LAND AT BACK LANE,

TYSOE, WARWICKSHIRE,

CV35 0SJ



ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION



BLTS14
September 2014



PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

LAND AT BACK LANE, TYSOE, WARWICKSHIRE, CV35 0SJ

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Quality Control

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LAND AT BACK LANE, TYSOE, WARWICKSHIRE, CV35 0SJ:

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Local Planning Authority: Stratford-on-Avon

Central NGR: SP 33955 44267

Planning Reference \$14/00208/FUL

Site Code: BLTS14

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PCA Report: R11865

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ABSTRACT

An archaeological evaluation was conducted at land off Back Lane, Tysoe, Warwickshire, in association with the proposed development for a 3-storey detached house. The site lies at central National Grid Reference SP 33955 44267, within an area of archaeological potential. The work, commissioned by Mr M Robinson and undertaken in September 2014 by Pre-Construct Archaeology, was required by the Warwickshire County Council Planning Archaeologist.

Two evaluation trenches sited over the proposed development area were excavated, a 10m and a 5m trench. They revealed a former cultivation soil dating from the 13th -14th Century that contained domestic occupation waste suggesting a nearby dwelling. A series of modern tipping layers containing coal fragments was also revealed, this was likely to be associated with coal yard that once stood on this site.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

- 1.1.1 A program of Archaeological trial trenching was undertaken in advance of the construction of a three bedroom, three storey, detached domestic dwelling on Land at Back Lane, Tysoe, Warwickshire, CV35 0SJ. The work was commissioned by Mark Robinson as part of a planning application S14/00208/FUL The work was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited (PCA) on 1st September 2014.
- 1.1.2 The development site is located within the Village of Tysoe which is situated within the northern portion of the village, flanking Back Lane to the north-west. The site lies within the extent of the medieval settlement of Tysoe.
- 1.1.3 The archaeological work was carried out according to a Written Scheme of Investigation, (WSI) prepared by PCA (Brook 2014) and approved by the Principal Planning Archaeologist of Warwickshire County Council, Anna Stocks. The aim of the 15m of trenching was to identify and record any surviving archaeological remains and /or deposits that may be impacted upon during the proposed groundwork's.
- 1.1.4 The completed Site Archive, comprising written, drawn and photographic records, will be deposited at the Warwickshire County Council Museum service, within eighteen months of the final completion of fieldwork at the site. The site code is BLTS14.

1.2 Site Location and Description

1.2.1 The development site is located within the Village of Tysoe. The development site is situated locally within the northern portion of the village, flanking Back Lane to the north-west. The site is bounded on all other sides by domestic dwellings. The site is centred at NGR SP 33955 44267 (Figure 1)

1.3 Geology and Topography

- 1.3.1 The solid geology of the site is characterised by the bedrock of the Charmouth Mudstone Formation Mudstone of the Jurassic Period.
- 1.3.2 The development site is located to the north of the central core of the rural village of Tysoe and accessed off Back Lane that is flanked by recently constructed residential housing. The site is located on a relatively flat ground; the current condition is overgrown wasteland. A spot height on Back Lane adjacent to the site entrance is c.110m AOD

1.4 Archaeological and Historic Background

1.4.1 The site lies on the north-eastern edge of the medieval settlement of Middle Tysoe (Warwickshire Historic Environment (HER) reference: MWA8955). The earliest known records of the town relates to a late Saxon settlement recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1086. The Domesday Book records (22.4) Robert of Stafford holds in the Fexhole hundred Tysoe; 23

Hides, land for 23 ploughs. In demesne (attached to a manor and retained by the owner for their own use) are 11 ploughs. 9 slaves, 53 Villans with a priest and 28 boardars have 23 ploughs. There are 16 acres of meadow and in Warwick 3 houses rendering 18d. It was worth £20 now £30. Vagn held it freely. Further records show Tysoe was granted a charter to hold a market in 1341 to be held at the manor.

