



**Longwood Cottages, Walsall**  
**Archaeological Desk Based Assessment**

National Grid Reference: SP 03605 99048

AB Heritage Project Number: 10177

Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2013

## Longwood Cottages, Walsall, West Midlands

NGR – SP 03605 99048

### Archaeological Desk Based Assessment

**Client:** David Wilson Partnership Ltd

**Project Number:** 10177

**Prepared by:** Hannah Simpson

**Illustrated by:** Jonathan Moller

**Approved by:** Andy Buckley

Rev Number	Description	Undertaken	Approved	Date
1.0	Draft	HS	AB	19-07-2013
2.0	Final incorporating Local Authority Planning Archaeologist comments	PB		03-10-2013

This document has been prepared in accordance with AB Heritage standard operating procedures. It remains confidential and the copyright of AB Heritage Limited. Any unauthorised reproduction or usage by any person other than the addressee is strictly prohibited.

#### Enquiries To:

AB Heritage Limited (West)

Equity House, Blackbrook Business Park,

Taunton, Somerset

TA1 2PX

Email: [info@abheritage.co.uk](mailto:info@abheritage.co.uk)

Tel: 03333 440 206



## CONTENTS

Introduction.....	1
Report Aims and Methodology .....	2
Planning, Legislative Framework.....	7
Archaeological Resource and Baseline Data.....	9
Impact Assessment and Mitigation Strategy.....	15
References.....	17

## FIGURES

Figure 1	Site Location Plan
Figure 2	Proposed Development Plan
Figure 3	Cultural Heritage Features Map
Figure 4	Tithe Map Rushall 1843
Figure 5	Ordnance Survey Map 1889
Figure 6	Ordnance Survey Map 1903
Figure 7	LiDAR SP0399_DTM_2M,SP0398_DTM_2M 2012

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Overview of Works**

- 1.1.1 AB Heritage Limited (hereinafter AB Heritage) has been commissioned by David Wilson Partnership Limited (hereinafter David Wilson) to produce an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment covering the proposed redevelopment of Longwood Cottages, Walsall.
- 1.1.2 This report includes a description of the baseline conditions; an examination of available documentary, cartographic and known archaeological evidence; and identifies any known and potential cultural heritage receptor(s) within the application site or its immediate vicinity.

### **1.2 Site Location/Description**

- 1.2.1 The proposed development site is located to the north east of Walsall on the A454 Aldridge Road. The site is situated within an rural area demarcated by modern settlements.
- 1.2.2 The A454 runs directly to the north of site, serving as the main road through of this area, and the Rushall Canal lies to the east. A large proportion of the surrounding area including the site itself is pasture land with sporadic areas of woodland.
- 1.2.3 The site of proposed development is demarcated by the A454, Longwood Cottages and associated business premises to the north and north west, with Calderfields Golf Course to the south (Figure 1). The proposed development site is centred at approximately NGR SP 03605 99048 on relatively flat ground, at c.138m AOD.
- 1.2.4 The site is currently pasture land bounded by hedges, with no areas of built development. The site was used as an unofficial tipping site in the early 1990's.

### **1.3 Overview of Proposed Development & Planning Background**

- 1.3.1 The proposed development encompasses a change of land use from agriculture to a cemetery. The proposed development involves the creation of site access, car parking and an internal vehicular access track running around the whole site. Designated areas for interments (including woodland burials) and extensive tree planting also forms a large part of the proposal. A collection of outbuildings to the north are due to be demolished and a new reception building is proposed toward the centre of site.
- 1.3.2 A condition attached to planning consent stipulated the need for archaeological work to ensure the preservation of archaeological remains in accordance with the NPPF and local policies (section 3).

## **2. REPORT AIMS & METHODOLOGY**

### **2.1 Aims of Cultural Heritage Works**

- 2.1.1 Early consultation on the results of archaeological research and consideration of the implications of proposed development are the key to informing reasonable planning decisions.
- 2.1.2 The aim of this report is to facilitate such a process by understanding the historical development of the application site and the likely impact upon any surviving archaeological resource resulting from the proposed development, devising appropriate mitigation responses where necessary.

