaeological investigation in the form of a topsoil and partial sub-soil strip followed by excavation is to be undertaken.
- 3.4 All areas are to be stripped mechanically under archaeological direction. Intermittent testing of the remaining depth of overburden by hand should help to ensure the appropriate level above the archaeology is reached. Care should be taken not to machine into archaeological features or deposits but it is important that the archaeological level is reached and not still covered by overburden. It is hoped that general hand cleaning can be kept to the minimum so machine stripping needs to be well supervised and of a high quality.
- 3.5 During this operation all earthmoving and other vehicles will avoid travelling on the freshly stripped subsoil and areas of archaeological investigation.
- 3.6 Stripping will be carried out using a wide, toothless bucket. Machinery would be required to work back from one or several fronts but not track over the surface exposed.

4.0 EXCAVATION STRATEGY

- 4.1 On completion of machine-stripping, the resultant surface may require some hand cleaning until the uppermost outlines of features become readily discernible and intelligible. Areas of obvious natural sub-soil devoid of any archaeological interest will not require extensive hand-cleaning. Following the removal of the topsoil the surface of the exposed subsoil horizon will be examined for the presence of any archaeological features/deposits. All revealed features, i.e. linear features, postholes and pits, will be accurately planned at 1:100.
- 4.2 The archaeological team is to be structured to ensure that the hand-cleaning and planning operations run in close sequence. The initial site plan should be updated as new features become apparent.
- 4.3 Areas containing particularly significant or sensitive archaeological remains should be protected, e.g. not left open to the weather.
- 4.4 The excavation strategy will be justified against the stated aims and objectives of the project and/or any other appropriate criteria. The site will be excavated stratigraphically. Unless otherwise agreed the following sampling strategy will be followed.
- 4.5 Structural remains and other areas of significant and specific activity (domestic, industrial, religious, hearths, military, etc) will be fully excavated and recorded. Where appropriate, for instance where the stratigraphy is complex, single context planning will be used.
- 4.6 The revealed features will be excavated and recorded in accordance with the agreed excavation sampling strategy. The sampling strategy will continue to be developed throughout the investigation period in consultation with Coventry District Council in light of the results of the field work. The excavation will include initially as a minimum:
- The investigation of the intersections of features of archaeological date to obtain a phasing of the site;
 - A robust spatial framework of excavation to provide an understanding of the spatial distribution of past activities across the investigation area including any 'special' deposits and any patterning in artefact distribution. Such a framework will take into account the inter-relationship of major features.

- Structural remains and other areas of significant and specific activity (domestic, industrial, religious, hearths, 'special'/ patterned deposits etc) will be stripped and planned.
- Where appropriate, for instance where the stratigraphy is complex, single context planning will be used.
- Non-structural linear cut features will be sample excavated and recorded with a sufficient number of sections to establish the feature's character, date and morphology and to provide information on activities taking place in close proximity to the feature. All terminal ends will be investigated. Sections will normally be at least 1m wide.
- Non-structural pits will be half-sectioned unless the character, number or size of the pits makes this unpractical. For instance, if a pit contains several intersections and re-cuts, it would not always be appropriate to half-section it. In this situation, the archaeological contractor will consider 'quadranting' or single context planning. Equally if 'special' deposits are expected, pits may need to be excavated in plan rather than being half-sectioned. The strategy will need to be agreed with Coventry District Council.
- Non-structural post and stake-holes will be half-sectioned sufficiently to clarify character, relationships and chronology.
- All burial deposits and associated remains will be fully excavated and recorded in accordance with an agreed methodology (see below).

4.7 The sampling excavation strategy will be reviewed continuously throughout the course of fieldwork and, if necessary, amended in order to take account of changing circumstances and understanding. Any changes or amendments will be agreed in advance of implementation with COVENTRY DISTRICT COUNCIL.

4.8 Where insufficient dating material or information has been gathered from a partially or half-sectioned feature, further sampling will be undertaken unless agreed otherwise with Coventry District Council.

4.9 Archaeological features will be hand cleaned prior to excavation to provide a more accurate dimension than was obtained through the initial mapping. For linear features such hand cleaning will be targeted at sample excavation points.

Burial Remains

4.11 Inhumation and cremation burials will be fully excavated by hand within 24 hours of exposure unless otherwise agreed with COVENTRY DISTRICT COUNCIL.

- 4.12 The archaeological contractor will put in place arrangements to ensure the security, protection from deterioration and damage, and the respectful treatment of human remains and burial goods.
- 4.13 Where burial remains are expected, the archaeological contractor will submit to and agree prior to work commencing with COVENTRY DISTRICT COUNCIL, detailed procedures for the excavation and recording of inhumation and cremation burials.
- 4.14 The archaeological contractor will have available within the team or on call an appropriately qualified and experienced osteo-archaeologist to supervise the excavation and removal of human remains from the site. The archaeological contractor will use an appropriately qualified and experienced archaeological conservator to assist where appropriate in the lifting of human remains and grave goods / cremation vessels.
- 4.15 Ministry of Justice guidance will be followed in relation to any human remains encountered.

Finds recovery and treatment

- 4.16 All artefacts recovered during the excavations on the site are the property of the landowner. They are to be suitably bagged, boxed and marked in accordance with the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation, *Conservation Guidelines no.2* and on completion of the archaeological post-excavation programme the landowner will arrange for them to be deposited in a museum or similar repository agreed with Coventry District Council.
- 4.17 Should the landowner wish to retain the finds, they will need to be drawn and photographed, at the landowner's expense, for deposition in the appropriate archive. The landowner will be responsible for meeting the cost of this exercise.
- 4.18 Artefacts will be excavated carefully by hand. The archaeological contractor will use an appropriately qualified and experienced archaeological conservator to assist where appropriate in the lifting of fragile finds of significance and/or value.
- 4.19 Artefacts will be collected and bagged by archaeological context. The location of special finds will be recorded in three dimensions.

- 4.20 Where appropriate to address the research objectives of the archaeological investigation, sieving of deposits will be undertaken to maximise recovery of small artefacts. A strategy for such sieving will be agreed in advance with Coventry District Council.
- 4.21 Records of artefact assemblages will clearly state how they have been recovered, sub-sampled and processed.
- 4.22 Excavated artefacts will be bagged upon recovery or placed in finds trays. They must not be left loose on site.
- 4.23 **Treatment of treasure** - Finds, discovered by the archaeological contractor, falling under the statutory definition of Treasure (as defined by the Treasure Act of 1996 and its revision of 2002) will be reported immediately to the relevant Coroner's Office, the landowner and Coventry District Council. A Treasure Receipt (obtainable from either the FLO or the DCMS website) must be completed and a report submitted to the Coroner's Office and the FLO within 14 days of understanding the find is Treasure. Failure to report within 14 days is a criminal offence. The Treasure Receipt and Report must include the date and circumstances of the discovery, the identity of the finder (put as unit/contractor) and (as exactly as possible) the location of the find.
- 4.24 Finds processing will normally be carried out during the course of the archaeological fieldwork and provisional spot dating fed back to inform investigation strategy.
- 4.25 All metal objects, other than late post medieval objects, will be X-rayed unless otherwise agreed with Coventry District Council.
- 4.26 The pottery specialist employed by the archaeological contractor will be familiar with local pottery types and with a record of publications in the region.

Environmental sampling

- 4.27 An appropriate and structured programme of environmental sampling will be implemented. The strategy and methodology for the sampling, recording, processing, assessment, analysis and reporting of deposits with environmental archaeology potential will be in accordance with English Heritage Centre for Archaeology Guidelines "Environmental Archaeology – A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation" March 2002. Any variation to this guidance will

be agreed in advance with both the LPA Archaeological Advisor and the English Heritage Regional Scientific Advisor. Particular note will be taken of the following requirements.

- 4.28 The archaeological contractor will use an appropriately qualified and experienced geo-archaeologist to record any deposits of particular significance such as buried soils or advise on depositional processes.
- 4.29 An appropriately qualified and experienced environmental archaeologist will devise and supervise the implementation of the environmental sampling strategy.
- 4.30 The advice of the English Heritage Regional Scientific Advisor is to be sought regarding specialist sampling requirements and any scientific applications relevant to the archaeological investigation of this site.
- 4.31 Where deposits are dry, bulk samples for the recovery of charred plant remains, small bones and finds, will be taken from sealed and datable features such as pits, ditches, hearths and floors. Each context will normally be sampled. The size of the sample is expected to be in the range of 40-60 litres per context or 100% of smaller contexts. Samples will not be taken from the intersection of features.
- 4.32 For large features / spreads appropriate consideration will be given to sampling on a grid system.
- 4.33 Where good conditions for the preservation of bone have been identified, all large bones will be collected by hand and sieving of bulk samples up to 100 litres will be undertaken as appropriate.
- 4.34 Mollusc samples of 2 litres each will be taken vertically from appropriate sections to investigate the changes of vegetation through time.
- 4.35 Where deposits are wet, waterlogged or peaty, monoliths will be taken along cleaned vertical surfaces for the retrieval of pollen, diatoms, ostracods and foraminifera. The numbers to be taken will be agreed Coventry District Council.
- 4.36 For wet, waterlogged or peaty deposits, bulk samples of 20 litres will be taken from visible layers or spits for the retrieval of plant macro-remains and insects.

- 4.37 Environmental samples from dry deposits will normally be processed by flotation during the course of the archaeological fieldwork and the residues will be sorted to retrieve small bones, small finds and charcoal that has not floated. Environmental samples from wet deposits will normally be sent to specialists for processing in laboratory conditions. Provisional results should be fed back to the on site team to inform subsequent investigation strategy.
- 4.38 The archaeological contractor will make appropriate provision for the application of scientific dating techniques such as radiocarbon, dendrochronology, archaeomagnetic dating, OSL and thermoluminescence dating. The advice of the EH Regional Scientific Advisor will be sought in advance of the application of these techniques. The maximum numbers of scientific dates required can be assessed during the course of the archaeological excavation in discussion with the English Heritage Regional Scientific Advisor and Coventry District Council.
- 4.39 Where appropriate the guidance in the following English Heritage papers will be followed:
- "Guidelines on the recording, sampling, conservation, and curation of waterlogged wood" 1996
 - "Dendrochronology – guidelines on producing and interpreting dendrochronological dates" 1997
 - "Archaeometallurgy" 2001
 - "Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation" 2002
 - "Human bones from Archaeological Sites: Guidelines for Producing Assessment Documents and Analytical Reports" 2004
 - "Geoarchaeology" 2004
 - "Wet Wood and Leather"
 - "Archaeomagnetic Dating: Guidelines on producing and interpreting archaeomagnetic dates" 2006
 - "Guidelines on the X-radiography of archaeological metalwork" 2006

Access and Safety

- 4.40 Reasonable access to the site is to be arranged for representatives of the Local Planning Authority who may wish to make site inspections to ensure that the archaeological investigations are progressing satisfactorily.

- 4.41 All relevant health and safety regulations must be followed. A general health and safety policy must be provided by the Archaeological Contractor and a detailed risk assessment and management strategy for this site prepared. In particular the machine should be kept away from unsupported trench edges and public access routes should be supervised and controlled. Barriers, hoardings and warning notices should be installed as appropriate. Safety helmets are to be used by all personnel as necessary. The Archaeological Contractor will provide appropriate toilet and washing facilities for site staff.
- 4.42 No personnel are to work in deep unsupported excavations. Trenches deeper than 1.2m will have to be stepped or battered back.
- 4.43 Where there is reason to believe from previous uses that the ground may be contaminated, the archaeological contractor must include arrangements for pollution sampling and testing before any site work takes place. A search for public utility or other services will also be undertaken by the Archaeological Contractor prior to commencement.
- 4.44 The archaeological organisation must be satisfied that the applicant or developer has provided all information reasonably obtainable on contamination and the location of live services before any site work takes place.

5.0 RECORDING

- 5.1 The recording system must be fully compatible with that most widely used elsewhere in the District. Context sheets should include all relevant stratigraphic relationships and for complex stratigraphy a separate matrix diagram should be employed. This matrix should be fully checked during the course of the evaluation. If there is any doubt over recording techniques the guidance of the District Archaeological Officer will be sought.
- 5.2 The site archive will be so organised as to be compatible with other archaeological archives produced in the District. Individual descriptions of all archaeological strata and features excavated or exposed will be entered onto prepared pro-forma recording sheets. Sample recording sheets, sample registers, finds recording sheets, access catalogues, and photo record cards will also be used. This requirement for archival compatibility extends to the use of computerised database.
- 5.3 Site location plan required; general plan (e.g. OS 1:1250) showing investigation area and development site in relation to surrounding locality and street pattern.
- 5.4 This will be supplemented by trench plans at 1:500, which will show the location of the areas investigated in relationship to the investigation area, OS grid and site grid (if any). The locations of the OS bench marks used and site TBMs will also be identified.
- 5.5 Archaeological plans; some record of the full extent in plan of all archaeological deposits must be made. All significant deposits that significantly affect the interpretation of the site and relate to the excavation objectives should be formally planned in relation to the trench and OS grid and be at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20. Single context planning is required on deeply stratified sites.
- 5.6 Sections containing significant deposits, including half sections, should be drawn as appropriate. Upon completion of the trench at least one long section is to be drawn, including a profile of the top of natural deposits (extrapolated from cut features etc. if the test pit has not been fully excavated). In addition to the excavation of man made deposits some assessment of "naturally deposited" levels will be necessary, especially when these are organically preserved and laid down within archaeological timescales.
- 5.7 All archaeological plans and sections should be on drawing film at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20 and should include context numbers and OD spot heights for all principal strata and features.

- 5.8 An adequate photographic record of any significant archaeological remains is required, in both plan and section. This will include black and white prints and colour transparencies (on 35mm film), illustrating in both detail and general context the principal features and finds discovered. The photographic record will also include working shots to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operation mounted. The transparencies will be mounted in suitable frames. Where appropriate a photogrammetric record will be made of complex structures, features and horizons liable to be damaged in the course of the excavation. A digital photographic record should also be kept, in order to illustrate reports and contribute to Powerpoint presentations.
- 5.9 A Harris Matrix stratification diagram will be compiled and fully checked during the course of the excavations.