- 1.4.2 The Church of St Mary (MWA2055) located c.155m to the north east of the development has its origins in the 11th -12th Century. To the north of the church is the site of Manor Mill (MWA2087) and a Tithe Barn (MWA2090) also thought to date from the early medieval period. A find spot of medieval pottery (MWA2084) is recorded c.114m to the north east of the site. Aerial photos of the fields surrounding the modern day village show extensive ridge and furrow farming.
- 1.4.3 Several archaeological interventions have taken place within 150m of the development site. In 1998 an evaluation and watching brief at the Old Police house on the corner of Back Lane and Sandpit Road encountered no archaeology. An evaluation on land off Main Street c.150m to the south, identified a pit (MWA13183) and shallow hollow/ditch (MWA13182) no dating evidence for these features was recovered.
- 1.4.4 There are a number of post-medieval listed building within c.50m of the site these include lvy Cottage c.17th Century with an addition 19th Century range, Mount Ash an early to mid-17th Century farmhouse restored in the 19th Century and Oakapple Cottage also 17th Century. A late 18th Century drinking fountain is located on the corner of Back Lane and Main Street (MWA13479).

2. PROJECT AIMS AND RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

2.1 Project Aims

2.1.1 The overarching aim of the archaeological project was to fulfil the requirements of Warwickshire Historic Environment by undertaking an appropriately specified scheme of archaeological trial trenching. Assess any potential Archaeology deposits and the impact the new 3-storey detached dwelling would have upon them.

2.2 Research Objectives

The Archaeology of the West Midlands, A Framework for Research, Oxbow Books, ed. Sarah Watts (2011) will be referenced for specific research criteria.

The archaeological evaluation addressed the following objectives:

- To record the nature, extent, date, character, quality, significance and state of preservation of any archaeological remains affected by the investigation.
- To assess where appropriate any ecofactual and palaeo-environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features from within the site.

In addition, the evaluation sought to address the following research questions:

- To set the site and its potential archaeological remains into the context of the wider landscape
- To confirm the presence or absence of any potential prehistoric to Roman remains that may be associated with the pre Saxon settlement activity in Tysoe;
- To confirm the presence or absence of any Saxon activity and land-use associated with the pre Domesday Book settlement;
- To confirm the presence or absence of medieval activity relating to the medieval settlement of Tysoe.
- 2.2.1 An appropriate level of reporting on the work was required, including, if necessary, full analysis and publication of any notable archaeological findings upon completion of the project. Thus the results of the work will constitute the preservation by record of any archaeological remains encountered and subsequently removed during the course of the evaluation.

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3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork

- 3.1.1 The Evaluation was undertaken on 1st September 2014. The work was undertaken in compliance with the relevant guidance document of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA, 2008a); PCA is an IfA-Registered Organisation. The PCA WSI (2013), approved by WCC principal planning Archaeologist, should be consulted for full details of the methodologies that were to be employed regarding archaeological recording, sampling, etc.
- 3.1.2 A single 10 x 1.6m trench and a 5 x 1.6m trench were proposed within the footprint of the new detached dwelling and these were laid out following the trench location plan illustrated in Figure 2. The ground reduction was carried out under archaeological supervision using a 3 ton 360° tracked excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. The underlying modern deposits were removed in spits to a depth where the first potential archaeological horizon or features could be observed and recorded.
- 3.1.3 OD heights and trench locations were recorded using a Leica 1200 GPS rover unit. Field excavation and recording techniques are described in the PCA Fieldwork Induction Manual (Operations Manual I) (Taylor and Brown 2009) and the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI). The exposed sections and surfaces were cleaned by hand to define the archaeological features, structures and deposits, these were described on pro-forma recording sheets and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:50 and 1:20 showing the sequence of deposits and features in each trench. Bulk modern finds mainly consisting of brick were encountered during the excavation and these were recorded on the context sheets from the deposit/layer from which they were recovered and then discarded. Trenches and excavated spoil were scanned with a metal detector during and after machining. Monochrome, colour and digital photos were taken of trenches, in addition to general site/ working shots.