### **2.2 Methodology of Cultural Heritage Works**

- 2.2.1 The assessment has been carried out, in regard to the collation of baseline information, in line with the Institute for Archaeologists' Standard and Guidance for Desk-Based Assessment (1994, latest revision November 2012).
- 2.2.2 This assessment includes relevant information contained in various statutory requirements, national, regional and local planning policies and professional good practice guidance, including:
- Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act, 1979
  - Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990
  - The National Planning Policy Framework, 2012
- 2.2.3 The Black Country Historic Environment Record (HER) is the primary source of information concerning the current state of archaeological and architectural knowledge in this area. The information contained within this database was supported by examination of data from a wide range of other sources, principally:
- An assessment of historical and documentary evidence held by the Staffordshire Record Office (Stafford and Lichfield sites) and William Salt Library, including historic maps covering the application site
  - Visit and review of relevant historical and documentary evidence held by the Walsall Local History Centre
  - Examination of historic aerial photographs held at the English Heritage Archive, Swindon on the 10th of July 2013
  - The Heritage Gateway ([www.heritagegateway.org.uk](http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk)) for information from English Heritage National Monuments Record, Pastscape and other research resources, including the Access to Archives (A2A) and the Black Country History websites
  - The DEFRA MAGIC website (<http://magic.defra.gov.uk/website/magic/>) for mapped information on nationally designated sites
  - The English Heritage website professional pages, particularly the National Heritage List For England
  - A site-walk over on the 10<sup>th</sup> of July 2013

- Additional relevant documentary and online historic sources
- Email consultation with the Black Country Archaeologist (Mike Shaw) and the Local Authority Conservation Officer (Andrew Fuller) on the suitability of the strategy for archaeological assessment

2.2.4 Information from these sources was used to understand:

- Information on statutory and non-statutory designated sites, including World Heritage Sites and their buffer zones, Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas, Locally Listed Buildings, Registered Parks and Gardens, and Historic Battlefields
- Information on heritage assets recorded on the Black Country HER
- Readily accessible information on the site's history from readily available historic maps and photographs
- Any information on the site contained in published and unpublished archaeological and historical sources, including any previous archaeological investigations undertaken within the study area
- A greater understanding of key cultural heritage issues of the site and surrounding area, developed through the onsite walkover, including information on areas of past truncation within the site boundary
- The impact of proposed development on the known and potential heritage resource, resulting in the formulation of a mitigation strategy, where required, which appropriately targets any future heritage works to those required to gain planning consent

2.2.5 During consultation between Hannah Simpson (AB Heritage) and Mike Shaw (Black Country Archaeologist) it was agreed that, given the location and form of development, the archaeological desk-based assessment would comprise a targeted search of records within 500m of the proposed development boundary. Mike responded on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July 2013 to confirm that the HER data would be supplied as described above.

2.2.6 Andrew Fuller (Conservation Officer) was emailed on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July 2013; and responded on the 18<sup>th</sup> of July to confirm there are no built conservation impacts to consider as part of the proposed development and the above scope of works was acceptable (pers.comm Fuller 2013).

## 2.3 Assessment of the Cultural Heritage Resource

2.3.1 This desk-based assessment contains a record of the known and potential cultural heritage resource of an area. In relation to buried archaeological remains, where there is a potential for encountering a particular resource within the application site this is assessed according to the following scale:

Low	Very unlikely to be encountered on site
Medium	Possibility that features may occur / be encountered on site
High	Remains almost certain to survive on site

- 2.3.2 Where there is either a known archaeological resource, or a Medium to High potential for the recovery of archaeological remains within the study area, which may be subject to impact by the proposed development, the significance of this resource is assessed.
- 2.3.3 There is currently no standard adopted statutory or government guidance for assessing the importance of an archaeological feature and this is instead judged upon factors such as statutory and non-statutory designations, architectural, archaeological or historical significance, and the contribution to local research agendas. Considering these criteria each identified feature can be assigned to a level of importance in accordance with a five point scale (Table 1, below)