6.0 REPORTING

- 6.1 Within 2 weeks of completion of the work on site, the archaeological contractor will provide a Summary Report, comprising a c.500 word summary of the results of the site accompanied by a plan at an appropriate scale (e.g. 1:500).
- 6.2 Within 2 weeks of completion of the work on site, the archaeological contractor will provide a Summary Report, comprising a c.500 word summary of the results of the site accompanied by a plan at an appropriate scale (e.g. 1:500), one copy of which will be provided to Coventry District Council
- 6.3 Within 3 months of completion of the work on the site the archaeological contractor will carry out an assessment of the results and produce a MAP2 'Post-excavation Assessment Report', copies of which are to be provided as in 13.1 above. If necessary, an additional copy will be provided to the English Heritage Regional Scientific Advisor. This report will include a 'Proposal' to be agreed with the District Archaeologist that sets out a programme of post excavation analysis through to completion of a 'Full Report' and 'Publication' of the findings.
- 6.4 The Archaeological contractor may determine the general style and format of the 'Post-excavation Assessment Report' and the 'Full Report' but they must be completed in accordance with this specification. The reports must provide sufficient information and assessment to stand as a detailed report on the archaeological fieldwork for future research and to inform on further stages of the post excavation programme.
- 6.5 Reports that do not provide sufficient information or that have not been compiled in accordance with the relevant sections of this specification will be returned to the archaeological contractor for revision and resubmission.
- 6.6 The post-excavation assessment report should fully incorporate the findings of all trial trenching and the watching brief stages.
- 6.7 The post excavation assessment report is to include as a minimum:
- 1) An abstract summarising the scope and results of the archaeological investigation.
 - 2) An introduction including:
 - the location of the site including a National Grid Reference for the centre

sufficient to locate the site to 1m accuracy (e.g. TQ 55555 77777 or easting: 555555, northing: 177777);

- an account of the background and circumstances of the work;
 - a description of the development proposals, planning history and planning reference together with the planning condition (where appropriate);
 - the nature of potential impacts arising from the proposals;
 - the scope and date of the fieldwork, the personnel involved and who commissioned it;
- 3) An account of the archaeological background of the development site including:
- geology, soils and topography;
 - any known existing disturbances on the site;
 - background archaeological potential of the site. This will include a summary of the known Historic Environment Record (HER) entries within 500m of the boundaries of the site (or wider where appropriate). The Historic Environment Record entries should be quoted with their full Sussex HER identifier;
 - summary of any previous phases of archaeological investigation at the development site;
 - any constraints on the archaeological investigation.
- 4) The methodology employed during the investigation must be detailed in the report. Simply referring to the methodology outlined in the specification is not acceptable. Any aims and objectives specified in the specification will be included, as will any further objectives identified during the course of the investigation.
- 5) The report will include a quantification of the archive contents, their state and future location.
- 6) A description of the results of the archaeological investigation. This description must include:
- 7) The finds recovered during the course of the investigation will be described, quantified and assessed by artefact type within the report. The report will also indicate the potential of each category of artefact for further analysis and research. For each category of artefact the report will describe the method of processing, any sub-sampling, conservation and assessment undertaken. Where appropriate local reference collections will be referred to for descriptive and analytical consistency. Any implications for future archive, conservation or discard of the artefacts will also be detailed.
- the nature and depth of overburden soils encountered;
 - a description of the geological subsoil encountered across the site;

- description of all archaeological features and finds encountered, their dimensions, states of preservation and interpretation;
 - heights related to Ordnance Datum will be provided for each feature and deposit.
 - For complex remains a Harris Matrix diagram will be provided
- 8) The finds recovered during the course of the investigation will be described, quantified and assessed by artefact type within the report. The report will also indicate the potential of each category of artefact for further analysis and research. For each category of artefact the report will describe the method of processing, any sub-sampling, conservation and assessment undertaken. Where appropriate local reference collections will be referred to for descriptive and analytical consistency. Any implications for future archive, conservation or discard of the artefacts will also be detailed.
- 9) The report will include a table showing the contexts, classes and quantity of artefacts recovered, together with their date and interpretation.
- 10) The report will include an assessment of the environmental potential of the site. Details will be provided of any environmental sampling undertaken in connection with the fieldwork and the results of any processing and assessment of the samples. The report will describe the method of processing, any sub-sampling and assessment. Any potential for future analysis of the samples or environmental remains recovered from the investigation will be described. Implications for future archive, conservation or discard of environmental samples or remains will be detailed.
- 11) The report will include, as appropriate, tables summarising environmental samples taken, together with the results of processing and assessment.
- 12) Any results from the application of archaeological scientific techniques e.g. specialist dating will be included in the assessment report.
- 13) An interpretation of the archaeology of the site. This will be a synthesis of the stratigraphic, finds and environmental results of the investigation and a consideration of the site in its wider context as appropriate. This section will be supported by a phased interpretative plan of the site, clearly showing the major areas and periods of archaeological activity.

- 14) The report will include an assessment of the results of the archaeological investigations and their potential to address both the original research aims and objectives of the project and any further research objectives identified during the course of the on-site and post excavation works.
- 15) The report will include a detailed proposal for any further analysis necessary on the project records, artefact and environmental assemblages to achieve the research potential of the site. A justification will be included for each analysis proposed.
- 16) The proposal will set out a timetable for completion of analysis and reporting, detailing all individual tasks to be completed, resources required and the key personnel involved. The proposal will set out arrangements for monitoring of the post excavation process.
- 17) The report will include a synopsis of the proposed 'Full Report' and 'Publication' and identify the likely destination of the publication.
- 18) Figures - as a minimum the assessment report will include the following figures:
 - a site location plan tied into the Ordnance Survey at 1:1250 or in the case of larger sites at 1:2500. The plan will also include at least two National Grid points and show the site boundary;
 - a plan at 1:1250, or a scale to be agreed with the LPA Archaeological Advisor, showing the layout of the development groundworks clearly indicating the areas investigated. The plan will show significant archaeological features, coloured by phases or period as related to the development site. This plan will also include two National grid points;
 - plans of the features revealed in each of the investigation areas at a larger scale e.g. 1:20 or 1:50; such plans are to also illustrate areas of disturbance, change in subsoil and location of sections; The location of significant finds and samples taken will also be indicated;
 - relevant section drawings and soil trench profiles as appropriate;
 - illustrations and/or photographs of significant finds will be included where appropriate.
- 19) All report illustrations must be fully captioned and scale drawings must include a bar scale. Standard archaeological drawing conventions must be used. Plan and

section illustrations must include the numbers of all contexts illustrated. North must be included on all plans. Sections must indicate the orientation of the section and the Ordnance Datum height of the section datum.

20) Black & white or colour photographs will be included to illustrate the archaeology of the site, the development operations or the range of soil profiles encountered. All photographs will be appropriately captioned.

21) The report will be submitted to the LPA Archaeological Advisor in a bound hard-copy and in digital format. The digital copy will be supplied in .pdf format and will contain all text, images and plans present in the hard-copy report in a single .pdf file. The medium should be a CD-ROM formatted according to ISO 9660:1999.

6.8 **Full Report and Publication** – Following submission of the Assessment Report and proposal for analysis and publication, the archaeological contractor will discuss and agree with Coventry District Council the scope of the full report and the format and destination of subsequent publication(s) arising from excavation and post-excavation work on the site. The archaeological contractor will be expected to produce a paper suitable for publication within 18 months of completion of work on the site.

7.0 ARCHIVE

- 7.1 The site archive, to include all project records and cultural material produced by the project, is to be prepared in accordance with *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage (UKIC 1990)*. Arrangements for the curation of the site archive will be agreed in writing with the recipient Museum who will issue a museum acquisition number before site work commences. Details of such arrangements will be copied to the LPA Archaeological Advisor and the Local Planning Authority before site works commence.
- 7.2 The integrity of the site archive should be maintained. The archive of all records and finds must be prepared consistent with the principles set out in the Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage 1991), particularly Appendix 3.1 and Appendix 4.1. It will include all materials recovered (or the comprehensive record of such materials) and all written, drawn and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken. It will be quantified, ordered, indexed and internally consistent. It will also contain a site matrix, a site summary and brief written observations on the artefactual and environmental data.
- 7.3 A suitable repository for the site archive, as well as funds for its storage will be agreed and secured before archaeological work starts on site. The site archive is to be deposited with the appropriate museum within 3 months of the completion of work. It will then become publicly accessible. The contractor will need to hold discussions with relevant museum curatorial staff prior to archaeological work commencing regarding the collection and discard policy relevant to the site, and to observe such requirements.

8.0 MONITORING AND LIAISON

- 8.1 The archaeological contractor is to allow the site records to be inspected and examined at any reasonable time, during or after the excavation, by the client/developer, Coventry District Council or any designated representative of the Local Planning Authority.
- 8.2 The Assistant District Archaeologist, Coventry District Council will be kept informed of progress so that he may monitor the archaeological work or inform the Local Planning Authority (LPA) of developments if appropriate.
- 8.3 It will be important, before site monitoring meetings, to have the latest spot dating of the finds from the trenches/ main excavation area, to follow the understanding of the site and make any decisions about varying the sampling
- 8.4 The archaeological contractor will liaise closely with the LPA Archaeological Advisor throughout the course of the investigation and will arrange for on-site meetings at key decision points.
- 8.5 All enquiries from the Press should be passed to and dealt with by CgMs in the first instance.

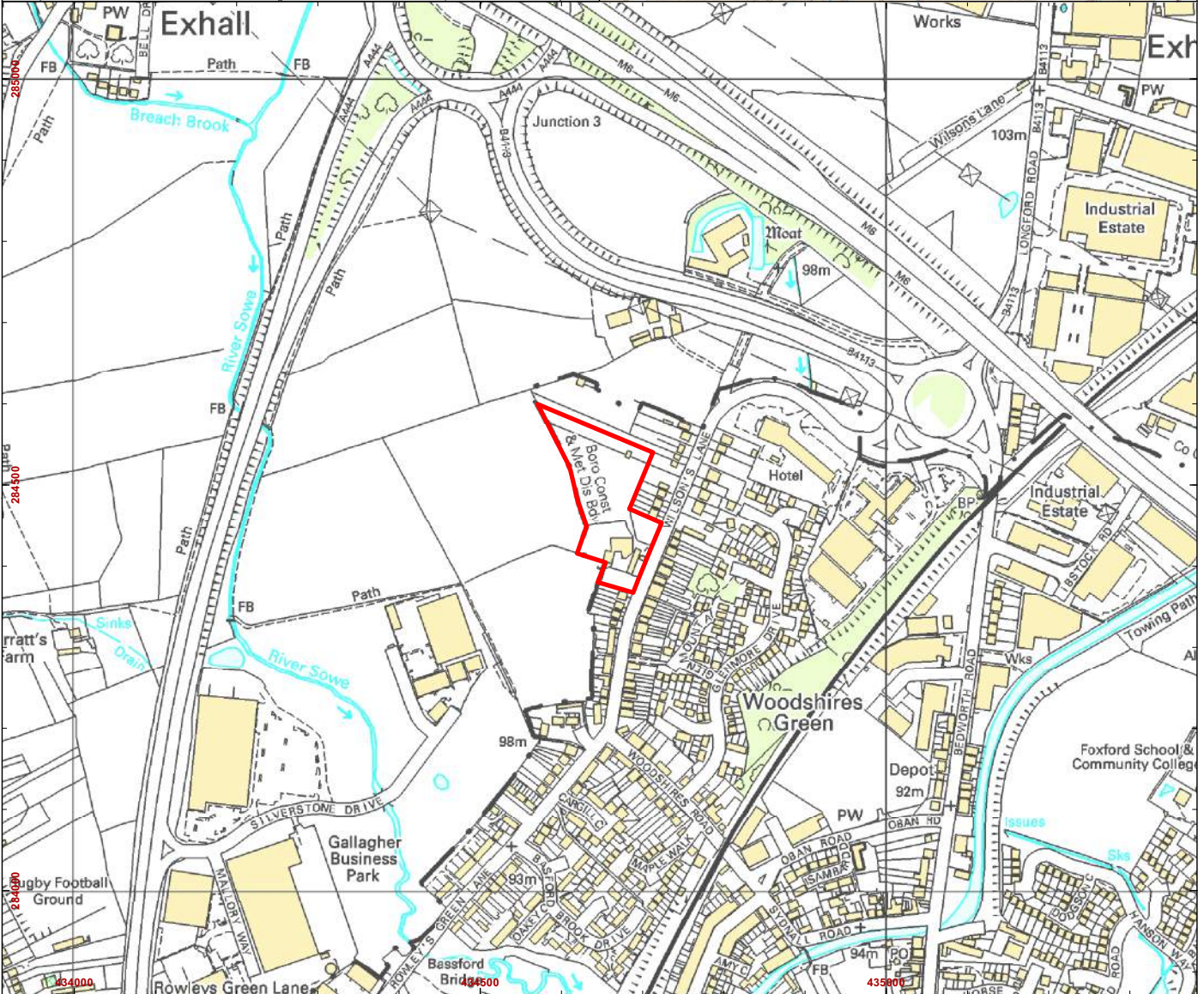
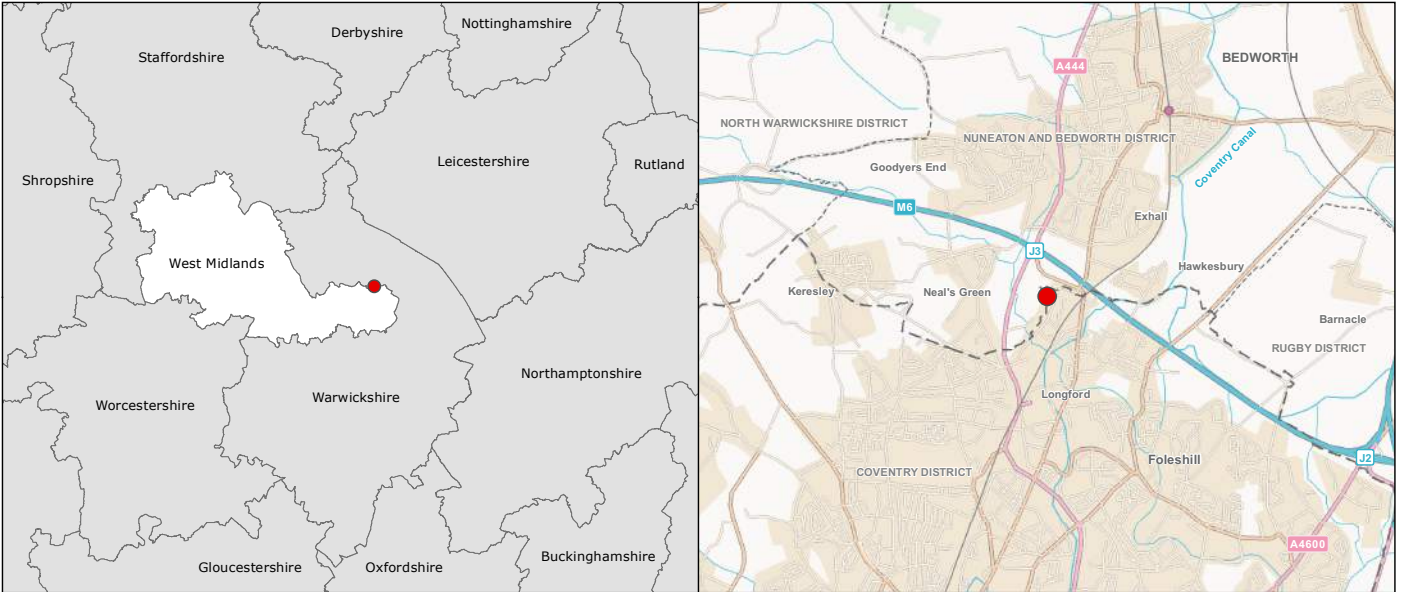
9.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 9.1 *All relevant health and safety regulations must be followed.* A general health and safety policy must be provided by the Archaeological Contractor and a detailed risk assessment and management strategy for this site prepared. In particular the machine should be kept away from unsupported edges and public access routes should be supervised and controlled. Barriers, hoardings and warning notices should be installed as appropriate. Safety helmets are to be used by all personnel as necessary. Accommodation, toilet and washing facilities for site staff will be provided by the client/developer.
- 9.2 The Archaeological Contractor is expected to maintain a Health and Safety Policy and a procedures manual, and have available appropriate expertise in Health and Safety advice. Site staff will have an appropriate level of training to enable them to carry out fieldwork safely.
- 9.3 The Archaeological Contractor will maintain the site in a safe condition. All hazards will be appropriately identified and managed. *No personnel are to work in deep unsupported excavations.* Areas of excavation deeper than 1.2m will have to be stepped or battered back.
- 9.4 Where there is reason to believe from previous uses that the ground may be contaminated, the Archaeological Contractor must include arrangements for pollution sampling and testing before any site work takes place. A search for public utility or other services will also be undertaken by the Archaeological Contractor prior to commencement.
- 9.5 The archaeological organisation must be satisfied that the applicant or developer has provided all information reasonably obtainable on contamination and the location of live services before any site work takes place.
- 9.6 The Archaeological Contractor will carry out a risk assessment prior to commencement of fieldwork and where appropriate a COSHH assessment. Risks and measures to reduce risk will be communicated to all working on and visiting the site.