3.2 Post Excavation

- 3.2.1 The stratigraphic data for the project comprises written, drawn and photographic records. Post-excavation work involved checking and collating site records (Appendix 1). A written summary of the archaeological sequence was then compiled, as described in Section 4.
- 3.2.2 A relatively small assemblage of pottery was recovered during the field work from an archaeological deposit. This deposit was sampled for palaeo-environmental data, but it was noticed following the processing it was negative of any environmental material (Val Fryer, pers. Comm.). Specialist examination of the pottery was undertaken and relevant comments integrated into Section 4, with a report on the pottery provided in Appendix 2
- 3.2.3 The complete Site Archive will be packaged for long-term curation. In preparing the Site Archive for deposition, all relevant standards and guidelines documents referenced in the Archaeological Archives Forum guidelines document (Brown, 2007) will be adhered to, in

particular a well-established United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC) document (Walker, UKIC, 1990) and a more recent IfA publication (IfA 2008b). The depositional requirements of the receiving body, in this case the Warwickshire County Council Museum Service, will be met in full.

4. RESULTS: THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

During the Evaluation, separate stratigraphic entities were assigned unique and individual 'context' numbers, which are indicated in the following text as, for example [123].

4.1 Phase 1: Natural Deposits

4.1.1 Phase 1 represents the natural geological material exposed within the base of both trenches. This consisted of firm light yellowish-brown sandy clay with no inclusions (106) and (208).

4.3 Phase 2: Medieval Activity

4.3.1 Overlaying the natural in both trenches was firm light brownish-yellow sandy clay with occasional Ironstone and limestone inclusions (105) and (207). This layer varies in thickness between the two trenches at widest 0.58m in Trench 1 narrowing to 0.2m in Trench 2. The layer contained three fragments of locally produced domestic pottery dating to the 13th - 14th century along with 3 fragments of sheep bone and remains of a near-complete cattle mandible. This layer is likely to represent a cultivation soil that incorporated domestic waste.

4.4 Phase 3: Modern Activity

- 4.4.1 The Medieval layer (105) within Trench 1 was cut through vertically by a ceramic drainage pipe trench [103]. The back fill (104) a firm, mid brownish grey, silty sand clay contains a residual sherd of 17th Century Pottery. This was in turn sealed by subsoil layer (102); a firm dark-mid brown, sandy silty clay with occasional ironstone inclusions. A fragment of 19th Century clay pipe stem and cattle tibia were the only artefact recovered from this layer.
- 4.4.2 Within Trench 2 the medieval layer (207) was sealed by a succession of tipping layers, (206), (204), and (205), this was in turn overlaid by further tipping layer (203). All the tipping layers were generally firm dark-mid brown sandy silt with various inclusions of Ironstone and Limestone. The only exception was tipping line (205) which was a lighter brown. Layers (203) and (204) also contained a high quaintity of coal fragments. These tipping layers are likely to be associated with the coal yard that once operated on this site (Mark Robinson, pers, comm.). A small levelling deposit of crushed brick (202) filled in a shallow dip left where tipping line (203) overlay (204).

4.5 Phase 4: Topsoil

4.5.1 Both trenches was sealed by topsoil (101) and (201) a c.0.22m thick layer of friable dark brown, sandy silt with frequent coal and Modern brick inclusions.

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5. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Conclusions

5.1.1 The most significant results of the programme of archaeological fieldwork report upon here concerns the medieval cultivation soil seen running through both trenches and is likely to extend across the whole site. This layer contained domestic refuse in the form of both animal bone and pottery. The refuse probably come from a dwelling associated with the medieval village situated to the south east. The remaining archaeology encountered on the site is recently modern, in the form of a drainage pipe and tipping layers associated with a former coal yard.

5.2 Research Aims

- 5.2.1 The preliminary research questions for this study were to:
- To set the site and its potential archaeological remains into the context of the wider landscape

The definition and recording of the deposits, layers and artefacts serve to fulfil this research aim.