**Table 1: Assessing the Importance of a Cultural Heritage Site**

<b>SCALE OF SITE IMPORTANCE</b>	
<b>NATIONAL</b>	The highest status of site, e.g. Scheduled Monuments (or undesignated assets of schedulable quality and importance). Grade I and Grade II* Listed Buildings. Other listed buildings that can be shown to have exceptional qualities in their fabric or historical associations not adequately reflected in the listing grade. Conservation Areas containing very important buildings. Undesignated structures of clear national importance. Extremely well preserved historic landscape, whether inscribed or not, with exceptional coherence, time depth, or other critical factor(s).
<b>REGIONAL</b>	Grade II Listed Buildings or other designated or undesignated archaeological sites (in addition to those listed above), or assets of a reasonably defined extent and significance, or reasonable evidence of occupation / settlement, ritual, industrial activity etc. Examples may include areas containing buildings that contribute significantly to its historic character, burial sites, deserted medieval villages, Roman roads and dense scatter of finds.
<b>LOCAL</b>	Evidence of human activity more limited in historic value than the examples above, or compromised by poor preservation and/or survival of context associations, though which still have the potential to contribute to local research objectives. Examples include sites such as 'locally designated' buildings or undesignated structures / buildings of limited historic merit, out-of-situ archaeological findspots / ephemeral archaeological evidence and historic field systems and boundaries etc.
<b>NEGLIGIBLE</b>	Assets with very little or no surviving archaeological interest. Examples include destroyed antiquities, structures of almost no architectural / historic merit, buildings of an intrusive character or relatively modern / common landscape features such as quarries, drains and ponds etc.
<b>UNKNOWN</b>	Insufficient information exists to assess the importance of a feature (e.g. unidentified features on aerial photographs).

- 2.3.4 The importance of already identified cultural heritage resources is determined by reference to existing designations. Where classification of a receptor's value covered a range of the above possibilities or for previously unidentified features where no designation has been assigned, the value of the receptor was based on professional knowledge and judgement.
- 2.3.5 For some types of finds or remains there is no consistent value and the importance may vary, for example Grade II Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas. For this reason, adjustments are occasionally made, where appropriate, based on professional judgement.

## 2.4 Impact Assessment Criteria

- 2.4.1 The magnitude of impact upon the archaeological and heritage resource, which can be considered in terms of direct and indirect impacts, is determined by identifying the level of effect from the proposed development upon the baseline conditions of the site and the cultural heritage resource identified. The criteria for assessing the magnitude of impact are set out in Table 2 (below).
- 2.4.2 In certain cases it is not possible to confirm the magnitude of impact upon a cultural heritage resource, especially where anticipated buried deposits exist. Where possible a professional judgement as to the scale of such impacts is applied to enable the likely 'Significance of Effects' to be established; however, a magnitude level of 'uncertain' is included for situations where it is simply not appropriate to make such a judgement at this stage of works.

**Table 2: Criteria for Determining Magnitude of Impact**

IMPACT LEVEL	DEFINITION
<b>HIGH</b>	Major impacts fundamentally changing the baseline condition of the receptor, leading to total or considerable alteration of character or setting – e.g. complete or almost complete destruction of the archaeological resource; dramatic visual intrusion into a historic landscape element; adverse change in the setting or visual amenity of the feature/site; significant increase in noise; extensive changes to use or access.
<b>MEDIUM</b>	Impacts changing the baseline condition of the receptor materially but not entirely, leading to partial alteration of character or setting – e.g. a large proportion of the archaeological resource damaged or destroyed; intrusive visual intrusion into key aspects of the historic landscape; or use of site that would result in detrimental changes to historic landscape character.
<b>LOW</b>	Detectable impacts which alter the baseline condition of the receptor to a small degree – e.g. a small proportion of the surviving archaeological resource is damaged or destroyed; minor severance, change to the setting or structure or increase in noise; and limited encroachment into character of a historic landscape.
<b>NEGLIGIBLE</b>	Barely distinguishable adverse change from baseline conditions, where there would be very little appreciable effect on a known site, possibly because of distance from the development, method of construction or landscape or ecological planting, that are thought to have no long term effect on the historic value of a resource.
<b>UNCERTAIN</b>	Extent / nature of the resource is unknown and the magnitude of change cannot be ascertained.

