

Archaeological Observation of  
geotechnical pits at former Abbey Works,  
Bleachfield Street, Alcester,  
Warwickshire



Report 0505

February 2005

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## **Summary**

Archaeological observation during the excavation of geotechnical test pits at the former Abbey Works, Bleachfield Street, Alcester, Warwickshire confirmed the presence of Roman stratigraphy across much of the site. Evidence of Roman activity from the 1st to 3rd century, including gravel surfaces and occupation deposits was confirmed in several test pits.

## **1. Introduction**

1.1. A pre-application enquiry has been made to Stratford on Avon District Council for a residential development at the site currently occupied by the former Abbey Works buildings, Bleachfield Street, Alcester. As part of preliminary work for the development a geotechnical survey, including test pits and boreholes, was conducted. The site lies within an area of Roman occupation within the town of Alcester and significant Roman deposits probably including remains associated with an early fort are known to exist on the site. A programme of archaeological observation of the test pits and boreholes was therefore recommended.

1.2. An archaeological recording in accordance with a brief prepared by the Planning Archaeologist on behalf of the Planning Authority was commissioned from the Warwickshire Museum Field Archaeology Projects Group and carried out in December 2004. The project archive will be stored at the Warwickshire Museum under the site code AL97. This report presents the results of the observation.

## **2. Site location**

2.1. The site of the proposed development is located on the west side of Bleachfield Street in the parish of Alcester, Warwickshire. The site is situated close to the centre of the town of Alcester and is bounded by Bleachfield Street to the east, Birch Abbey to the west and residential dwellings and gardens to the south and north. The approximate centre of the site is located at National Grid Reference SP 0883 5712 (Fig. 1).

2.2. The underlying geology is recorded as First and Second Terrace River Gravels (British Geological Survey 1974).

2.3. The site is occupied by a complex of buildings and adjoining yard and car parking areas. The proposed development site covers an area of approximately 0.05ha (0.14 acres).

## **3. Archaeological and historical background**

3.1. A large number of archaeological sites and find spots associated with the Roman and medieval town of Alcester are recorded in the vicinity of the site on the Warwickshire Sites and Monuments Record (Appendix A and Fig 1).

### **Roman Town**

3.2. The location of the development site lies to the south of the defended area of the major Romano-British town of Alcester (Sites and Monument Record No. WA 4495), which was probably known as Alauna. The initial Roman presence was military with a fort established on the hill south of the River Arrow and succeeded by a later fort in the area of the site around Bleachfield Street. The town seems to have first grown around the latter fort, and then continued to expand as a civilian settlement after the army moved northwards. The location of the settlement adjacent



Fig. 1: Site location in Roman Alcester.  
to Ryknild Street and at a road junction was probably significant in its development.  
The occupation of the settlement lasted until the end of the 4th century.

3.3. The early civilian settlement of Roman Alcester was an unwallled town, as were most other towns in Britain at this time. The defended area of the town, which was fortified by a rampart in the 2nd century AD, lay north-west of Gas House Lane on either side of Henley Street and High Street (Fig. 1). The latter modern road fossilises the line of a Roman road (SMR WA 451) and Swan Street marks the line of an adjoining road. There was a large suburban area to the south extending from the east of Bleachfield Street over the former fort to the north of Evesham Street and Seggs Lane (Warwickshire Museum 1995).

### **Previous work on the site**

3.4. The site is situated alongside two principal Roman roads within the town, on the west side of Bleachfield Street at the New Inn, 25 Bleachfield Street (SMR WA 7325, Warwickshire Museum 1992) observation of foundation trenches revealed part of the Roman road which probably ran along the line of the present High Street in the defended area (WA SMR 451). This road runs through the site and joined a west-east road WA 446 (Fig. 1) to the south-west (Lines 1992). It may then have extended to the south-west to Ryknild Street (SMR WA 445) or the river. The presence of pre-Flavian pottery and military metalwork in the Bleachfield Street area, especially SMR WA 500 and SMR WA 3791 has led to speculation that this area may be the location of a Roman fort (Booth 1989, 31, 1994, 165; Taylor 1969 21-2, Booth and Evans 2001, Fig. 176) and various archaeological work has taken place on different parts of the site (Warwickshire Museum 1989).