To set the site and its potential archaeological remains into the context of the wider landscape

The utilisation of the land around the medieval settlement of Tysoe, as recorded in the Domesday Book, was supported by the discovery of a cultivation soil that had extended out from the Village core into the proposed development site.

 To confirm the presence or absence of any potential prehistoric to Roman remains that may be associated with the pre Saxon settlement activity in Tysoe;

No archaeological material or features pre dating the medieval period was encountered during the evaluation.

 To confirm the presence or absence of any Saxon activity and land-use associated with the pre Domesday Book settlement;

No evidence for the late Saxon settlement or associated activity was encountered during the evaluation.

• To confirm the presence or absence of medieval activity relating to the medieval settlement of Tysoe.

The presence of a buried soil layer containing a few fragments of 13th -14th century pottery and some animal bone, suggests this area was utilised during the latter part of the Medieval period. The few artefacts encountered indicate domestic activity within the vicinity of the site but very unlikely to be within the bounds of this development site itself.

6. REFERENCES

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7. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND CREDITS

Acknowledgements

PCA would like to thank Mark Turner for commissioning the project and the curatorial role of Anna Stocks from the Warwickshire Historic Environment, is acknowledged.

PCA Credits

Fieldwork: Kevin Trott

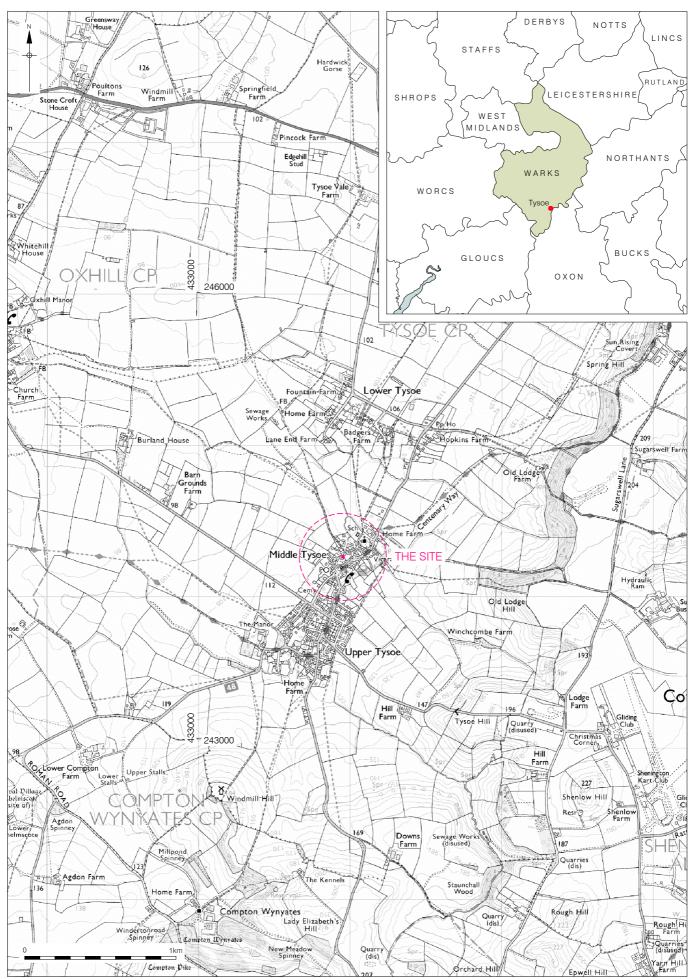
Report: Kevin Brook