- 2.4.3 The overall Significance of Effects from the proposed development upon the Cultural Heritage Resource is determined by correlating the magnitude of Impact against value of the Cultural Heritage resource. Table 3 highlights the criteria for assessing the overall Significance of Effects. Where effects are moderate or above these are classified as significant.



**Table 3: Significance of Effects**

IMPORTANCE	MAGNITUDE			
	HIGH	MED	LOW	NEG
<b>NATIONAL</b>	Severe	Major	Mod	Minor
<b>REGIONAL</b>	Major	Mod	Minor	Not Sig.
<b>LOCAL</b>	Mod	Minor	Minor	Not Sig.
<b>NEGLIGIBLE</b>	Minor	Not Sig.	Not Sig.	Nt.

Not Sig. = Not Significant; Nt. = Neutral; Mod = Moderate; Ext. = Extensive

## 2.5 Limitations

- 2.5.1 It should be noted that the report has been prepared under the express instruction and solely for the use of David Wilson and associated parties they elect to share this information with. Measurements and distances referred to in the report should be taken as approximations only and should not be used for detailed design purposes.
- 2.5.2 All the work carried out in this report is based upon the professional knowledge and understanding of AB Heritage on current (July 2013) and relevant United Kingdom standards and codes, technology and legislation. Changes in these areas may occur in the future and cause changes to the conclusions, advice, recommendations or design given. AB Heritage does not accept responsibility for advising David Wilson or associated parties of the facts or implications of any such changes in the future.
- 2.5.3 This report has been prepared utilising factual information obtained from third party sources. AB Heritage takes no responsibility for the accuracy of such information. It should also be noted that this report represents an early stage of a phased approach to assessing the archaeological and cultural heritage resource of the application site to allow the development of an appropriate mitigation strategy, should this be required. It does not comprise mitigation of impacts in itself.

### **3. PLANNING & LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK**

#### **3.1 Introduction**

- 3.1.1 The following section highlights the key planning and legislative framework relevant to this project. Legislative framework, national planning policy and relevant sector guidance

#### **3.2 Statutory Legislation**

- 3.2.1 Current legislation, in the form of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, provides for the legal protection of important and well-preserved archaeological sites and monuments through their addition to a list, or 'schedule' of archaeological monuments by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport. This necessitates the granting of formal Scheduled Monument Consent for any work undertaken within the designated area of a Scheduled Ancient Monument.
- 3.2.2 Likewise, structures are afforded legal protection in the form of their addition to 'lists' of buildings of special architectural or historical interest. The listing of buildings is carried out by the Department of Culture, Media and Sport under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990. The main purpose of the legislation is to protect buildings and their surroundings from changes that would materially alter the special historic or architectural value of the building or its setting. This necessitates the granting of formal Listed Building Consent for all works undertaken to or within the designated curtilage of a Listed Building. This legislation also allows for the creation and protection of Conservation Areas by local planning authorities to protect areas and groupings of historical significance.
- 3.2.3 The categories of assets with some form of legal protection have been extended in recent years, and now include Registered Parks and Gardens, and Historic Battlefields. While designation as a UNESCO World Heritage Site is not a statutory designation under English planning law, such a designation is regarded as a material consideration in planning decisions, and World Heritage Sites are in practice protected from development that could affect any aspect of their significance including settings within the Site and a buffer zone around it.