3.5. At the northern edge of the site at 27-33 Bleachfield Street, an excavation by S. J. Taylor in 1969 (Booth and Evans 2001, Fig 4, ALC69) revealed a north-south road probably dating to the 2nd century. Traces of a succession of timber buildings dating from the 1st century were excavated (SMR WA 500). These buildings may be military in origin and the finds may provide evidence to support the presence of an early fort on part of the site.. A Neolithic pit was also excavated (SMR WA 4492) along with medieval features including a stone drying pit and cess pit.

3.6. In 1972 a further area was excavated (Fig. 4, ALC72/2) and gravel layers and associated timber buildings were revealed (Booth and Evans 2001). These appear to have gone out of use in the 3rd century when earth layers built up which contained large amounts of cattle bone (SMR WA 5491). Following this a further cobble surface was laid down, overlain by a layer of sandstone, which sealed a number of late 3rd-century coins. The remains of a large sandstone building and a mortar floor were also recorded nearby (Taylor 1973). Immediately west of the potential development a sequence of gravel layers continued throughout the Romano-British period (SMR WA 3786; Cracknell 1986).

3.7. The excavation of four trial pits in 1988 (Fig. 4, AL28, 1-4) in the then *Baromix* factory (Warwickshire Museum 1989), revealed evidence for timber and stone buildings dating from the late 1st to later 2nd century. The pottery and metalwork recovered also suggested military associations (Booth and Evans 2001).

3.8. At the eastern edge of the site an excavation to the rear of the Almshouses at No 61 Bleachfield Street by B.W. Davis unearthed a cobble path (SMR WA 511). Further south excavations by H.V. Hughes between 1956-58 revealed an expanse of cobbled surface with an associated stone-flagged drain and soakaway cutting through the late 1st-mid 2nd century deposits (SMR WA 512). In 1964 Hughes also recorded a post-medieval well in this vicinity (SMR WA 5498) and a 7th-century silver bracelet was also recovered (SMR WA 6461, not shown on Fig. 1).

3.9. At the end of 2003 eight evaluation trenches (Fig. 4, AL83, T1-T8) were investigated to provide further information on the site (Warwickshire Museum 2003). The evaluation confirmed that extensive archaeological remains survived across the site. These included gravel surfaces associated with a road alignment and possible building. Other structural evidence included a beamslot and possible floor surface. Further pits, including a large quarry pit and hearth were also revealed. No specific

evidence for the fort was revealed, but the results suggested that the site remained a potential location for a fort.

### **Other Bleachfield Street sites**

3.10. Excavations north-west of the site in 1933 revealed a rough stone floor, together with some Romano-British pottery, was observed close to the rear of the pub buildings (SMR WA 497), though its precise location is unknown. A watching brief carried out close by in 1983 recorded a gravel surface and a possible pit, together with quantities of 2nd century pottery and the late Romano-British burial of an adolescent cutting the gravel surface (SMR WA 3788; Cracknell 1985). Some evidence for late Roman occupation was also recovered from the garden of Linby House, though it is unknown what form this took (SMR WA 502; Hughes 1958) whilst at Swan Street a cremation urn was recovered (SMR WA 496). Both cremations and inhumations of late Roman date have also been recorded from sites further south, suggesting a change in use and perhaps an abandonment of settlement over at least part of the area (Warwickshire Museum 1997).

3.11. Three new house plots to the south-east of the site were subject to recording in 1987 (SMR WA 7205). The foundations of a stone building were revealed, along with a dump of painted wall plaster and an assemblage of 1st century pottery (Cracknell 1987). Part of the Roman road (SMR WA 446) was also revealed at this point.