General

- 9.7 In carrying out the work the Archaeological Contractor is to abide by:

- all statutory provisions and by-laws relating to the work in question,
- the Institute of Field Archaeologists *Code of Conduct*
- the Institute of Field Archaeologists *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology*.



Site Boundary

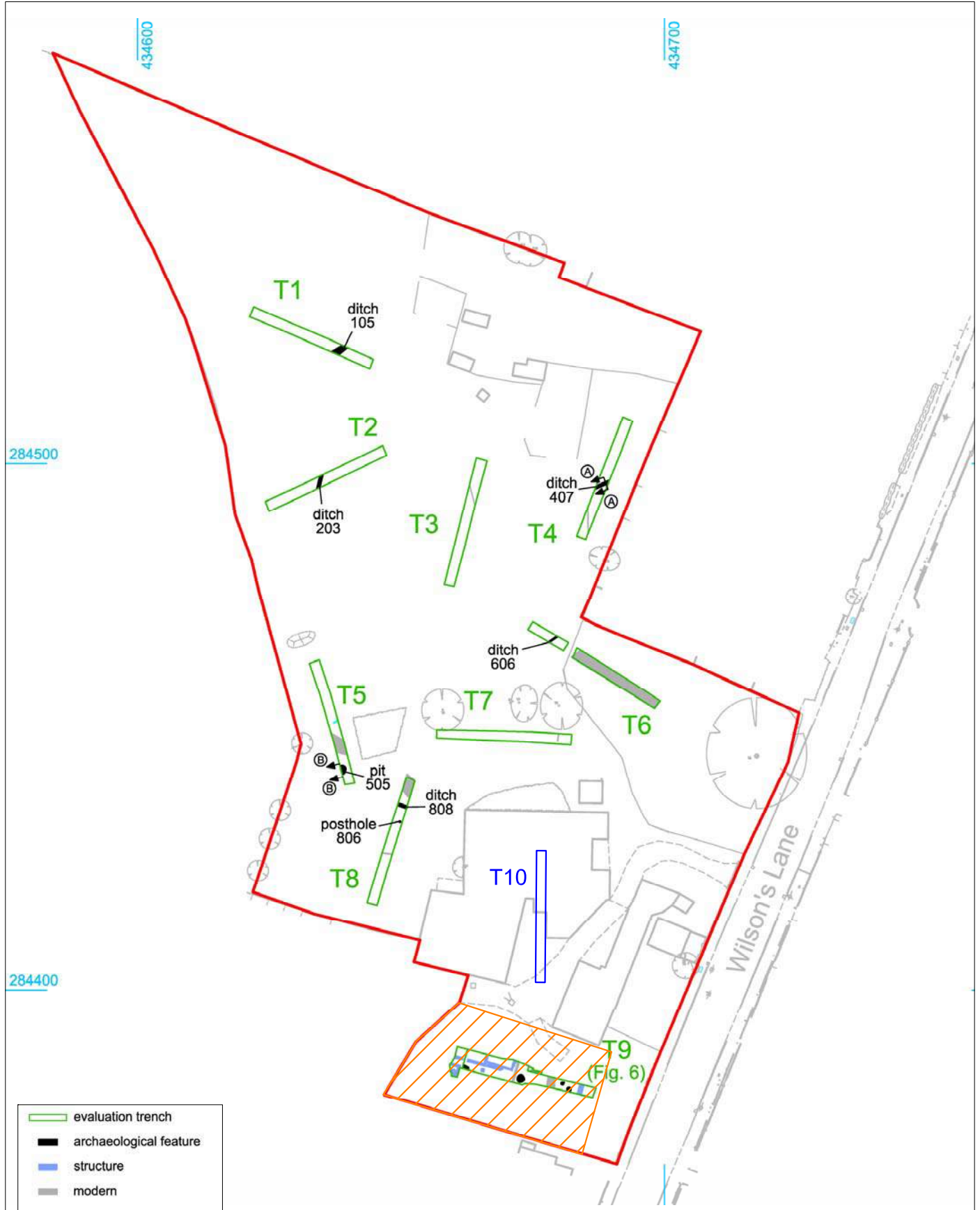


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Scale at A4: 1:8,000



Figure 1:
Site Location



| | |
|--|------------------------|
| | evaluation trench |
| | archaeological feature |
| | structure |
| | modern |

| | |
|--|--|
| | Site Boundary |
| | Proposed Trench Location (25m x 1.8m) |
| | Proposed Excavation Area (Approx. 735m²) |



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Scale at A4: 1:1000
0 20 m

Figure 2:
Proposed Trench Location
and Excavation Plan

Appendix 1

Cotswold Archaeology. 2013. Manor House Farm, Wilson's Lane, Longford, Coventry:
Archaeological Evaluation



**Manor House Farm
Wilson's Lane, Longford
Coventry**

Archaeological Evaluation

for
CgMs Consulting
on behalf of
Gallagher Estates Ltd


CA Project: 660145
CA Report: 13605

November 2013

Manor House Farm Wilson's Lane, Longford Coventry

Archaeological Evaluation

CA Project: 660145
CA Report: 13605

| | |
|-------------|---|
| prepared by | Dan Stone, Project Supervisor |
| date | 18 October 2013 |
| checked by | |
| date | |
| approved by | Simon Carlyle, Principal Fieldwork Manager |
| signed |  |
| date | 11 November |
| issue | 01 |

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CONTENTS

| | |
|---|-----------|
| SUMMARY | 2 |
| 1. INTRODUCTION..... | 3 |
| 2. RESULTS (FIGS 2-9)..... | 6 |
| 3. DISCUSSION..... | 10 |
| 4. CA PROJECT TEAM..... | 11 |
| 5. REFERENCES..... | 12 |
| APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS | 13 |
| APPENDIX B: THE FINDS | 21 |
| APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM..... | 22 |

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

- Fig. 1 Site location plan, 1:25,000
- Fig. 2 Trench location plan, showing archaeological features, 1:1000
- Fig. 3 Trenches 4, 5 and 7; sections and photograph
- Fig. 4 Trench 9; plan and photographs



SUMMARY

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Project Name: | Land off Wilson's Lane, Longford, Coventry |
| Location: | Manor House Farm, Longford, Coventry |
| NGR: | SP 3465 8442 |
| Type: | Evaluation |
| Date: | 14 - 17 October 2013 |
| Planning Reference: | APP/U4610/A/11/2158113 |
| Location of Archive: | Coventry City Museum |
| Site Code: | WLR 13 |

In October 2013, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Manor House Farm, off Wilsons Lane, Longford, Coventry. The evaluation, which was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd, acting on behalf of Gallagher Estates Ltd, was undertaken to fulfil the archaeological condition that was attached to planning consent for the residential development of the site.

Tentative evidence was found for late medieval activity on the site, in the form of a sherd of 13th/14th-century pottery from a shallow pit; the pottery was found in association with late medieval/post-medieval tile and brick, so it may be residual. Three residual sherds of medieval pottery were also collected from the subsoil and made-ground. In the northern and central parts of the site there were several linear ditches that appear to be aligned roughly perpendicular to the western boundary of the site. Two of the ditches are shown on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1890 and they were recorded as cutting the subsoil in most cases, so are likely to be 18th/19th-century in date. The map also shows a large pond in the eastern part of the site, the remains of which were identified in two trenches, backfilled with modern debris.

At the southern end of the site, excavation revealed the foundations of Manor House Farm, which is considered to date from the 17th century and was demolished in the mid-20th century. The foundations of part of the south and east elevations were identified, comprising sandstone and brick walls, with brick and tile floor surfaces. Modern made-ground was recorded to the north and west of the farm buildings; some of the deposits appeared to be imported industrial waste and may have been put down to form tracks or yards.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In October 2013, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Manor House Farm, off Wilsons Lane, Longford, Coventry (site centred on NGR: SP 3465 8442; Fig. 1). The evaluation, which was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd (CgMs), acting on behalf of Gallagher Estates Ltd, was undertaken to fulfil the archaeological condition that was attached to outline planning consent for the residential development of the site (planning ref. OUT/2010/1704; granted on appeal, Planning Inspectorate ref. APP/U4610/A 11/2158113; Condition 14).
- 1.2 The archaeological condition was requested by Chris Patrick, Coventry City Council's Conservation and Archaeology Officer (CCCCAO), as the site lies within an area of archaeological potential and may contain remains associated with Manor House Farm, which is considered to date to the 17th century. The scope of works was outlined in a *Brief* issued by CCCCAO (2013) and this was abided to in the preparation of a *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) by CA (2013).
- 1.3 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with the WSI (CA 2013), the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (IfA 2008), and the English Heritage procedural documents *Management of Archaeological Projects 2* (EH 1991) and *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (EH 2006). The fieldwork was monitored by Chris Patrick, with site visits being made on 16 and 17 October 2013.

The site

- 1.3 The site, which covers an area of c. 1.4ha, comprises an irregular block of pasture to the west of Wilson's Lane, Longford, a suburb on the northern outskirts of Coventry, approximately 5.5km to the north of the city centre (Fig. 1). The site is bounded by Wilson's Lane and the gardens of properties fronting on to Wilson's Lane to the east, and farmland to the south, west and north. A cluster of farm buildings and a farmyard, the remnants of Manor House Farm, occupy the southern corner of the site. The site is located on a gentle west-south-west facing slope, at approximately 100m above Ordnance Datum (aOD), and overlooks the valley of the River Sowe.

- 1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Carboniferous sandstones and mudstones of the Whitacre Member (BGS 2013).

Archaeological background

- 1.5 Reference to the Coventry Historic Environment Record (HER) shows that there are no known sites of archaeological interest within the proposed development area, other than it being the site of Manor House Farm, which may have had its origins in the 17th century. The main farm building lay close to the southern boundary of the site and was demolished between 1957 and 1970, leaving a complex of farm buildings around three sides of a farmyard. These buildings (as well as the farmhouse) are visible on all maps from the First Edition Ordnance Survey of 1890, with additions to the northern and western ranges between 1952 and 1970 (this range was depicted as a 'casting works' in 1952) and to the eastern range between 1980 and 1992. The complex of buildings may be those depicted on the 1850 Tithe map; they presumably belong to decades preceding that map, as they have the appearance of 19th-century farm buildings. The surviving buildings are mostly single-storey, brick-built and in a state of dereliction.
- 1.6 Approximately 300m to the north of the site, at Chasewood Lodge Residential Home, excavation following evaluation revealed evidence for a medieval moated house, with walls on the island and traces of a bridge (HER WA1650). The site was reorganised in the 16th century and the moat was infilled in the 18th century (BUFAU 2002; 2006).

Archaeological objectives

- 1.7 The objectives of the evaluation were to provide information about the archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality. The specific objectives, as outlined in the WSI (CA 2013), were to:
- investigate the development and use of Manor House Farm;
 - and investigate the potential for settlement on the site which pre-dates the 17th-century manor house described in the Victoria County History.
- 1.8 This information will enable the CCCCAO to identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset, consider the impact of the proposed development upon it, and to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation

and any aspect of the development proposal, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

Methodology

- 1.9 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of nine 25m trial trenches (225 linear metres) in the locations shown in Figure 2. The trenches target the site of Manor House Farm, ditches shown on late 19th-century maps of the site and apparently blank areas within the fields. Trenches were set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using Leica GPS equipment and surveyed in accordance with CA's *Technical Manual 4: Survey Manual* (2012).
- 1.10 The trenches were excavated by a 360-degree tracked excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket. All machine excavation was undertaken under constant archaeological supervision to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the geological substrate, whichever was encountered first. Where archaeological deposits were encountered they were excavated by hand in accordance with *Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual* (CA 2007).
- 1.11 Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential, in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites* (2003) and *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods* (English Heritage 2011); no deposits were encountered that were suitable for sampling. Finds were processed in accordance with *Technical Manual 3: Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation* (CA 1995).
- 1.12 The archive and artefacts from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Milton Keynes. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner they will be deposited with Coventry City Museum, along with the site archive. A summary of information from this project, as set out within Appendix C, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.