#### **3.3 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)**

- 3.3.1 The NPPF sets out government policy on the historic environment, which covers all elements, whether designated or not, that are identified as 'having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest'.
- 3.3.2 One of the over-arching aims is to 'Conserve heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of this and future generations'. To achieve this local planning authorities can request that the applicant describe "the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting". The level of detail required in the assessment should be "proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance". It goes on to say that "where a site on which development is proposed includes or has the potential to include heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation."

- 3.3.3 A key policy within the NPPF is that “when considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset’s conservation. The more important the asset, the greater the weight should be.
- 3.3.4 With regard to non-designated heritage assets specific policy is provided in that a balanced judgement will be required having due regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset affected.

### **3.4 The Black Country Core Strategy (adopted 3 February 2011)**

- 3.4.1 The Black Country Core Strategy (JCS) sets out the vision, objectives and strategy for future development in the Black Country up to 2026 and beyond. It forms the basis of Walsall’s Local Development Framework and will guide future development decisions throughout the Black Country.

#### **POLICY ENV2: HISTORIC CHARACTER AND LOCAL DISTINCTIVENESS**

- 3.4.2 Policy ENV2 states that all development proposals will be required to preserve and, where appropriate, enhance local character and those aspects of the historic environment together with their settings which are recognised as being of special historic, archaeological, architectural, landscape or townscape quality.
- 3.4.3 All proposals should aim to sustain and reinforce special character and conserve the historic aspects of the following locally distinctive elements of the Black Country:
- 3.4.4 In addition to statutorily designated and protected historic assets particular attention should be paid to the preservation and enhancement of:
- Locally listed historic buildings and archaeological sites
  - Historic parks and gardens including their settings
  - Locally designated special landscape areas and other heritage based site allocations
- 3.4.5 Development proposals that would potentially have an impact on any of the above distinctive elements should be supported by evidence included in Design and Access Statements that demonstrates that all aspects of the historic character and distinctiveness of the locality have been fully assessed and used to inform proposals. In some instances local authorities may require developers to undertake detailed Historic Landscape Characterisation studies to support their proposals (Black Country Core Strategy, 2011).

## 4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE BASELINE DATA

### 4.1 Known Designated & Non- Designated Features

4.1.1 Within the site limits and surrounding study area there are:

- 0 World Heritage Sites or sites included on the Tentative List of Future Nominations for World Heritage Sites
- 0 Scheduled Monuments
- 0 Listed Buildings
- 0 Conservation Areas
- 0 Registered Historic Parks & Gardens, Registered Battlefields
- 0 Building Preservation Notices or Certificates of Immunity (English Heritage, 2012) within the study area.

4.1.2 In relation to non-designated sites, within the site boundary there are known archaeological features in the form of Calderfields Medieval Moated site [AB 01] and associated earthworks, as well as an associated boundary cropmark [AB 04] (seen on an Aerial Photograph). The Local Authority Planning Archaeologist (Mike Shaw) assesses the Calderfields moated site as of national importance, and reported that the site would have been scheduled if episodes of rubbish tipping and other damage had not taken place. The outer enclosure [AB04] was recognised after the refusal of scheduling, and adds to the importance of the site. The documentary evidence for this site is also strong adding further emphasis to its significance.

4.1.3 There are also areas of Ridge and Furrow [AB 06 & 10]. LiDAR imagery confirms the presence of earthworks that may potentially date to the Medieval (Figure 7). There are also extant above-ground remains of modern outbuilding structures.

4.1.4 The Black Country Urban Historic Landscape Characterisation designated North East Walsall: SP02-04/98-00; as an area for a pilot study due to its suburban growth; rural areas; former industrial landscape. The Proposed development Site is characterised by a larger area of field systems (Black Country Archaeology Service, 2011).

### 4.2 Geology, Topography and Palaeoenvironmental

4.2.1 The solid geology underlying the site is Coalbrookdale Formation mudstone (BGS, 2013). No superficial geology information was identified for the area.

4.2.2 The site is irregular in shape and approximately 270m north to south, and 170 metres east to west at its widest point. The site is currently bounded to the south, east and west by fencing and hedges and bounded to the north by Aldridge Road and Long wood Cottages. The proposed development site is centred at approximately NGR SP 03605 99048 on relatively flat ground at c. 138m AOD.