3.12. On the east side of Bleachfield Street an excavation by P. Booth at No. 64 in 1981 revealed a complex sequence of deposits (SMR WA 3791). Pre-Flavian (68-96

Fig. 2: Detail from W. Sutton's map of Alcester 1754

AD) timber buildings were abandoned and replaced by a road which ran parallel to Bleachfield Street and Roman road (SMR WA 451). This survived until AD 125 and

possibly to the end of the 2nd century. Late Roman activity was not present on the site although upper deposits were heavily disturbed by post-medieval construction (Booth 1989).

3.13. B. W. Davis opened a series of ten trenches within the allotments east of Bleachfield Street in 1925 (SMR WA 521). P. Chatwin recorded that during these excavations Davis found a gravel road aligned parallel to Bleachfield Street (SMR WA 516). The trenches within this area also encountered at least two major buildings although insufficient information survives regarding their exact locations other than that they were probably in the south-east corner of the allotments. H. V. Hughes seems to have also excavated in this area. No plan showing Hughes' eleven trenches survives, but the published description implies considerable excavations (Hughes 1960, 10-18). The Roman Stratford road (SMR WA 446) was built over by a large building suspected of being a fourth century winged corridor type villa, complete with hypocaust (SMR WA 3884), probably the same one mentioned earlier by Davis.

### Medieval and Later

3.14. Alcester may have been the site of a settlement in the late Saxon period being sometimes identified as that "celebrated place called Alne" where an ecclesiastical council was held in AD704 (VCH 1945, 12), but this is far from certain. There is some slight evidence of Saxon activity in the Bleachfield Street area. A sherd of Anglo-Saxon pottery was recovered from a ditch fill during excavations in Lloyds Bank gardens in 1975. During the excavations at Lloyds Bank in 1997 five sherds of Anglo-Saxon pottery were found in the fill of a modern gully.

3.15. The site lies within the medieval town of Alcester, which was concentrated to the north around the present High Street. Evidence of medieval activity in the vicinity comes from the "Explosion" site, which revealed a rectangular structure dating to the 13th and 14th centuries (SMR WA 5490). Burnt pebbles and a wall