2. RESULTS

General stratigraphy

- 2.1 The geological substrate was variable across the site, ranging from firm orangey-pink silty clay to pink clay with bands of pinkish-brown sand. In the northern part of the site it was encountered at a depth of c. 0.5m below ground level (bgl), but in the southern part of the site and nearer to the farm buildings there was a greater build-up of soil and made-ground, with the geology lying at c. 1.0m bgl.
- 2.2 The subsoil was light orangey-brown clayey silt, with a general thickness of c. 0.25m, although in Trenches 5 and 8 it was up to 0.6m thick. The topsoil was of variable thickness, ranging from 0.1m to 0.4m, indicating that the topsoil had been reduced or redeposited in places.
- 2.3 In Trenches 5-8 there were extensive deposits of made-ground, suggesting that the ground around the farm buildings has undergone a degree of disturbance and modification in the late post-medieval and modern period. In Trench 5 the made-ground, comprising clinker and a white limey concretion, overlay the subsoil and may have formed a prepared surface for a yard or track.

Late medieval/post-medieval

Trench 5

- 2.4 Towards the southern end of Trench 5 was an irregular, shallow, silt-filled hollow 507, probably a tree throw, which contained fragments of late medieval or post-medieval tile and brick. It was cut by a shallow pit, measuring up to 1.7m wide by 0.15m deep, from the fill of which was recovered a sherd of 13th/14th-century White Slip decorated ware (Fig. 3).

Post-medieval

Trench 8

- 2.5 At the northern end of the trench was a small ditch, 808, that measured 0.5m wide by 0.28m deep, was aligned roughly east to west and corresponded with a boundary shown on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map. Approximately 3m to the south of the ditch was a small pit or posthole, 806, with a diameter of 0.28m and depth of 0.11m. A sherd of tin-glazed earthenware, dating to the 17th/18th centuries, was recovered from its fill.

Modern

Trench 1

- 2.6 In the eastern half of the trench were two intercutting ditches, 103 and 105. Ditch 105 measured 1.1m wide by 0.6m deep and was aligned north-east to south-west; ditch 103, which was roughly parallel to ditch 105 and cut its northernmost edge, measured 0.5m wide by 0.25m deep. The earlier ditch, 105, cut the topsoil, suggesting a modern date for these features.

Trench 2

- 2.7 Passing through the centre of the trench on a north to south alignment was a small ditch, 203, that measured 0.5m wide by 0.11m deep and had a shallow concave profile.

Trench 4

- 2.8 Near the centre of the trench and cutting the subsoil was a ditch, 407. It was aligned north-east to south-west, measured 0.7m wide by 0.7m deep and had a steep-sided profile (Fig. 3). It was filled with four deposits, all of which appear to have derived from weathering and silting processes.

Trenches 5 and 6

- 2.9 Passing through the centre of Trench 5 was a linear ditch, 509, that measured 0.9m wide by 0.45m deep and was aligned east-north-east to west-south-west. A ceramic land drain had been inserted into the top of the ditch on the same alignment. The ditch, 606, continued into the north-western end of Trench 6, where it petered out to 0.28m wide by 0.08m deep. The ditch appears to correspond to a field boundary that crosses the centre of the site, as shown on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1890.

Trenches 6 and 7

- 2.10 The First Edition Ordnance Survey map shows a large pond in the eastern corner of the site, adjacent to Wilson's Lane and to the north of the farm buildings. The remains of the pond were identified in Trenches 6 and 7 (602 and 707; Fig. 3), where it was shown to have been backfilled with clinker, soil, sand, tarmac and rubble, to a depth of up to 1.1m (including topsoil cover).

Trench 9

- 2.11 After clearing undergrowth and other obstructions from the area of Trench 9, excavation revealed the foundations and floor surfaces of Manor House Farm below a thin covering of humus (Fig. 4). The foundations, which were located in the western half of the trench, comprised parts of external and partition walls, built from grey sandstone blocks and brick, bonded with mortar (9003, 9008, 9013, 9014, 9016, 9017, 9018 and 9034); investigation of the foundations showed that up to three to four courses survived (including foundation courses). The floors were formed of brick (9015), blue brick (9028) and tile (9019).
- 2.12 At the eastern end of the trench were the foundations of a wall, 9027. This may be the remains of the small, square building to the east of the main house, as shown on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map.
- 2.13 There were four pits within the trench that date to the period when the house was occupied (9020, 9022, 9024 and 9029). Their fills contained hearth ashes, clinker and domestic waste and one of the pits had been used to bury a sheep/goat.

The finds evidence by Jacky Sommerville

- 2.14 Finds recovered from the evaluation comprised pottery, ceramic building material (brick/tile) and glass. Codings for post-medieval fabrics (given in the text and Table 1, Appendix B in parenthesis) correspond to the codes as defined in the Type Series for Warwickshire (Soden and Ratkai 1998).

Pottery: medieval

- 2.15 A bodysherd of White Slip decorated ware (SG12) was recovered from pit fill 504. It featured a vertical band of white slip with a raised rib of decoration and olive coloured glaze. This fabric is commonly found in Warwickshire. It is thought to have been manufactured at Deritend in Birmingham and dates to the 13th-14th centuries (Soden and Ratkai 1998, 118).
- 2.16 Subsoil 9001 produced two sherds of pottery in a Sandy glazed ware (Group SG): an unfeatured bodysherd and a rimsherd from a jug. The rimsherd featured fingertip impressed decoration along the top and, although the handle was missing, the stabbed decoration which had been applied to the handle was visible. This group of fabric types dates from the 13th to 15th centuries (Soden and Ratkai 1998, 110-131).

- 2.17 Two sherds of Chilvers Coton A white ware (WW01) were recovered from made ground layer 9036. One was a glazed bodysherd; the other was an unglazed rimsherd from a jar with a thickened, everted rim. This type of pottery was manufactured at Chilvers Coton, near Nuneaton in Warwickshire, and dates from the mid-13th to 14th centuries. It has been found on sites throughout Warwickshire (Soden and Ratkai 1998, 157).

Pottery: Post-medieval

- 2.18 Two sherds of tin-glazed earthenware (TGE) were recovered from pit fill 807. This pottery type was manufactured at centres including Bristol, Liverpool and London, and dates to the 17th-18th centuries (Soden and Ratkai 1998, 209).
- 2.19 Subsoil 9001 produced one unfeatured bodysherd of black-glazed earthenware and one of creamware (CRW). Black-glazed earthenware was manufactured in the 18th and 19th centuries. The same date range applies to Creamware and the largest production centres were in Staffordshire and Leeds (Soden and Ratkai 1998, 175).

Ceramic building material

- 2.20 Eighteen fragments of late medieval/post-medieval brick and tile were recovered from five contexts. These mostly consisted of tile fragments, including a post-medieval nib tile from subsoil 9001, but there were also brick fragments from tree throw fill 506.

Glass

- 2.21 One fragment of post-medieval window glass was recovered from subsoil 9001.

Faunal Remains by Andy Clarke

- 2.22 A collection of animal bones (157 fragments; 823g) was recovered from three deposits dating broadly from the medieval to the post-medieval periods. The bone was in a good state of preservation and although there was frequent modern damage, it was possible to identify every bone to species level. The species identified consisted of sheep/goat, cattle and dog, all of which are common in assemblages from the medieval period onwards.
- 2.23 Ovicaprid (*Ovis aries/Capra hircus*) bones dominate with 154 fragments, accounting for 98% of the assemblage, 143 of which were recovered from deposit 9025. Dating

to the post-medieval period the bones clearly represent the deposition of a single individual. There was no evidence of butchery, but observed tooth wear and cartilage ossification indicate an aged animal of approximately eight years of age, presumably having come to the end of its useful domestic life. The remaining ovicaprid bones take the form of fragmented vertebrae from post-medieval deposit 807.

- 2.24 Cattle (*Bos Taurus*) and dog (*Canis familiaris*) were represented by single fragments, recovered from deposits 9036 and 807 respectively.
- 2.25 Taking into account the fact that the majority of ovicaprid bones originate from a single animal, together with the limited amount cattle and dog bones recovered, no further interpretative data could be recovered.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 The evaluation revealed tentative evidence for late medieval activity on the site, in the form of a sherd of 13th/14th-century pottery from a shallow pit; the pottery was found in association with late medieval/post-medieval tile and brick, so it may be residual. Three residual sherds of medieval pottery were also recovered from the subsoil and from a layer of modern made-ground.
- 3.2 In the northern and central parts of the site there were several linear ditches that appear to be aligned roughly perpendicular to the western boundary to the site. Two of the ditches are shown on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1890 and they were recorded as cutting the subsoil in most cases, so are likely to be 18th/19th-century in date. The map also shows a large pond in the eastern part of the site, the remains of which were identified in two trenches, backfilled with clinker and other modern debris.
- 3.3 At the southern end of the site, excavation revealed the foundations of Manor House Farm. Mention of the building in the Victoria County History suggests that it may date from the 17th century; it was demolished in the second half of the 20th century. The foundations of part of the south and east elevations were identified, comprising sandstone and brick walls, with brick and tile floor surfaces. The remains were consistent with those of a post-medieval/modern farm house, although no evidence was found to indicate when it was first built.

- 3.4 Modern made-ground was recorded to the north and west of the farm buildings; some of the deposits appeared to be imported industrial waste, comprising clinker and a white limey concretion, that may have been put down to form tracks or yards.

4. CA PROJECT TEAM

- 4.1 The fieldwork was supervised by Dan Stone, assisted by a team of CA Archaeologists. The report was written by Dan Stone, with contributions from Jacky Somerville and Andy Clarke, and the illustrations were prepared by Lorna Gray. The archive has been compiled by Dan Stone and prepared for deposition by Nicola Powell. The project was managed for CA Simon Carlyle.



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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