4.2.3 There are no known palaeo-environmental remains recorded within the proposed development site or its immediate vicinity.

### 4.3 Previous Archaeological Excavation or Survey

4.3.1 No previous archaeological interventions are recorded within the development site or within 500m of the proposed development on the Black Country HER.

## 4.4 Archaeological & Historic Background

### **THE PREHISTORIC PERIOD (C. 500,000 BC – AD 43) AND ROMAN (AD 43 – AD410)**

- 4.4.1 The prehistoric period was a time of significant environmental change in the British Isles, characterised by the alternating warm and exceptionally cold phases and intermittent occupation of the Palaeolithic period (500,000 BC – 10,000 BC), through to climatic warming from the Mesolithic (c. 10,000 BC – 4,000 BC) period onwards, which transformed the landscape from a treeless steppe-tundra to birch and pine woodland.
- 4.4.2 It was not until the onset of the Neolithic (c. 4000 BC – 2000 BC) that extensive deforestation occurred to create arable and pasture-based agricultural land, as well as for the construction of communal monuments. In the vicinity of the site however there is limited Neolithic evidence, with the nearest find being that of a waste flint flake from Aldridge Lodge (HER 2605), c. 650m to the north of the site.
- 4.4.3 With the transition into the Bronze Age (c. 2,000 BC – 800 BC) and later into the Iron Age (c. 800 BC – AD 43) there was significant change in technology and these periods are represented by an increasing use of farming and, subsequently, of settled agricultural communities. While there is little evidence dating to these periods within the vicinity of the site there are cropmarks attributed to the Bronze Age in the form of a ring ditch (HER 13938), c. 650m to the east of the proposed development site and a Bronze Age Barrow (HER 2609) at Rushall Farm c. 1km north west of the proposed development.
- 4.4.4 The Romans invaded Britain in AD 43 and Roman roads criss-cross the region, marking trading and administrative links across the country. However, the closest known of these is Ryknild Street, which is visible as an earthwork c. 5km to the east of the proposed development site. The Romans also left their mark in the form of towns such as Wall (Roman Letocetum), which lies c. 7km north of the site, on the major Roman road of Watling Street. In addition, the Limestone outcrops at Daw End to the north c.2km to the north west have been extensively worked since Roman times. Roman tools are said to have been found in the quarry workings.
- 4.4.5 However, apart from this activity the area remains sparse in relation to Roman remains and, if there was any activity during these periods within the area of Walsall where the site is located there is currently no strong evidence of this. This may be due to the extensive tree cover that is thought to have dominated the area during this period.