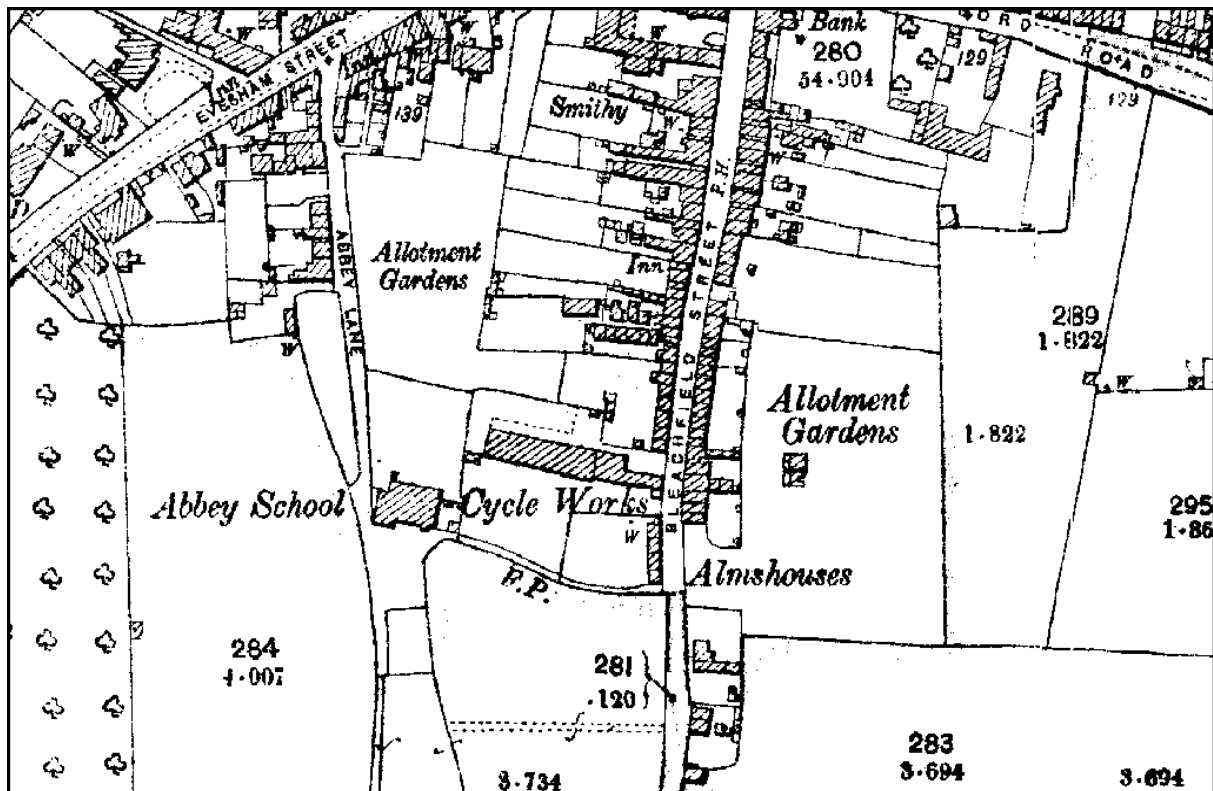


Fig. 3: Detail from Ordnance Survey 2nd edition 1:2500 map of 1905



foundation associated with a 17th century house fronting on to Bleachfield Street were also revealed (SMR WA 7256 not shown in Fig. 1). Observations at the New Inn in 1992 revealed a pit containing medieval pottery and a large group of horn cores (SMR WA 7326 not shown in Fig. 1). It is known that in the medieval period Alcester had become a thriving town once again.

3.16. The medieval burgage plots fronting on to the line of the existing High Street formed a series of extended narrow properties which continued along the north end of Bleachfield Street. The surviving lines of these boundaries may be seen on estate maps of 1752 (Sutton) (Fig. 2) and 1760 (Eyre). The estate maps show the properties stretching back to the approximate line of Birch Abbey where there was probably an informal back lane at the rear of the properties. The site could have been associated with several of these properties. A medieval malting kiln and a series of pits and post holes were revealed during the excavations to the rear of 27-33 Bleachfield Street (Booth and Evans 2001).

3.17. In the 18th and 19th centuries the western side of Bleachfield Street was largely occupied by houses with outbuildings and rear gardens (Fig. 3). Examples of contemporary buildings remain on the eastern side and northern end of Bleachfield Street. The front of the site would have been occupied by houses, including 27-33 Bleachfield Street. The First Edition map of 1886 shows works buildings on the southern part of the site and part of these are labelled Cycle Works on the Second Edition map of 1905 (Fig. 3).

## **4. Test Pits and boreholes**

4.1. The geotechnical survey of the site included a series of test pits (numbered TP 1-4), soakaway pits (numbered TP 5-8) and boreholes (numbered BH1-BH8). These were dug various positions across the site and were observed by an archaeologist as set out in the archaeological brief (Fig. 4). The test pits were excavated to a depth of between 1.6m and 3.1m into natural sands and gravel. Natural deposits were revealed in all the pits and the depth of archaeological stratigraphy was measured in relation to the ground surface.

### **Test Pit 1**

4.2. The test pit was located at the southern limit of the site in front of a warehouse building fronting onto Bleachfield Street (Fig. 4). The test pit was excavated in the car park area and was 2.3m long and 0.4m wide. The natural sands and gravel (31) were revealed at 0.45m below the current ground surface. The natural deposit was composed of orange sand with frequent rounded gravel pebbles. Continued deep excavation revealed further natural sands and gravels to a depth of at least 1.6m.

4.3. A layer of greyish brown silt with some gravel (30) overlaid the natural gravel. This 0.1m thick deposit contained two fragments of Roman pottery. A similar deposit of greyish brown silty clay (29) was recorded as sealing layer (30). However, this 0.12m thick layer contained numerous small fragments of sandstone (Fig. 4, Section E); no finds or dating evidence were recovered from this layer.