| Trench | Context | Type | Fill of | Comment | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot date |
|--------|---------|--------|---------|---------------|--------------------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1 | 100 | layer | | topsoil | mid brownish grey friable silty clay | >25.0 | >2.0 | 0.24 | |
| | 101 | layer | | subsoil | light orangey brown clayey silt | | | 0.15 | |
| | 102 | layer | | natural | mid orangey pink firm silty clay | | | | |
| | 103 | re cut | | ditch | linear ditch | | 0.58 | 0.2 | |
| | 104 | fill | 103 | fill of ditch | mid greyish brown silty clay | | 0.58 | 0.2 | |
| | 105 | cut | | ditch | linear ditch | | 1.52 | 0.55 | |
| | 106 | fill | 105 | fill of ditch | mid greyish clayey silt | | 0.93 | 0.29 | |
| | 107 | fill | 105 | fill of ditch | mid greyish brown clayey silt | | 0.53 | 0.18 | |
| | 108 | fill | 105 | fill of ditch | mid greyish yellow clayey silt | | 0.66 | 0.28 | |
| | 109 | fill | 105 | fill of ditch | light grey brown silty clay | | 0.8 | 0.16 | |
| | 110 | fill | 105 | fill of ditch | light greyish brown silty clay | | 0.72 | 0.07 | |
| 2 | 200 | layer | | topsoil | light greyish brown, clayey silt | | | 0.3 | |
| | 201 | layer | | subsoil | light orange clayey | | | 0.2 | |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-------|-------|---------------|--|--|------|------|--|
| | | | | | silt | | | | |
| | 202 | layer | | natural | pink clay with inclusion | | | | |
| | 203 | cut | | ditch | linear ditch with concave profile | | 0.57 | 0.11 | |
| | 204 | fill | 203 | fill of ditch | light yellowish grey clayish silt | | 0.57 | 0.11 | |
| 3 | 300 | layer | | topsoil | mid brown silty clay | | | 0.38 | |
| | 301 | layer | | subsoil | mid orangey brown silty clay | | | 0.18 | |
| | 302 | layer | | natural | mid orangey pink clay | | | | |
| 4 | 400 | layer | | topsoil | mid greyish brown clayey silt | | | 0.3 | |
| | 401 | layer | | subsoil | light orangey brown clayey silt | | | 0.3 | |
| | 402 | layer | | natural | brownish pink clay | | | | |
| | 403 | fill | 407 | fill of ditch | orangey brown sandy clay | | 1.25 | 0.4 | |
| | 404 | fill | 407 | fill of ditch | pink clay with inclusion | | 1.15 | 0.3 | |
| | 405 | fill | 407 | fill of ditch | pinkish brown sandy silt | | 0.7 | 0.22 | |
| | 406 | fill | 407 | fill of ditch | pinkish brown orangey brown sandy silty clay | | 0.15 | 0.7 | |
| | 407 | cut | ditch | ditch | linear, steep sided | | 0.7 | 0.7 | |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-------|-----|-----------------|---|--|------|------|--|
| | | | | | concave based | | | | |
| 5 | 500 | layer | | topsoil | greyish brown sandy silt | | | 0.2 | |
| | 501 | layer | | made ground | friable layers of black industrial burnt waste and white bands of agricultural waste presumed lime/fertilizer | | | 0.2 | |
| | 502 | layer | | subsoil | pinkish brown sand with pink clay | | | 0.6 | |
| | 503 | layer | | natural | pink clay and pinkish brown sandy silt | | | | |
| | 504 | fill | 505 | pit fill | greyish brown silty sand | | | 0.15 | |
| | 505 | cut | | pit | shallow flat based, semi oval | | | 0.15 | |
| | 506 | fill | 301 | tree throw fill | mid brownish grey loos medium sand | | | 0.44 | |
| | 507 | cut | | tree throw | irregular sides and uneven base | | 0.83 | 0.44 | |
| 6 | 600 | layer | | topsoil | dark brown silty clay with occasional poorly sorted stones and flecks of charcoal | | | 0.17 | |
| | 601 | fill | | dumped material | different lenses of modern waste material | | | 1.72 | |
| | 602 | cut | | pit | modern waste pit, very large and | | | 1.72 | |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-------|-------------|---------------|---|----------|---------|------|--|
| | | | | | amorphous | | | | |
| | 603 | layer | | made ground | mid brownish red compact silty clay with occasional stones and flecks of charcoal | | | 0.41 | |
| | 604 | layer | | subsoil | mid greyish brown silty clay | | | 0.49 | |
| | 605 | fill | | fill of gully | mid brown friable clayey fine sand | | | 0.08 | |
| | 606 | cut | | gully | shallow steep sides | min 2.2m | 0.27 | 0.08 | |
| | 607 | layer | | natural | mid brownish red clay with lenses of brown/ yellowish brown loose fine sand with manganese flecks | | | | |
| 7 | 700 | layer | | topsoil | dark greyish brown clayish silt | | | 0.11 | |
| | 701 | layer | | subsoil | mid greyish silty clay | | | 0.23 | |
| | 702 | layer | | subsoil | mid greyish pink silty clay | | | 0.2 | |
| | 703 | layer | | subsoil | mid brownish grey clayey silt | | | 0.2 | |
| | 704 | layer | | subsoil | mid greyish brown friable clayey silt | | | 0.2 | |
| | 705 | layer | | natural | mid greyish pink friable silty clay | | | | |
| | 706 | fill | fill of 707 | fill of pit/ | cbm, medium | 0.5 | 0.3 min | 0.2 | |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-------|-------------|-------------|---|--|------|------|--|
| | | | | cbm | angular sandstone | | | | |
| | 707 | cut | | pit | modern waste pit, steep sided and flat bottomed | | 2 | 1.5 | |
| | 708 | fill | fil of 707 | fill of pit | modern waste material and silty clay | | 2 | 1.4 | |
| 8 | 800 | layer | | topsoil | mid brownish grey clayish silt | | | 0.2 | |
| | 801 | layer | | subsoil | mid blackish grey friable silt | | | 0.13 | |
| | 802 | layer | | subsoil | dark brownish grey silty clay | | | 0.1 | |
| | 803 | layer | | subsoil | light brownish grey clayey silt | | | 0.25 | |
| | 804 | layer | | subsoil | mid orangey brown clayish silt | | | 0.52 | |
| | 805 | layer | | natural | friable mid orangey brown clayey silt | | | | |
| | 806 | cut | | pit | sub circular concave base and sides | | 0.24 | 0.11 | |
| | 807 | fill | fill of 806 | pit fill | mid orangey grey clayish silt | | | 0.11 | |
| | 808 | cut | | ditch | linear, flat based | | 0.48 | 0.28 | |
| | 809 | fill | fill of 808 | ditch fill | mid brownish grey friable silty clay | | 0.48 | 0.28 | |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|------|------|-------|------------|------------------|--|-----|------|------|--|
| 9 | 9000 | layer | | topsoil | dark brown moderately compacted silty clay | | | 0.5 | |
| | 9001 | layer | | subsoil | mid greyish silty clay | | | 0.15 | |
| | 9002 | layer | | natural | light brownish-yellow silty sand and reddish-pink clay | | | | |
| | 9003 | wall | | wall components | course of sandstone dressed stone | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.25 | |
| | 9004 | wall | | wall components | mortar | 4 | 0.4 | 0.08 | |
| | 9005 | wall | | wall components | second course of foundation stone | 4 | 0.4 | 0.22 | |
| | 9006 | wall | | wall components | mortar | 4 | 0.4 | 0.01 | |
| | 9007 | wall | | wall components | first course of foundation stone | 4 | 0.4 | | |
| | 9008 | wall | | wall components | surviving first course of brick wall on 9003 | 3.5 | 0.12 | | |
| | 9009 | layer | | interior makeup | red brown silty clay | 5 | 2.5 | | |
| | 9010 | layer | | surface | black lenses of charcoal, silt. | 2.5 | 0.3 | | |
| | 9011 | layer | | make up material | red brown sandy silt | 2.5 | 1 | | |
| 9012 | cut | | pillar cut | square vertical | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.4 | | |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|------|-------|--------------|---------------------|---|---------|---------|---------|--|--|
| | | | | | sided | | | | |
| 9013 | fill | fill of 9012 | pillar base | 2 dressed sandstone blocks | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.4 | | |
| 9014 | wall | | wall | brick | 2.5 | 0.3 | 0.3 | | |
| 9015 | layer | | brick floor | brick | 2.5 | 0.4 | 0.2 | | |
| 9016 | wall | | brick wall footings | brick | 4.5 e/w | 0.2 | 0.2 | | |
| 9017 | wall | | wall | sandstone blocks | min 3 | 0.5 | min 0.2 | | |
| 9018 | wall | | wall | sandstone blocks | min 3 | 0.5 | min 0.2 | | |
| 9019 | layer | | tiled floor | red ceramic tiles | min 1.5 | min 1.5 | | | |
| 9020 | cut | | pit | | min 1.5 | min 1.1 | 0.38 | | |
| 9021 | fill | fill of 9020 | pit fill | light brown silty clay | min 1.5 | min 1.1 | 0.38 | | |
| 9022 | cut | | pit | | 2 | 1.8 | 0.2 | | |
| 9023 | fill | fill of 9022 | pit fill | light yellow silty sand | 2 | 1.8 | 0.2 | | |
| 9024 | cut | | pit | oval uneven flat base | | 0.95 | 0.13 | | |
| 9025 | fill | fill of 9024 | pit fill | grey pinkish brown firm sand. | | 0.95 | 0.13 | | |
| 9026 | cut | | wall foundation | linear in plan | min 2.0 | 1.2 | | | |
| 9027 | wall | wall in 9026 | wall | large angular sandstone/ granite blocks | min 2.0 | 1.2 | | | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|------|-------|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|----------|------|--------|
| 9028 | layer | | brick floor | brick | 2 | 1.2 | | |
| 9029 | cut | | pit | oval in plan | | 0.7 | 0.05 | |
| 9030 | fill | fill of 9029 | pit fill | silty clay | | 0.7 | 0.05 | |
| 9031 | cut | | Tree throw | irregular, uneven base | | 1.2 | 0.01 | |
| 9032 | fill | fill of 9031 | Tree throw | | | 1.2 | 0.01 | |
| 9033 | cut | | wall cut | | 1.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | |
| 9034 | wall | | wall foundation | brick | 1.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | |
| 9035 | fill | fill of 9020 | pit fill | base fill of pit | | min 0.65 | 0.05 | modern |
| 9036 | layer | | made ground | mid brown yellow silty sand | min 6 | min 2 | | |
| 9037 | layer | | made ground | mid brown clayey silt | min 5 | min 1.9 | | |
| 9038 | cut | | robber cut | wide concave profile | | 1.7 | 0.28 | modern |
| 9039 | fill | fill of robber 9038 | Robber fill | dark brown silty clay | | 1.7 | 0.28 | modern |
| 9040 | layer | | floor make up material | dark brown silty clay | 3 | 1.2 | | |
| 9041 | wall | | brick wall | 2 course brick wall | 4.5 | 0.2 | 0.2 | |

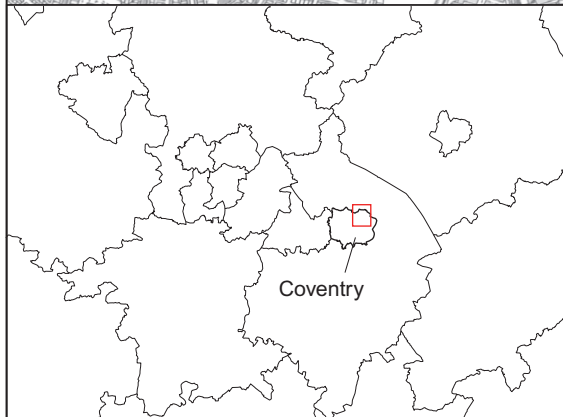
APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Table 1: Quantification of the pottery assemblage

| Context | Description | Count | Weight (g) | Spot-date |
|---------|--|-------|------------|-----------------------------|
| 504 | Medieval pottery: White slip decorated ware | 1 | 9 | C13-C14 |
| 506 | Medieval/Post-medieval ceramic building material: brick and tile | 8 | 677 | Late medieval/post-medieval |
| 804 | Medieval/Post-medieval ceramic building material | 1 | 57 | Late medieval/post-medieval |
| 807 | Post-medieval pottery: Tin-glazed earthenware | 2 | 13 | LC17-C18 |
| 9001 | Medieval pottery: Sandy glazed ware | 2 | 61 | MC18-C19 |
| | Post-medieval pottery: creamware | 1 | 6 | |
| | Post-medieval pottery: black-glazed earthenware | 1 | | |
| | Medieval/Post-medieval ceramic building material: tile | 3 | 119 | |
| | Post-medieval glass | 1 | 2 | |
| 9023 | Medieval/Post-medieval ceramic building material: tile | 5 | 652 | Late medieval/post-medieval |
| 9025 | Medieval/Post-medieval ceramic building material: tile | 1 | 115 | Late medieval/post-medieval |
| 9036 | Medieval pottery: Chilvers Coton A white ware | 2 | 42 | C13-C14 |

APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM

| PROJECT DETAILS | | |
|--|--|------------------------|
| Project name | Land off Wilsons Lane, Longford, Coventry | |
| Short description | <p>Tentative evidence was found for late medieval activity on the site, in the form of a sherd of 13th/14th-century pottery from a shallow pit; the pottery was found in association with late medieval/post-medieval tile and brick, so it may be residual. Three residual sherds of medieval pottery were also collected from the subsoil and made-ground. In the northern and central parts of the site there were several linear ditches that appear to be aligned roughly perpendicular to the western boundary of the site. Two of the ditches are shown on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1890 and they were recorded as cutting the subsoil in most cases, so are likely to be 18th/19th-century in date. The map also shows a large pond in the eastern part of the site, the remains of which were identified in two trenches, backfilled with modern debris. At the southern end of the site, excavation revealed the foundations of Manor House Farm, which is considered to date from the 17th century and was demolished in the mid-20th century. The foundations of part of the south and east elevations were identified, comprising sandstone and brick walls, with brick and tile floor surfaces. Modern made-ground was recorded to the north and west of the farm buildings; some of the deposits appeared to be imported industrial waste and may have been put down to form tracks or yards.</p> | |
| Project dates | 14 - 17 October 2013 | |
| Project type | Field evaluation | |
| Previous work | None | |
| Future work | Unknown | |
| Monument type | Post-medieval/modern farm | |
| Significant finds | Late medieval pottery | |
| PROJECT LOCATION | | |
| Site location | Wilson's Lane, Longford, Coventry | |
| Study area | c. 1.4ha | |
| Site co-ordinates | SP 3465 8442 | |
| PROJECT CREATORS | | |
| Name of organisation | Cotswold Archaeology (CA) | |
| Project Brief originator | Coventry City Council | |
| Project Design (WSI) originator | CA | |
| Project Manager | Simon Carlyle (CA) | |
| Project Supervisor | Dan Stone (CA) | |
| PROJECT ARCHIVE | | |
| | Accession no: tbc | Content |
| Physical | Coventry City Museum | Pottery, animal bone |
| Paper | | Site records |
| Digital | Coventry HER | Report, digital photos |
| BIBLIOGRAPHY | | |
| CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2013 <i>Land off Wilsons Lane, Longford, Coventry: Archaeological Evaluation</i> . CA typescript report 13605 | | |



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PROJECT TITLE

Wilson's Lane, Longford
Coventry

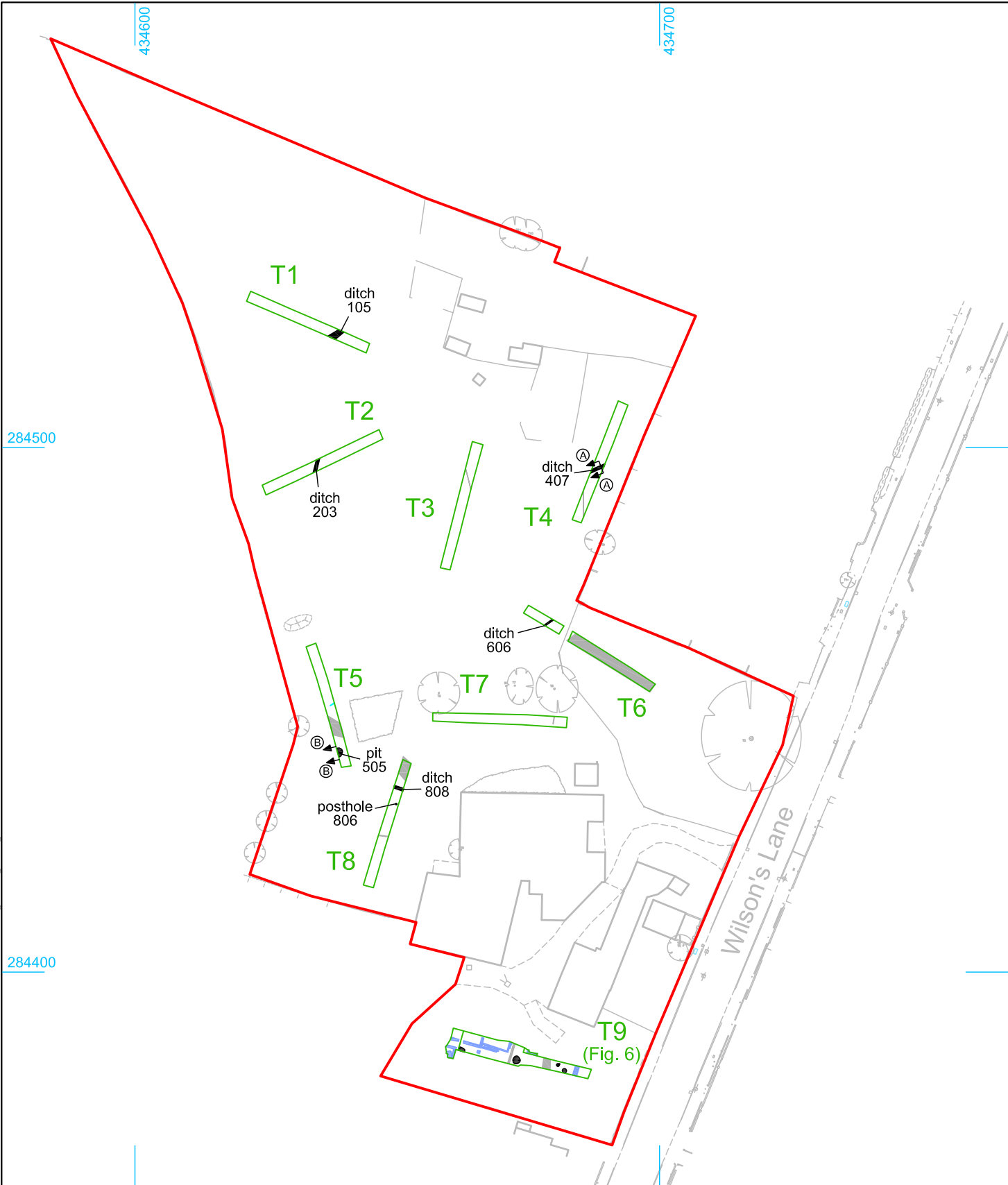
FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

PROJECT NO. 660145 DATE 05-11-2013
DRAWN BY LG REVISION 00
APPROVED BY LM SCALE@A4 1:25,000

FIGURE NO.