Specialists: Stephanie Ratkai & Kevin Trott

Project Manager: Kevin Trott

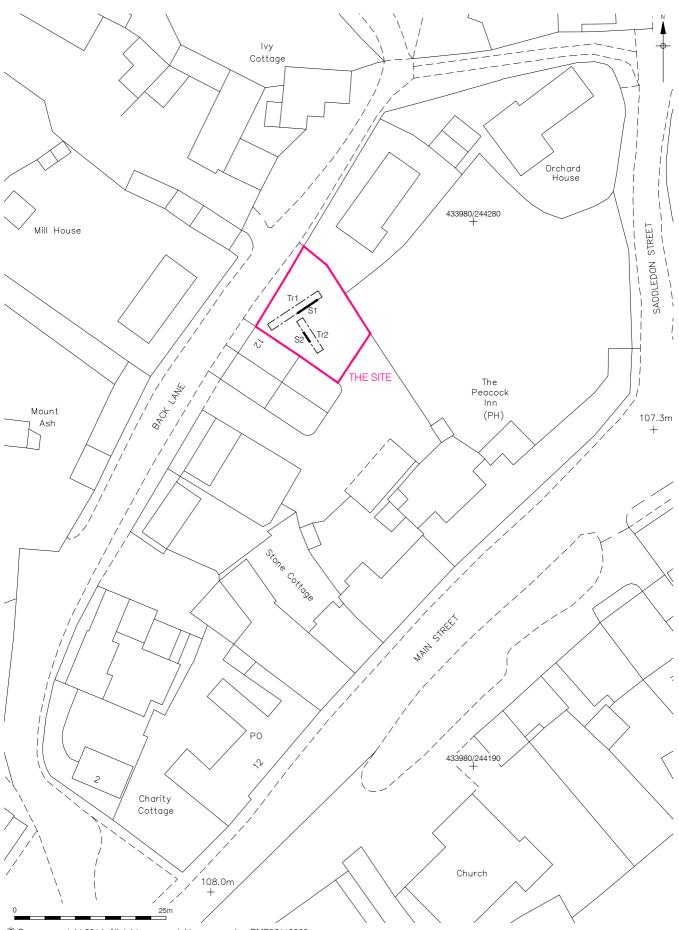
CAD: Helen Baxter

PCA Report: R11865



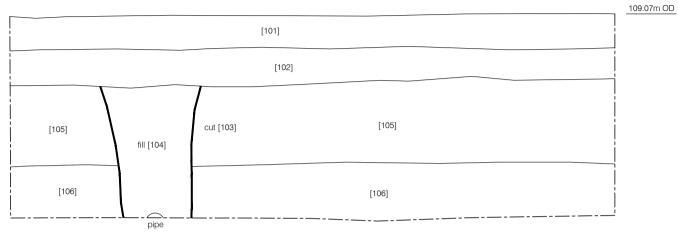
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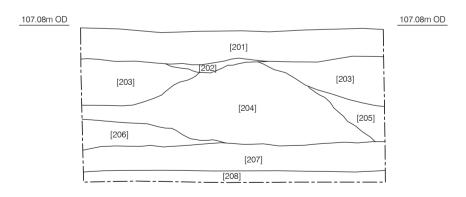
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Section 1 North West facing Trench 1

SE NW



Section 2 North East facing Trench 2

0 1m

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APPENDIX 1: THE POTTERY AND CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

by Stephanie Ratkai

The medieval pottery was examined under x20 magnification and quantified by sherd count and weight. The generic group within the Warwickshire County Pottery Type Series (WCTS) to which the sherds belong is given in Table 1.

Medieval pottery

The three sherds were all body sherds. The two sherds with calcareous temper are possibly of local manufacture. Both are hand-formed, rather than wheel-thrown. A date in the 13th century seems most likely but if the sherds are local then it is possible that they could date to the 14th century. The oolitic sherd has a splash of internal glaze and traces of glazing (much worn) below. The exterior of the sherd is sooted.

The sandy cooking pot sherd is also hand-formed but quite well made. It contains rare/sparse clay pellets and is likely to have been made in Warwickshire. The exterior of the sherd is sooted.

Post-medieval pottery

The single rim sherd from a wide-mouthed bowl had a clean red fabric, internal brown glaze and underglaze purple-brown slip, reddish brown on the unglazed exterior. A large scar on the exterior may indicate that there was once a horizontal handle.