4.4. A 0.1m thick layer of dark grey silty clay (28) was also recorded. This contained no apparent dating evidence, but its appearance suggested it might be a post-medieval soil horizon. This was overlaid by a 0.12m thick, make-up layer for Tarmac forming the current ground surface (27).

### **Test Pit 2**

4.5. Test Pit 2 was located on the southern side of a yard immediately north of a former factory building (Fig. 4). Modern service pipes were encountered beneath yard surface ((34) and make-up deposit (35). The pit was excavated to a depth of 0.4m revealing ceramic pipes and the backfill (36) of drain cuts (37). No archaeological deposits were observed at this level. It was not possible to discern the

nature of potential archaeological deposits in a narrow slot dug between the two pipes.

### **Test Pit 3**

4.6. A 3.2m long and 0.8m wide pit was excavated at the front of the existing factory building on the Bleachfield Street frontage (Fig. 4). Natural sands and gravels (16) were revealed at 1.1m below current ground surface. No finds or features were exposed in the top of the deposit. Further excavation revealed continuing natural deposits to a depth of at least 3m.

4.7. Above the gravel a 0.2m to 0.25m thick, layer of greyish brown silty clay (15) was revealed. No finds were recovered from the deposit. A 0.3m thick layer of dark grey brown silt clay (14) overlaid it (Fig. 4, Section B). No finds were recovered from this deposit, but this may represent a post-medieval horticultural deposit.

4.8. Layer 14 was sealed by a 0.35m to 0.4m thick, layer of brick rubble with mortar fragments (13). The rubble included 18th- to 20th-century brick fragments and an 18th/19th-century brick was recovered, but not retained. A 0.2m thick make-up deposit (12) and tarmac formed the current ground surface.

### **Test Pit 4**

4.9. Test Pit 4 was excavated close to the northern boundary of the site and close to the Bleachfield Street frontage (Fig. 4). The 3.2m long and 0.9m wide, test pit was excavated by a JCB-type machine with a toothed bucket.

4.10. Natural brownish orange sands and gravel (11) were revealed at approximately 1.9m below the current ground surface. Excavation into the natural deposits continued below this depth to at least 2.6m below ground surface.

4.11. A sequence of deposits was revealed on top of the natural gravel (Fig. 4, Section A). A 0.25m thick layer of greyish silt sand with pebbles (10) occurred on the natural and a similar layer of greyish brown silt (9) overlaid this. Layer (9) was 0.20m thick and closely resembled the lower deposit. It was not possible to closely examine these deposits to identify any distinctions or potential features cutting into them.

4.12. Above the grey silt was a layer of orange grey gravel (8). This 0.16m thick layer was fairly well compacted and probably formed part of a metalled surface. The surface was overlaid by a 0.12m thick layer of grey silt loam (7). This was most probably an occupation deposit.

4.13. A further layer of greyish orange gravel with some grey silt (6) was recorded overlying layer (7). This 0.15m thick layer was similar in appearance to the earlier gravel surface (8) and it most probably represents a sequence of occupation and resurfacing activities. A 0.3m thick layer of grey brown silty loam (5). This may be a late Roman dump deposit, however it was directly beneath modern brick rubble (4), and make-up (3) forming the current tarmac ground surface of this part of the site.

### **Test Pit 5**

4.14. Test Pit 5 was excavated as a soakaway pit and was situated in the rear garden area to the west of the factory buildings (Fig. 4). The trench was 2.4m long and 0.35m wide. It was excavated by a JCB machine within the partly open 2003 evaluation trench (AL83 T7). Natural orange sand and gravel (2) was revealed at 1.0m below existing ground surface.

4.15. A deposit of light grey silt and sand (1) was revealed overlying the natural gravel. This deposit may be the fill of a small feature or an occupation deposit, however due to the limited area revealed it was not possible to determine the nature of this feature. No finds were recovered, but previously recorded stratigraphy in the

Fig. 4: Site plan showing location of Test Pits and boreholes and other recent excavation in the development area with Sections A-E



Fig. 5: Test pit 4



Fig. 6: Excavation of test pit 3

evaluation (Warwickshire Museum 2003, Trench 7) would suggest that this maybe a 1st- to 2nd-century deposit. This would potentially be sealed beneath a metalled surface of compacted pebbles.