1



- site
- evaluation trench
- archaeological feature
- structure
- modern



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PROJECT TITLE
**Wilson's Lane, Longford
 Coventry**

FIGURE TITLE
**Trench location plan, showing
 archaeological features**

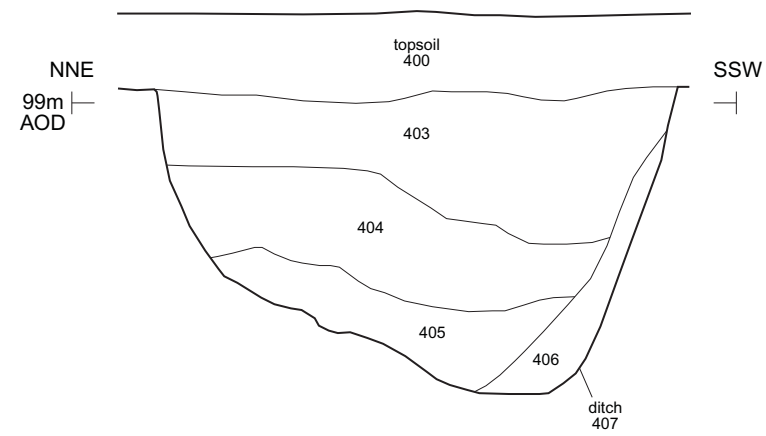
PROJECT NO. 660145 DATE 05-11-2013
 DRAWN BY LG REVISION 00
 APPROVED BY LM SCALE@A4 1:1000

FIGURE NO.

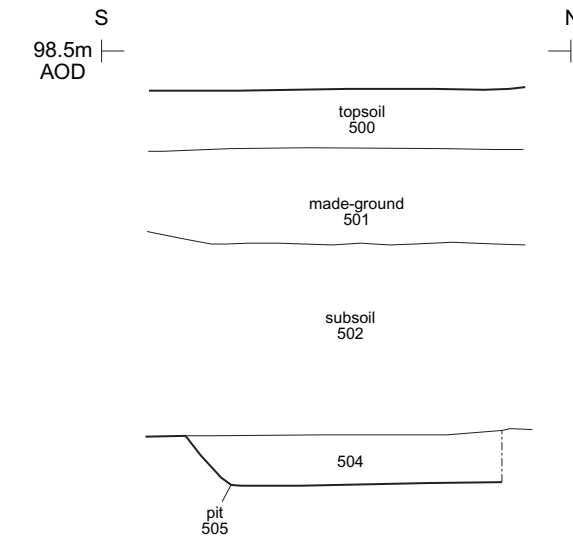
2

0 50m

Trench 4; section AA



Trench 5; section BB



Trench 7, view of pit 707, looking south (scale 1m)

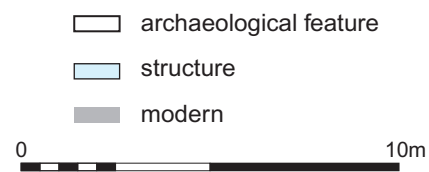
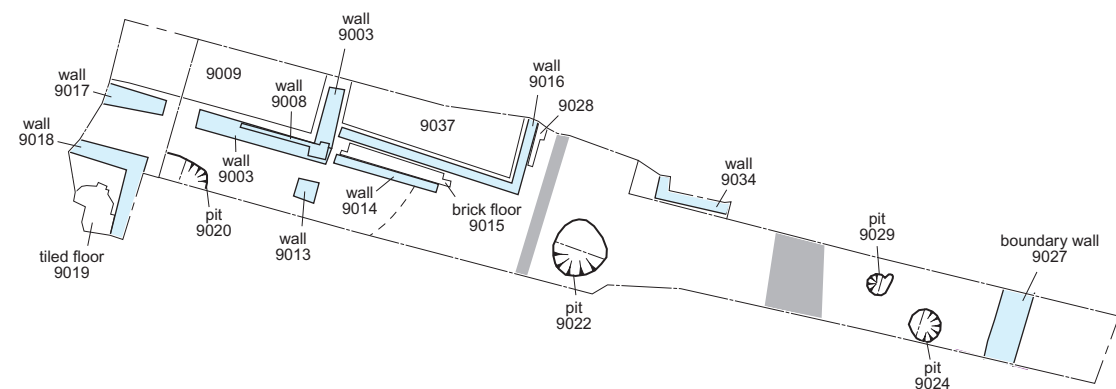

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PROJECT TITLE
**Wilson's Lane, Longford
 Coventry**

FIGURE TITLE
**Trenches 4, 5 and 7: Sections,
 photograph**

| | | | | |
|-------------|--------|----------|------------|------------|
| PROJECT NO. | 660145 | DATE | 05-11-2013 | FIGURE NO. |
| DRAWN BY | LG | REVISION | 00 | 3 |
| APPROVED BY | LM | SCALE@A4 | 1:20 | |

Trench 9; plan



View of Trench 9, looking west (scales 1m)



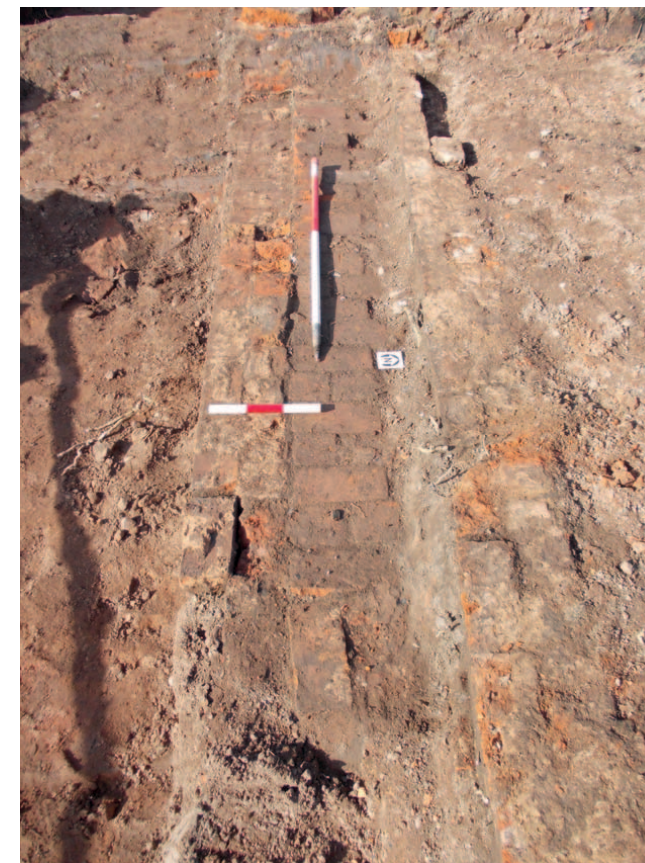
View of Trench 9, looking east (scales 1m)



View of wall 9003, looking north (scales 1m)



View of brick floor 9019, looking south-west (scales 1m)



View of wall 9014, looking west (scales 1m and 0.3m)

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PROJECT TITLE
 Wilson's Lane, Longford
 Coventry
 FIGURE TITLE
 Trench 9; plan and photographs

PROJECT NO. 660145 DATE 05-11-2013 FIGURE NO.
 DRAWN BY LG REVISION 00
 APPROVED BY LM SCALE@A4 1:200 4

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Figure 1: Site location 1:20,000. Insert depicts the site boundary in red
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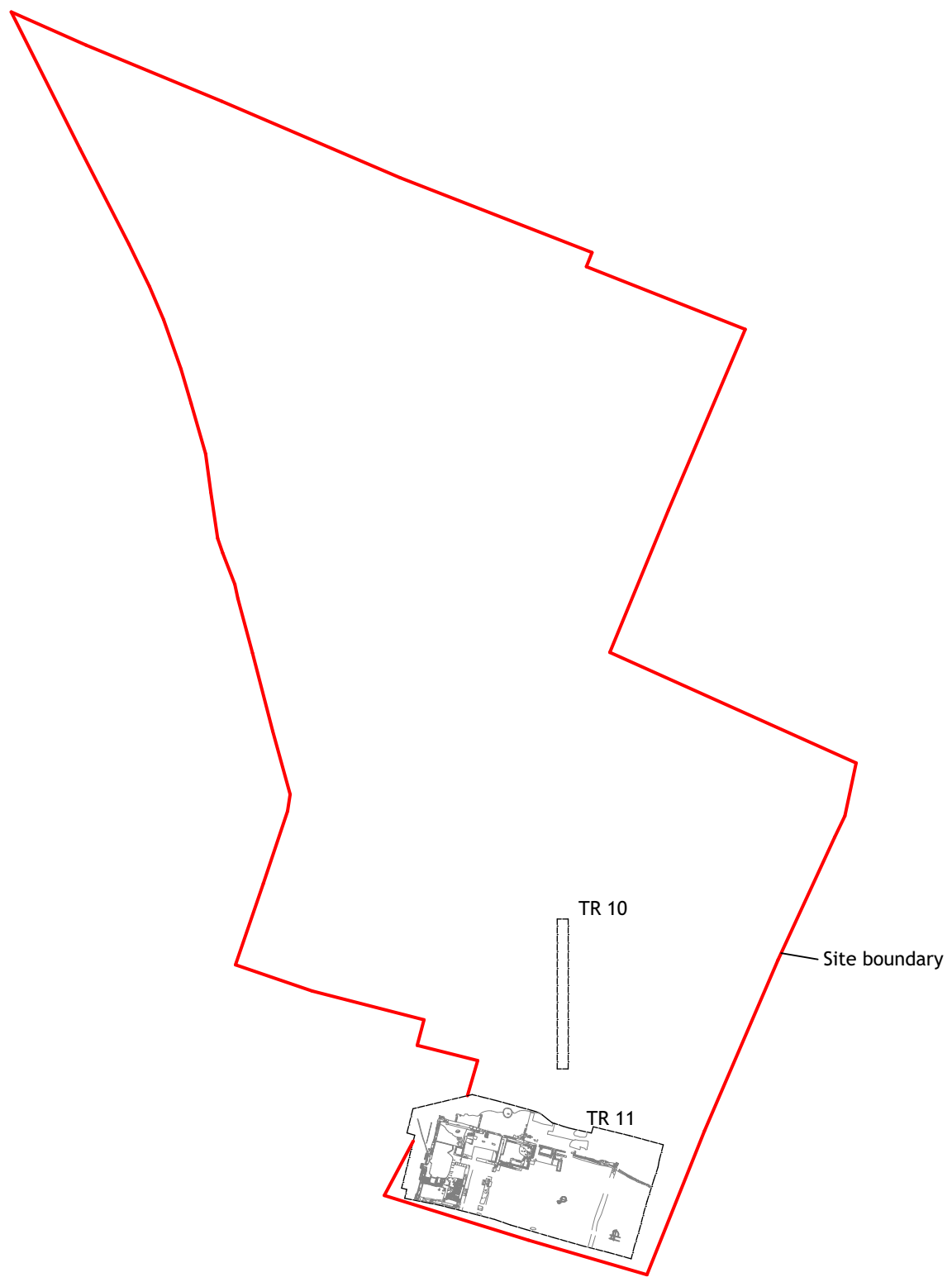
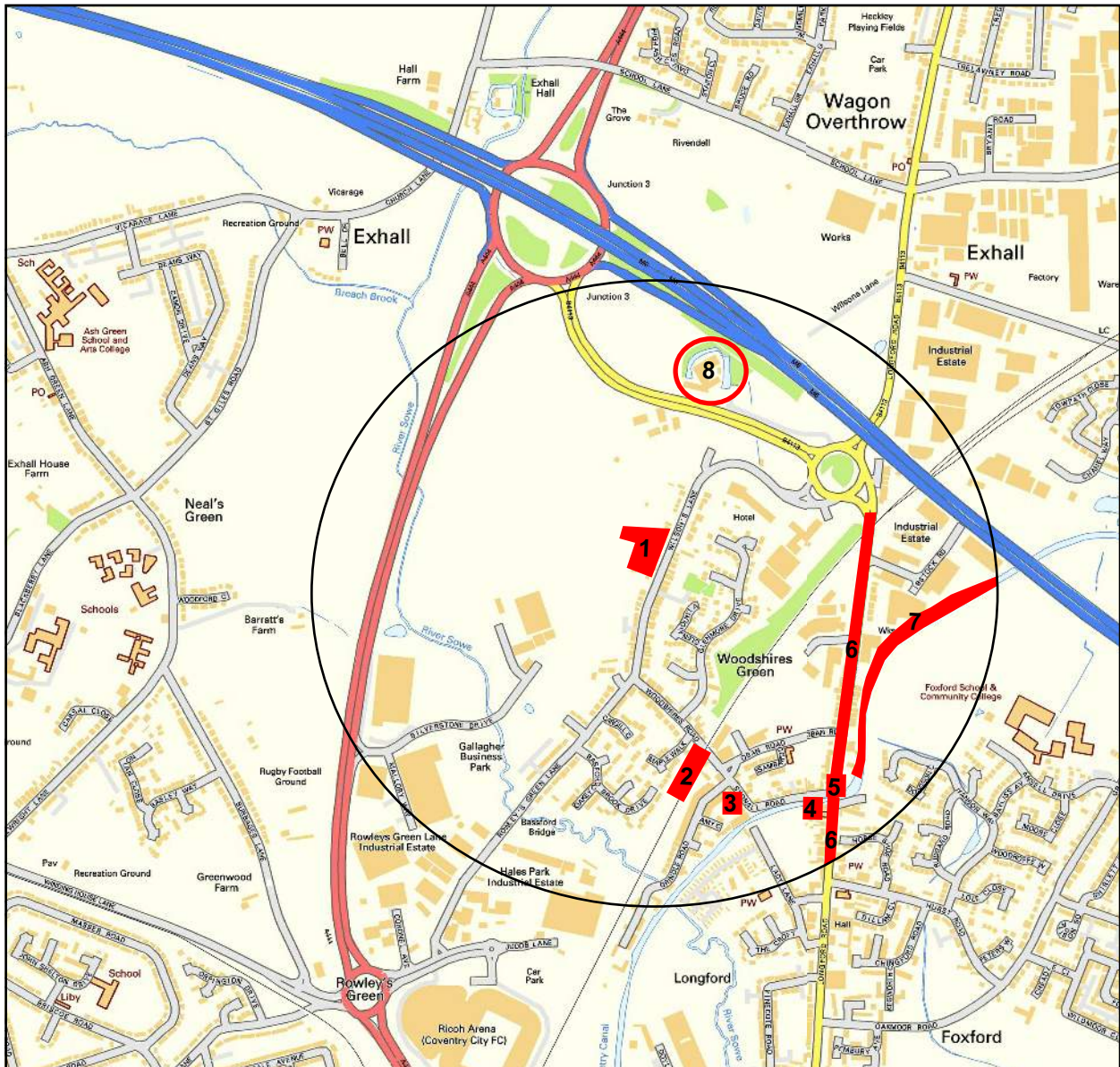