### **THE MEDIEVAL PERIOD (AD 410 – AD 1536)**

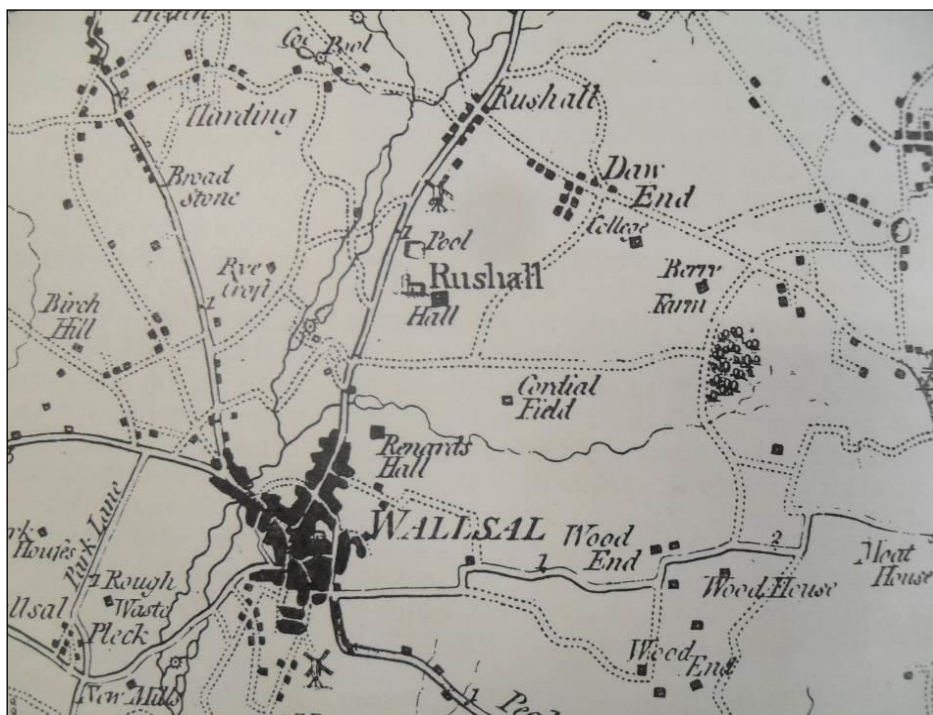
- 4.4.6 Following the abandonment of the British Isles by the Roman legions in the early 5<sup>th</sup> century AD the country fell into an extended period of socio-economic decline. Many settlements were abandoned and very little is known about activity within this area during the early part of this period, which was commonly referred to as the 'dark ages'. The country as a whole was subject to gradual domination by incoming people from continental Europe, eventually culminating in the establishment of Anglo-Saxon kingdoms in England. There is a paucity of information during the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> centuries in the wider region.
- 4.4.7 The earliest recorded reference to the area comes from place name evidence at Walsall. The reference thought to be in a will dated to c.1002-4 refers to a place called '*Walesho*'. The place name of Walsall is now generally believed to derive from the Old English personal name '*Walh*', thought to be from the Saxon term for a Briton or Welshman, and '*H(e)alh*' meaning 'a sheltered place' or 'small valley' (Walsall Council, 2012). The first record of the parish Rushall,

in which the site is lies in, occurs in Domesday Book (1086). It is listed as being a village of eight households and a mill.

- 4.4.8 The nearby Medieval Rushall Hall today is substantially a 19<sup>th</sup> century structure, incorporating walls from the earlier building including the fortified gatehouse and walls which were built in the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries (Walsall Council 2013). Within the site of proposed development is a sub-rectangular Medieval moated site [AB 01] with an area of around 1.2ha, with a large outer retaining bank on the north and west sides. The moat is fed by a stream, which enters at the north and leaves from the south west. Aerial photographs show two arms of an outer enclosure extending to east of the moated site [AB 04] and areas of ridge and furrow to the north and south [AB 05 & 06].
- 4.4.9 According to the Rushall manuscript, written in the 15<sup>th</sup> century, Sir Hugh de Boweles and his wife Alice gave the manor of Caldewalle to their son William and Sir Hugh to build and repair a mansion at Caldewalle and made a moat about the mansion (*'bilte and repairide a mansion at Caldewalle and made a moot abowte seyde mansion'*) (Willmore 1892) (Whiston 1981). Accordingly the moat is believed to have been constructed in the mid-13<sup>th</sup> century, but there may already have been a 'mansion' on the site before then due to the inference that a mansion was *'repairide'*.
- 4.4.10 The Borough had good supplies of coal, ironstone and limestone, enabling metalwork industries to prosper, and light metalwork has been the traditional industry of Walsall since the 16<sup>th</sup> century or earlier. Limestone of high quality outcrops at Rushall and within the vicinity of the proposed development site. It was exploited during the Romano-British period as previously mentioned and most likely continued through the Medieval for building and agricultural purposes. Extensive areas of medieval ridge and furrow are also visible both inside the area of proposed development (see above paragraph 4.3.3) and within the vicinity c. 500m to the west and south of the proposed development [AB 02 & 03].