### **Test Pit 6**

4.16. Test Pit 6 was 1.9m long and 0.4m wide and located at the northern end of the site adjacent to the office building in the previous car parking area (Fig. 4). The soakaway pit was dug at the edge of a 2003 evaluation trench (AL83, T8).

4.17. Natural gravel deposits (21) were visible at approximately 1.9m below current ground surface. The pit was excavated by JCB machine with a toothed bucket to a depth of approximately 2.6m.

4.18. A probable layer of grey silt (20) overlaid the natural gravel. It was not possible to examine the deposit closely, but it is likely that this represents the lower portion of the previously identified stratigraphic sequence (Warwickshire Museum 2003).

4.19. The bulk of the section in the test pit revealed 1.2m to 1.3m of mixed backfilled material (19) resulting from the backfilling of the evaluation trench. The upper part of the test pit cut into modern make-up and Tarmac (18).

### **Test Pit 7**

4.20. Test Pit 7 was dug as a soakaway and was located immediately outside the former Abbey Works building in a yard area at the front of the site (Fig. 4). The pit was 1.9m long and 0.4m wide and was excavated by JCB machine into the backfill of a 2003 evaluation trench (AL83, T5)

4.21. Natural gravel (33) was identified at approximately 1.5m below the current ground level. The test pit was approximately 2m deep and a 1.4m to 1.5m thick deposit of mixed backfill (32) was excavated. No archaeological stratigraphy was identified within the test pit, although it was not possible to investigate the nature of the deposit directly on top of the natural gravel. The lack of archaeological remains would reflect the fact that it coincided with the previously excavated evaluation trench (Warwickshire Museum 2003).

### **Test Pit 8**

4.22. Test Pit 8 was located at the western limit of the site to the rear of the existing factory building and adjacent to Birch Abbey (Fig. 4). The trench was 1.8m long and 0.4m wide. The pit was located in close proximity to another 2003 evaluation trench (AL83 T6).

4.23. Natural gravel (26) as revealed at approximately 0.3m below current ground level. The gravel layer may have been subject to extensive truncation during possible landscaping or construction.

4.24. A deposit of grey silty clay (25) was recorded above the gravel (Fig. 4, Section D). This may have been the fill of a shallow or truncated feature; however insufficient area was revealed to confirm this. Modern deposits totalling 0.3m thick overlaid the deposit, including a layer of brick rubble (24), make-up deposit (23) and concrete (22)

### **Boreholes**

4.25. Nine boreholes or window samples were undertaken across the site as part of the survey. The samples were taken from locations within the factory buildings (Fig. 4). The cores from four of the samples were examined, but whilst it was possible to suggest potential archaeological deposits were encountered no significant or detailed archaeological data was recovered. No finds were identified from the samples.

## 5. Conclusions

5.1. The archaeological observation identified archaeological deposits and artefacts associated with the occupation and activity on the site during the Roman period. This work confirmed the presence of significant 1st- to 3rd-century deposits, which were previously known to survive on the site.

5.2. Many of the test pits (*eg.* nos. 3, 6, 7) were located within previously excavated evaluation trenches in order to reduce the impact on potentially significant archaeological deposits. As a result these pits revealed little or no archaeological stratigraphy and reflects the success of the methodology and strategy employed. In several examples, (*eg.* nos. 5 and 8) possible archaeological deposits were observed at between 1.4m and 1.9m below ground level, but it was not possible to ascertain the exact nature of these deposits. These were sealed by backfill material and it most likely that they represent lower stratigraphic deposits or the bottom of deeper cut features not excavated during previous phases of work.

5.3. Gravel surfaces identified in test pit 4 may represent a continuation of gravel and metalled surfaces recorded in 1969 (Taylor 1969). Previous work at the northern edge of the site also recorded evidence for building and road surfaces (Booth and Evans 2001) and the recent evaluation (Warwickshire Museum 2003) confirmed that gravel surfaces associated with phases of road alignments and buildings are likely to be present across the northern and eastern parts of the site.