Figure 2: Trench location plan showing archaeological features



- | | |
|------------|--|
| 1: MCT722 | Site of Manor House Farm, Wilsons Lane, Longford |
| 2: MCT481 | Longford and Exhall Railway Station |
| 3: MCT721 | 1-3 Sydnall Road, Longford |
| 4: MCT353 | 243-7 Longford Road, Longford |
| 5: MCT12 | Longford Canal Bridge; Longford Road/Bedworth Road, Longford |
| 6: MCT493 | Tramway; Longford Road/Bedford Road |
| 7: MCT8679 | Former section of Oxford Canal between Longford and Hawkesbury Junctions |
| 8: WA1650 | Chasewood Lodge Residential Home, McDonnell, Drive, Exhall, Medieval moated site |

Figure 3: Location of the known Historic Environment Record (HER) entries within 500m of the boundary of the site
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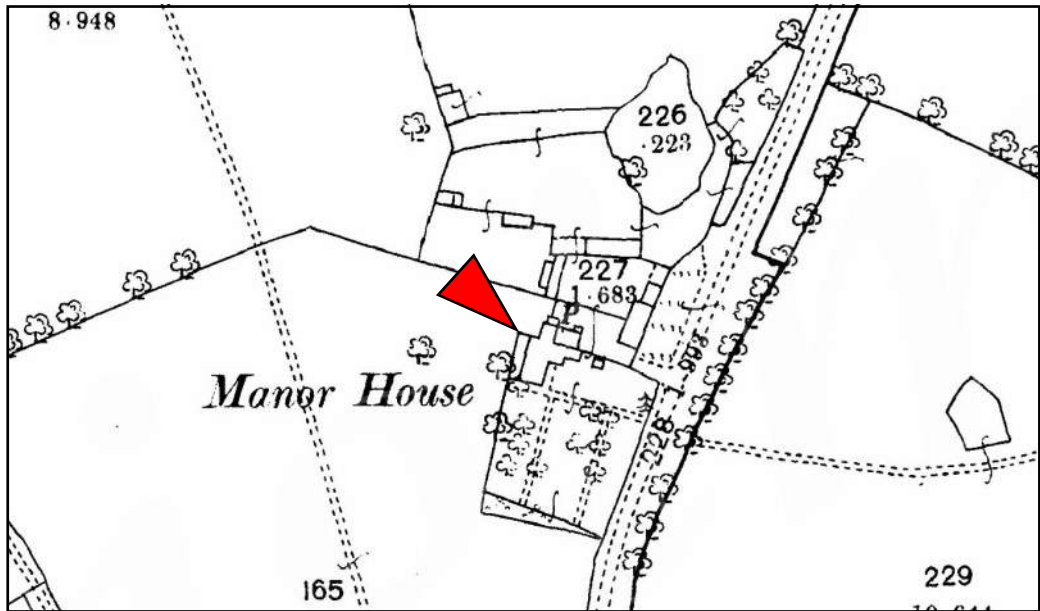


Figure 4: Manor House Farm highlighted on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1888

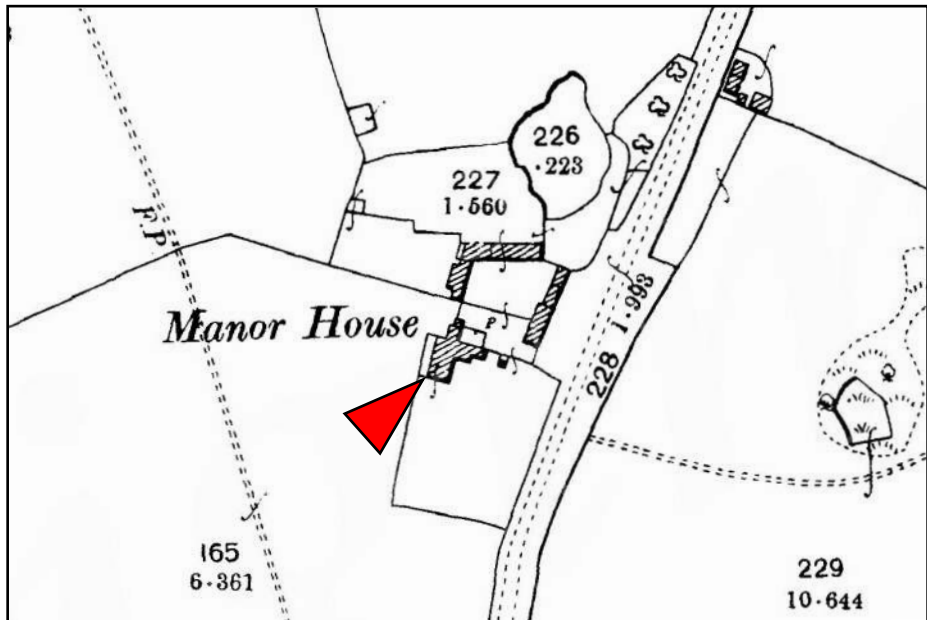


Figure 5: Manor House Farm highlighted on the Ordnance Survey map of 1904

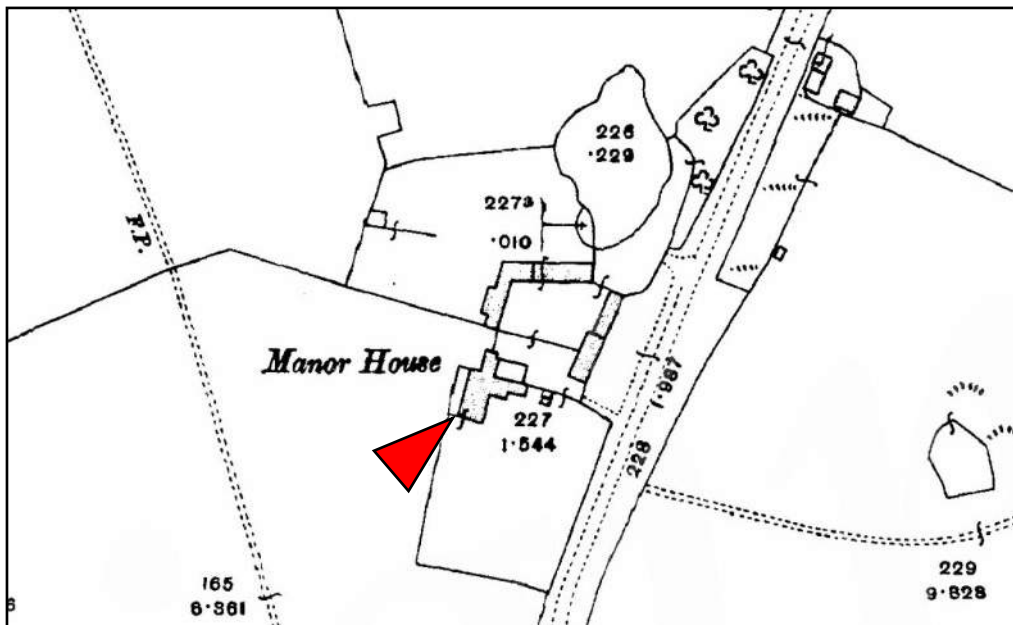


Figure 6: Manor House Farm highlighted on the Ordnance Survey map of 1913

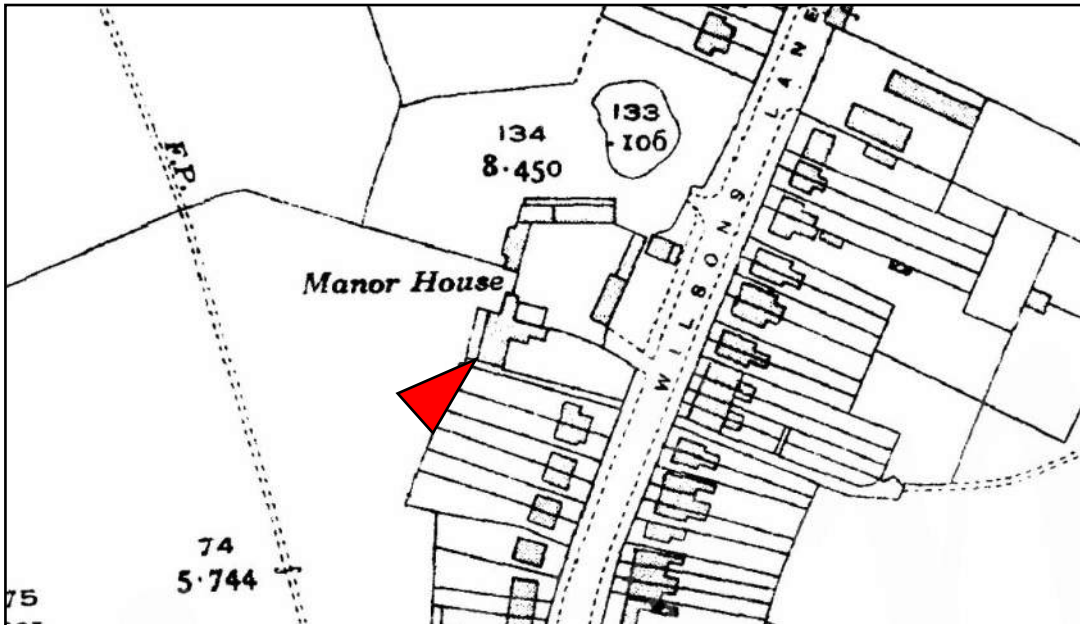


Figure 7: Manor House Farm highlighted on the Ordnance Survey map of 1936

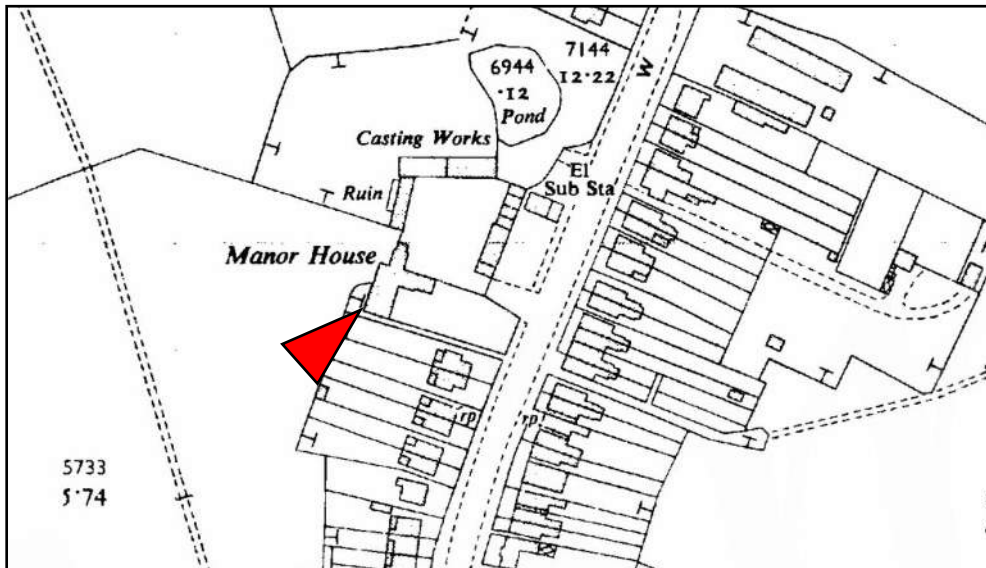


Figure 8: Manor House Farm highlighted on the Ordnance Survey map of 1950



Figure 9: Map of 2014 showing the outbuildings associated with Manor House Farm prior to their demolition
 Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown Copyright and database right 2014