Comment

The pottery group is too small to draw many conclusions. However, the absence of any pre-Conquest pottery or early post-Conquest pottery could point to the relatively late exploitation of this area of Tysoe.

Ctxt	Description	Pot type	WCTS Code	qty	wght	Form	Date
104	trench backfill	Coarseware	CW	1	25	Wide-mouthed bowl/pancheon	17th c
105	buried sub-soil	Oolitic ware	CO	1	16	bowl?	13th c (14thc?)
105	buried sub-soil	Fine shelly ware	CS	1	7	cooking pot/jar	13th c (14thc?)
207	buried sub-soil	Cooking pot	Sq01-09	1	5	cooking pot/jar	13th c (14thc?)

Table 1: Quantification of the pottery

APPENDIX 2: CLAY TOBACCO PIPE

by Kevin Trott

Introduction

A single plain stem weight of 2 grams was recovered from the subsoil layer (102) situated within Trench 1.

Description

The clay tobacco pipe stem is of a size and dimension that relates to an example dateable to the middle of the 19th century.

Table 1: Clay Tobacco Pipe Inventory

Context	Total	Weight (g)	Туре	Description	Date Range
102	1	2	Plain polished stem	Fresh	19th century

Recommendations

The clay tobacco pipe is in a good condition and was the only dateable artefact from this subsoil context. Based on this the pipe fragment should be retained for future study with the remainder of the archive.

References

Higgins D.A., 1999, 'The Clay Tobacco Pipes' in A. Connor and R. Buckley (ed.), *Roman and Medieval Occupation in Causeway Lane, Leicester.* Leicester Archaeology Monograph **5** 215-234.

Oswald A., 1975, Clay Pipes for the Archaeologist. British Archaeological Reports 14, 48-49. Oxford.

APPENDIX 3: ANIMAL BONE

by Kevin Trott

Introduction and Methodology

A total of 5 fragments (313 grams) from three contexts were recovered by hand during the archaeological evaluation. The animal bone was recorded to species/taxonomic category where possible and to size class in the case of unidentifiable bones such as ribs, fragments of long bone shaft and the majority of vertebra fragments. Recording follows the established techniques whereby details of the element, species, bone portion, state of fusion, wear of the dentition, anatomical measurements and taphonomic including natural and anthropogenic modifications to the bone were registered.

Description of faunal assemblage by phase

Most of the sites bone assemblage was taken from medieval deposits that were represented by the buried subsoil's (105) & (207) that were found with pottery dated to the 13th-14th century date. A further bone was retained from the subsoil layer (102) that was associated with a clay tobacco pipe stem of 19th century date.

Medieval

The earliest bone assemblages consisted of the near-complete (but fragmented) lower right cattle mandible with a relatively complete tooth row consisting of the 3rd adult premolar to the third adult molar, the latter tooth in full wear and therefore an old adult, probably in excess of 5 years (after Maltby 1981, 182). This was clearly from an animal used either for work purposes (probably oxen) or for milk production. The proximal end and a shaft fragment from the tibia's of a sheep/goat were also recovered along with a heat altered shaft fragment from a sheep/goat radius.

Post-medieval

The snapped central shaft portion from a cattle tibia was recovered from the subsoil layer (102). The fragmented nature of this bone indicated it was broken to extract the marrow.

Context	102	105	207
Species			
Cattle	1	1	
Sheep/Goat		2	1
Grand Total	1	3	1

Table 1: Counts of animal bone in context sorted by parent context, type of deposit or feature.

Conclusion and recommendations for further work

While in good condition, the potential value of this assemblage is severely hampered by the quantity of bones recovered. The available information clearly suggests the use of cattle with a probable bias towards work/dairy animals were present, along with sheep during the medieval period. The presence of cattle was also evident during the post-medieval period.