5.4. Few archaeological features, such as post holes or pits, were revealed during the observation. This will reflect the limited area of the test pits and the difficulty of assessing the archaeological deposits revealed given their method of excavation.

5.5. The results of the test pits suggested areas of shallow or truncated deposits in line with the overall picture revealed in the previous investigations. There may have been some widespread truncation of deposits across the south-western part of the site as the result of terracing or levelling during the construction of the factories or the previous houses.

5.6. There was no direct evidence revealed for the suggested fort, but the continued presence of 1st-century finds does suggest a military presence (Booth and Evans 2001). The suggested fort may therefore still survive on part of the site. The question of whether there is a fort in this location is of great importance to the understanding of the development of Roman Alcester.

5.7. The Roman activity on the site continued until at least the late 3rd century. The later Roman activity is less obvious and layers identified in several test pits may represent either Roman dark earth type deposits or later the reworking of such deposits during medieval or later horticultural activity. No post-Roman and medieval was identified during the observation and it is likely that parts of the site may have remained as open ground until the 17th or 18th century. The soil horizons recorded in part of upper stratigraphic sequence may have been horticultural soils developed over this period. Additional dumps or soils may have been created at the rear of houses fronting Bleachfield Street during domestic gardening or other activity on the site from the 18th century to the modern period.

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- Warwickshire Museum forthcoming *Archaeological excavation at flood defences at Newport Drive and Willow Close*



## Appendix A: Sites recorded on Warwickshire SMR in vicinity of site

(Referred to in text or shown in Fig. 1)

| <i>SMR Ref</i> | <i>Site</i>         | <i>Period</i>  | <i>NGR</i>   |
|----------------|---------------------|----------------|--------------|
| WA 446         | Road                | Romano-British | SP 085557    |
| WA 451         | Road                | Romano-British | SP 087569    |
| WA 490         | Pits                | Romano-British | SP 08755729  |
| WA 495         | Road                | Romano-British | SP 0805785   |
| WA 496         | Settlement          | Romano-British | SP 08855727  |
| WA 497         | Building            | Romano-British | SP 08775722  |
| WA 498         | Settlement features | Romano-British | SP 08745720  |
| WA 499         | Building            | Romano-British | SP 088845724 |
| WA 500         | Building            | Romano-British | SP 08825717  |
| WA 501         | Settlement features | Romano-British | SP 08925723  |
| WA 502         | Settlement features | Romano-British | SP 08805717  |
| WA 503         | Settlement features | Romano-British | SP 08785715  |
| WA 505         | Pottery             | Romano-British | SP 08825710  |
| WA 506         | Defences            | Romano-British | SP 08905745  |
| WA 511         | Settlement features | Romano-British | SP 08875714  |
| WA 512         | Settlement features | Romano-British | SP 08845709  |
| WA 516         | Road                | Romano-British | SP 08955707  |
| WA 521         | Building            | Romano-British | SP 08935707  |
| WA 3786        | Building            | Romano-British | SP 08895709  |
| WA 3787        | Building            | Romano-British | SP 08995719  |
| WA 3788        | Settlement          | Romano-British | SP 08775722  |
| WA 3791        | Building            | Romano-British | SP 08895709  |
| WA 3793        | Gravel surface      | Romano-British | SP 08725721  |
| WA 3794        | Settlement          | Romano-British | SP 088571    |
| WA 3883        | Building            | Romano-British | SP 08865722  |
| WA 3884        | Building            | Romano-British | SP 08935712  |
| WA 4476        | Building            | Romano-British | SP 08695715  |
| WA 4478        | Settlement features | Romano-British | SP 08695715  |
| WA 4479        | Settlement features | Romano-British | SP 08845708  |
| WA 4481        | Buildings           | Romano-British | SP 08715710  |
| WA 4482        | Settlement features | Romano-British | SP 08745715  |
| WA 4485        | Settlement features | Romano-British | SP 08745715  |
| WA 4488        | Settlement features | Romano-British | SP 08715710  |
| WA 4489        | Settlement features | Romano-British | SP 08765709  |
| WA 4492        | Pit                 | Neolithic      | SP 08825717  |
| WA 4495        | Small town          | Romano-British | SP 087573    |
| WA 4874        | Settlement surface  | Romano-British | SP 08875719  |
| WA 4899        | Settlement features | Romano-British | SP 08895719  |
| WA 5001        | Defences            | Romano-British | SP 078573    |
| WA 5490        | Building            | Medieval       | SP 08845724  |
| WA 5491        | Building            | Romano-British | SP 08825717  |
| WA 5498        | Settlement features | Medieval       | SP 08825717  |
| WA 5837        | Defences            | Romano-British | SP 0895751   |
| WA 7043        | Settlement          | Romano-British | SP 087572    |
| WA 7205        | Building            | Romano-British | SP 08885707  |
| WA 7325        | Finds               | Romano-British | SP 08875718  |
| WA 7326        | Assorted features   | Medieval       | SP 08570957  |
| WA 7256        | Finds               | Medieval       | SP 08885725  |