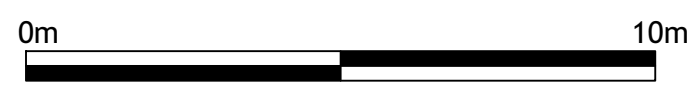
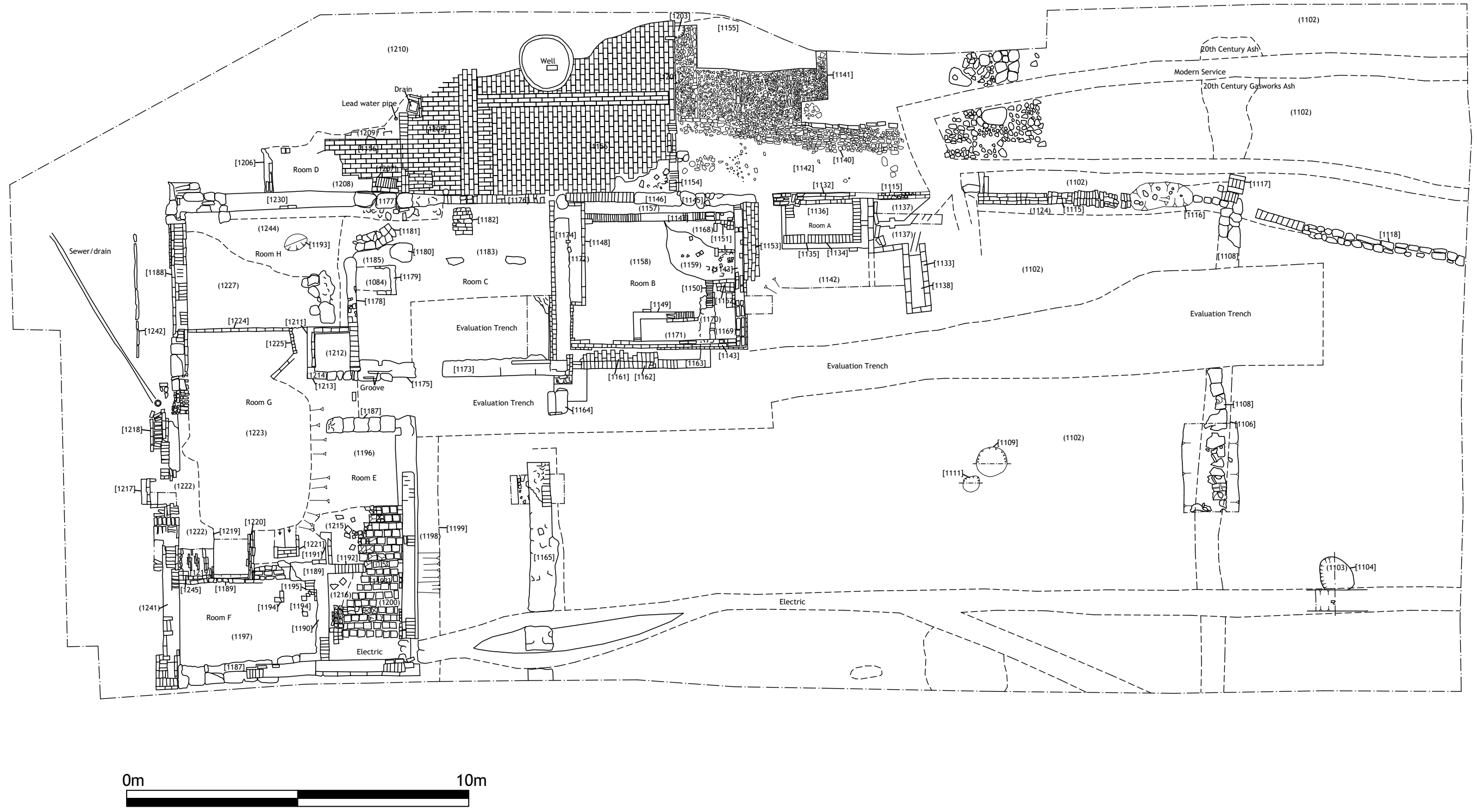


Figure 10: Manor House Farm post excavation plan

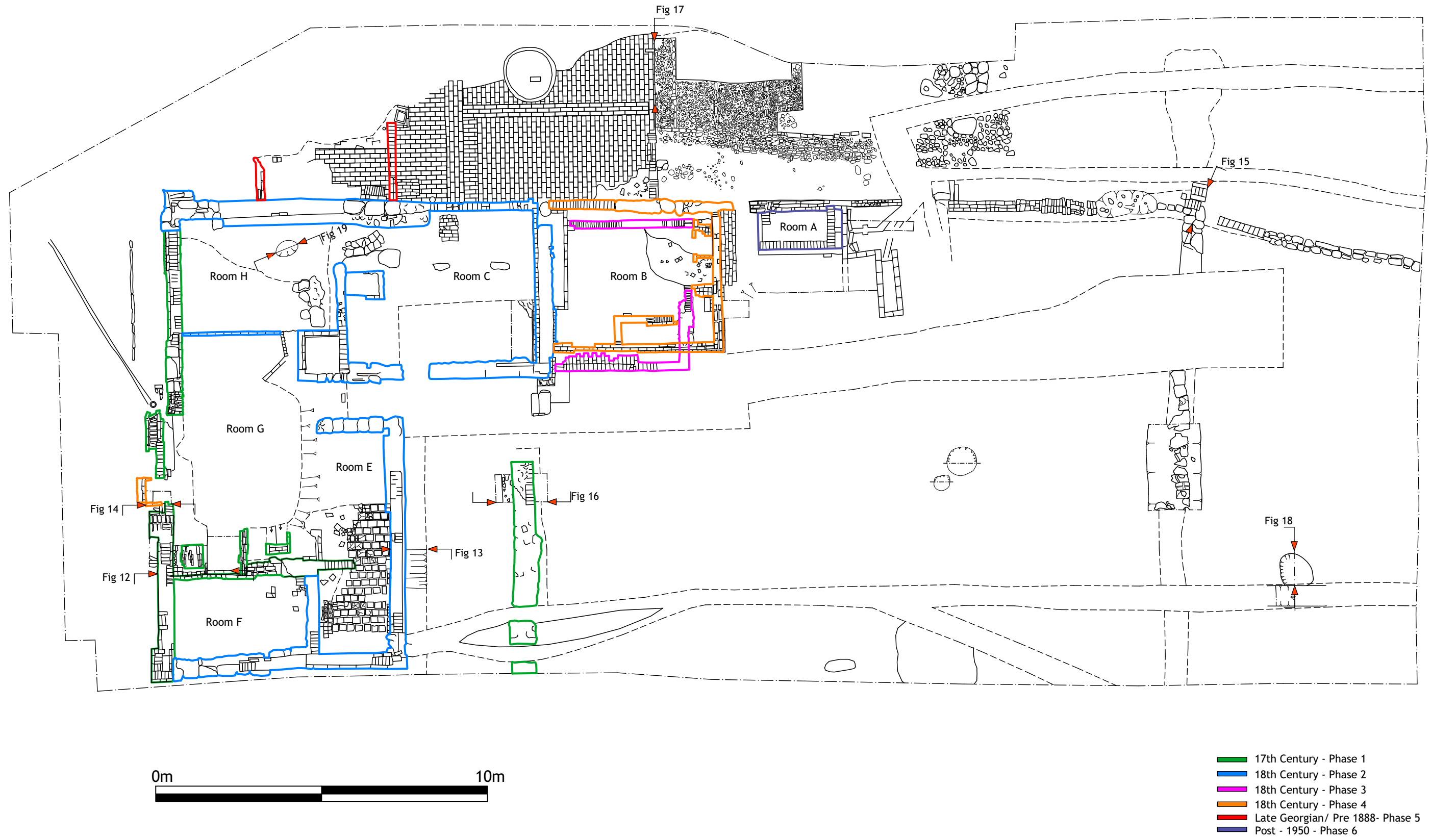


Figure 11: Manor House Farm, principal building phases of the farmhouse and section locations

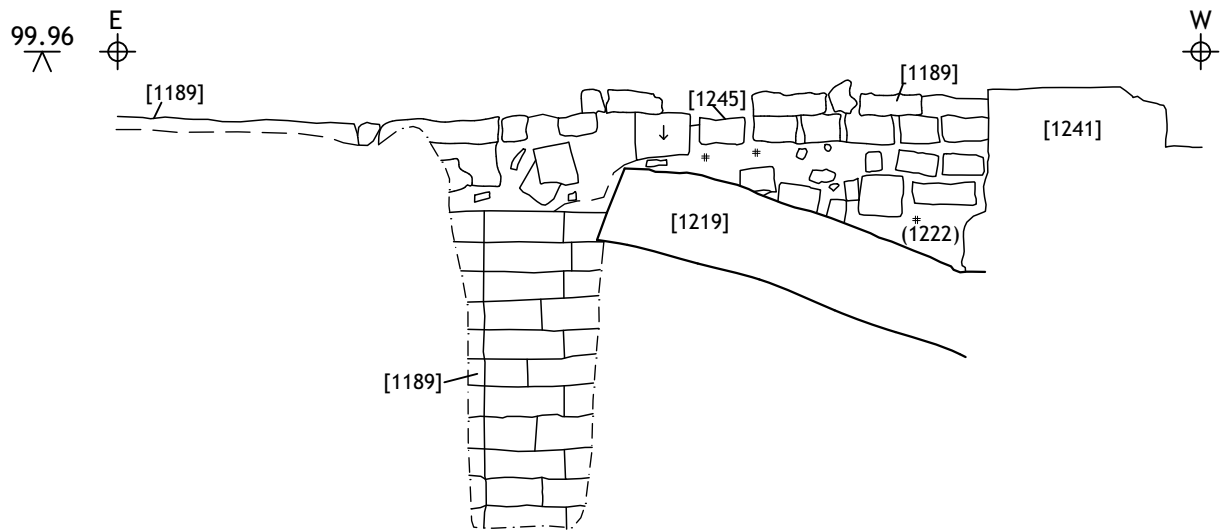


Figure 12 - North facing section of cellar wall 1189 and vault 1219. Scale 1:20

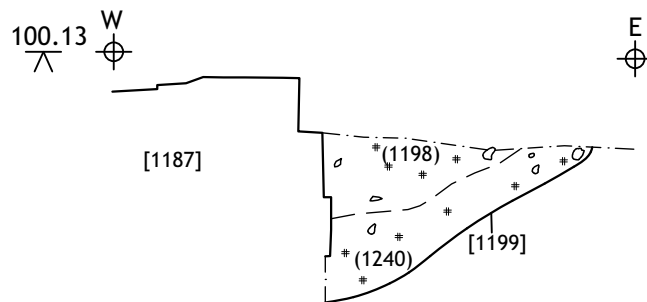


Figure 13 - South facing section of wall 1187 showing construction cut 1199. Scale 1:20

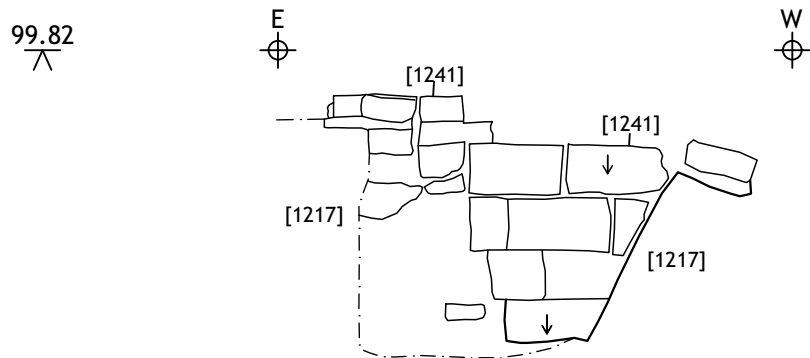


Figure 14: North facing section of coal chute 1217. Scale 1:20

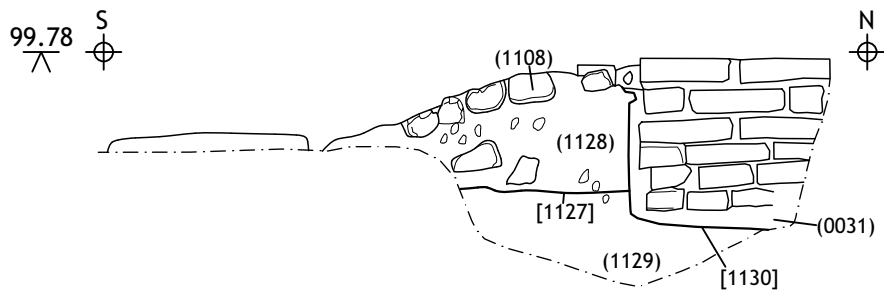


Figure 15: East facing section of foundation trench 1130 cutting foundation trench 1127. Scale 1:20

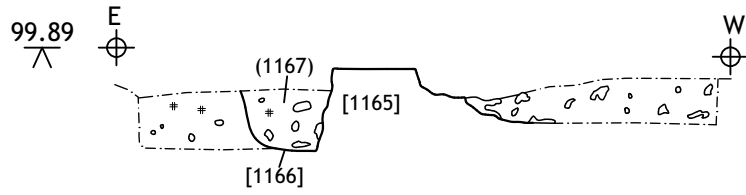


Figure 16: North facing section of foundation trench 1146 for wall 1165. Scale 1:20

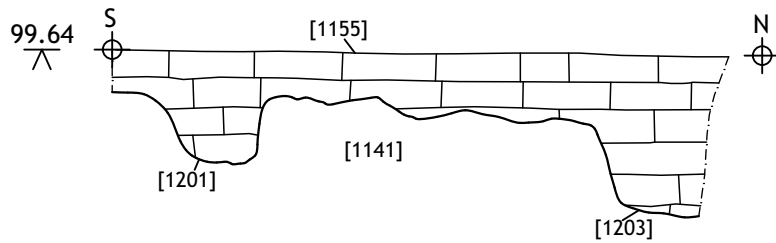


Figure 17: East facing section of post-holes 1201 and 1203. Scale 1:20

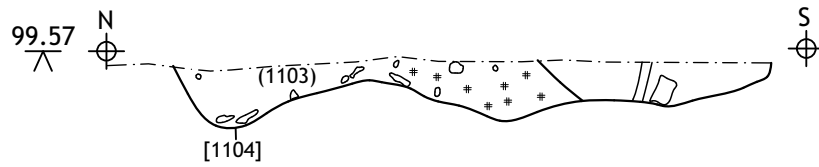


Figure 18: West facing section of pit 1104 cut by former electric cable trench. Scale 1:20

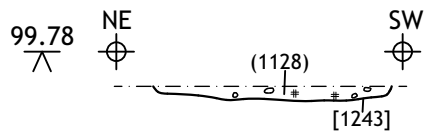


Figure 19: North-west facing section of pit 1243. Scale 1:20



Plate 1: Trench 10 west facing section, viewed looking south-east.



Plate 2: Trench 11 during excavation with the north end of the main range in the foreground, viewed looking east.



Plate 3: The cellar during excavation, viewed looking south-west.



Plate 4: The 17th century wall 1188 abutted by the 18th century wall 1230, viewed looking east.



Plate 5: Ash pit 1221 after excavation, viewed looking south-west.



Plate 6: General view of the main range with 18th century wall 1187 and the later quarry tile floor 1193 in the foreground. Note how both have been truncated by an electric cable trench, viewed looking north-west.



Plate 7: General view of the wing taken from Room H, viewed looking south-east.



Plate 8: Room B under excavation, viewed looking north-east.



Plate 9: Walls 1161 in the foreground and 1143 in the background abutting wall 1174, viewed looking north-west.



Plate 10: Wall 1166 after a slot was excavated through the feature, viewed looking south.



Plate 11: Eastern end of yard surface 1156 with Room D in the background, viewed looking south-west.



Plate 12: Cobbled surfaces 1140 and 1141, viewed looking south-east.



Plate 13: Pit 1243, after the excavation of its north western half, viewed looking south-east.



Plate 14: Pit 1104, and electric cable trench truncating it to the south, after the excavation of their western halves, viewed looking east.