In conclusion, the medieval to post-medieval collection can provide some basic information concerning animal usage within this part of Warwickshire. However a greater quantity of bones would be required to produce a better and more thorough understanding of this usage. Considering this assemblage was recovered during the limited evaluation works it would be recommended that any future animal bone assemblages recovered during archaeological work in the village would enable a better understanding of animal husbandry in Tysoe.

APPENDIX 4: CONTEXT REGISTER

Context	Туре	Category	Comments			Description	Trench	Section
(101)	Layer	Topsoil	Topsoil trench	across	the	Dark-brown sandy silt with frequent coal and brick inclusions. Same as (201)		
(102)	Layer	Subsoil	Subsoil trench	across	the	Dark-mid brown sandy silty-clay with occasional ironstone inclusions		
[103]	Cut	Trench	Service T	rench		Linear, steep near vertical sides, base not excavated, N-S aligned	1	1
(104)	Fill	Trench back-fill	Backfill o	f [103]		Mid brownish-grey silty-sandy clay		
(105)	Layer	Buried subsoil	Subsoil trench	across	the	Light brownish-yellow sandy clay with occasional Iron & limestone fragments. Same as (207).		
(106)	Layer	Natural Geological Horizon	Natural trench	across	the	Light yellowish-brown sandy clay		
(201)	Layer	Topsoil	Topsoil trench	across	the	Dark-brown sandy silt with frequent coal and brick inclusions. Same as (101)		
(202)	Deposit	Lens	Levelling	Levelling deposit		Crushed brick		
(203)	Deposit	Dumping deposit	Tipping			Dark brown sandy silt with frequent coal inclusions		
(204)	Deposit	Dumping deposit	Tipping			Dark-mid brown sandy silt with small inclusions of coal & limestone	2	2
(205)	Deposit	Dumping deposit	Tipping			Light brown sandy clay with occasional ironstone fragments		
(206)	Deposit	Dumping deposit	Tipping			Dark-mid brown sandy silt with large limestone inclusions		
(207)	Layer	Buried subsoil	Subsoil trench	across	the	Light brownish-yellow sandy clay with occasional Iron & limestone fragments. Same as (105).		

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(208)	Layer	Natural Geological Horizon	Natural trench	across	the	Light yellowish-brown sandy clay			
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APPENDIX 5: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-190774

Project details

Project name Land off Back Lane, Tysoe

Short description of the

project

An archaeological evaluation was conducted at land off Back Lane, Tysoe, Warwickshire, in association with the proposed development for a 3-storey detached house. The site lies at central National Grid Reference SP 33955 44267, within an area of archaeological potental. The work, commissioned by Mr M Robinson and undertaken in September 2014 by Pre-Construct Archaeology, was required by the Warwickshire County Council Planning Archaeologist. Two evaluation trenches sited over the proposed development area were excavated, a 10m and a 5m trench. They revealed a former cultivation soil dating from the 13th -14th Century, domestic refuses encountered within this layer suggest a nearby settlement. A series of modern tipping layers contain coal fragments was also revealed, likely to be associated with coal yard that once stood on this site.

Project dates Start: 01-09-2014 End: 23-09-2014

Previous/future work No / Not known

Any associated project

reference codes

BLTS14 - Sitecode

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status None

Current Land use Other 13 - Waste ground

Monument type CULTIVATION SOIL Medieval

Significant Finds POTTERY Medieval

Project location

Country England

Site location WARWICKSHIRE STRATFORD ON AVON TYSOE LAND AT

BACK LANE, TYSOE, WARWICKSHIRE, CV35 0SJ

Postcode CV35 0SJ

Site coordinates SP 33955 44267 52.0952879562 -1.50429132705 52 05 43 N 001

30 15 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation PCA Midlands

Project brief originator Warwickshire County Council

Project design originator Kevin Trott

Project director/manager Kevin Trott

Project supervisor Kevin Trott

Type of sponsor/funding

body

Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Warwickshire Museum

Physical Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics"

Digital Archive recipient Warwickshire Museum

Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography","Text"

Paper Archive recipient Warwickshire Museum

Paper Media available "Context

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