## Appendix B: List of recorded contexts

| Test Pit | Context | Description          | Comments                       |
|----------|---------|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1        | 27      | Tarmac               | Car park surface               |
| 1        | 28      | Layer                | Make-up                        |
| 1        | 29      | Layer                | Sandstone fragments            |
| 1        | 30      | Layer                | Roman                          |
| 1        | 31      | Natural              | Orange gravel                  |
| 2        | 34      | Concrete             | Yard surface                   |
| 2        | 35      | Layer                |                                |
| 2        | 36      | Fill of cut (35)     |                                |
| 2        | 37      | Drain cut            |                                |
| 3        | 12      | Tarmac               |                                |
| 3        | 13      | Layer                | 18th-20th century brick rubble |
| 3        | 14      | Layer                |                                |
| 3        | 15      | Layer                |                                |
| 3        | 16      | Natural              | Orange gravel                  |
| 4        | 3       | Tarmac               | Car park surface               |
| 4        | 4       | Layer                | 19th/20th century brick rubble |
| 4        | 5       | Layer                | Occupation deposit             |
| 4        | 6       | Layer                | Gravel surface                 |
| 4        | 7       | Layer                | Occupation deposit             |
| 4        | 8       | Layer                | Gravel surface                 |
| 4        | 9       | Layer                |                                |
| 4        | 10      | Layer                |                                |
| 4        | 11      | Natural              | Sand and gravel                |
| 5        | 1       | Grey silt            |                                |
| 5        | 2       | Natural              | Sand and gravel                |
| 6        | 18      | Make-up layer/Tarmac | Car park surface               |
| 6        | 19      | Layer                | Backfill                       |
| 6        | 20      | Layer                |                                |
| 6        | 21      | Natural              | Gravel                         |
| 7        | 32      | Layer                | Backfill                       |
| 7        | 33      | Natural              | Gravel                         |
| 8        | 22      | Concrete             |                                |
| 8        | 23      | Layer                |                                |
| 8        | 24      | Layer                | Brick rubble                   |
| 8        | 25      | Fill                 |                                |
| 8        | 26      | Natural              | Gravel                         |

## Appendix C: List of finds

| Test Pit | Context | Material | Quantity<br>(fragments/<br>sherds) | Comment/ Date                    |
|----------|---------|----------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1        | 30      | Pottery  | 2                                  | Roman                            |
| 3        | 13      | Brick    | 1                                  | 18th/19th-century (not retained) |
| 4        | 4       | Brick    | 1                                  | 19th/20th-century (not retained) |
| 4        | 7       | Pottery  | 4                                  | Late 1st to 2nd-century          |
| 4        | 8       | Pottery  | 6                                  | 1st- to 3rd-century              |
|          |         | Tile     | 1                                  | Roof                             |
|          |         | Slag     | 1                                  | ?ironworking                     |