#### **THE POST MEDIEVAL (AD 1537 – AD 1800) AND MODERN (1800 – present)**

- 4.4.11 The pattern of post-medieval activity as shown on maps dating to the Post-medieval suggests that suburban development was concentrated to the west and north of the proposed development site, leaving the area of the site largely open and rural in character.
- 4.4.12 During the 18<sup>th</sup> century, expansion associated with the industrial revolution saw the development of a new settlement at Daw End (c. 1km to the north) (Plate 1), while the Hay Head and Linley limestone workings, c. 800m to the east of the site, were both large developments.
- 4.4.13 The Moated site is shown on Yates' map of 1775 as 'Cordial Field' (Plate 1).



**Plate 1 – Yates County Plan 1775**

4.4.14 The Moated site is shown on Yates' map of 1798, by which time it is called 'Caldwall Field' (Plate 2). It is also labelled this on Cruchley's Railway and Telegraphic Map of Staffordshire (SRO D554/186/20).



**Plate 2 – Yates County Plan 1798**

#### **Rushall Tithe Map, 1840 (Figure 4)**

- 4.4.15 The tithe map shows the area in much more detail than the previous map, with buildings, enclosures and the river system all defined very clearly. The proposed development site is located within the enclosure labelled '318', named 'LAND'; however, no mention is made of the moated site either in the name or notes.

#### **OS Map of Walsall Area, 1889 (Figure 5)**

- 4.4.16 The OS map of 1889 documents development in the area, including the canal completed in 1847 to connect the Daw End Branch to The Tame Valley Canal, to allow the transport of coal from the Cannock mines to Birmingham and the Black Country.
- 4.4.17 Walsall continued to develop throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> and into the 20<sup>th</sup> century, most noticeably with the arrival of the canal and railway systems in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Large scale development in the surrounding areas occurred relatively quickly during and after the 1930's, up until the present day. In the wider area of the site this included the construction of new residential developments to the east and west; road networks; and nature reserves.
- 4.4.18 Within the immediate vicinity of site the surrounding area continued to remain more open in nature for a longer period of time, dominated by enclosed agricultural fields and dispersed farm settlements. By 1903 the OS map recorded a cottage to the north west of the proposed development site, which is the present day Longwood Cottages. However, by 1950, development along Aldridge Road had increased, with residential housing to the west.
- 4.4.19 It should be noted though that, despite surrounding developments in the wider area, the proposed development site remains largely open, as it was shown on the earliest detailed map examined.

#### **4.5 Site Visit**

- 4.5.1 A visit of the site was conducted on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> of July 2013. The purpose of this visit was to gain a greater understanding of existing land use and past impacts within the current site limits, along with a potential appreciation of the potential for the survival of below ground archaeological deposits. The following photos are included to illustrate pertinent points noted during the site visit.
- 4.5.2 There are some views into the site from Aldridge Road and to the rear of Longwood Cottage but it is largely shielded from view by overgrown vegetation and hedges. The site visit also demonstrated that the proposed development site is currently largely overgrown, meaning it was very difficult to detect any surface features that may represent archaeology.
- 4.5.3 The brief supplied by Mike Shaw (Black Country Archaeologist) requested an assessment of the extent of any previous tipping deposits or other disturbance, but the overgrown nature of the site ruled out such a review. Tarmac, steel barrels and a large advertisement sign were all noted on or within the vicinity of the moated site but evidence such as this was in the minority; due to the over grown nature and grass/reed cover up to a meter tall it is the authors view that any tipping debris has now grassed over.
- 4.5.4 Photograph 1 shows the moated site facing north toward the southern extent of the earthworks. Little evidence for tipping was recorded in this area.





***Photograph 1 – Moated site facing north***

- 4.5.5 Photograph 2 is taken facing south from the north extent of site, the culvert can be seen and is marked by the tall vegetation that runs the length of the photo. As outlined above, while not possible to determine, vegetation may obscure potential features.



***Photograph 2 – View south from Aldridge Road of the proposed development site***

- 4.6.6 Photograph 3 shows the eastern face of the moated site, just south of the bridge that crosses the culvert (seen on right hand side of photo). The photo demonstrates shows shorter grasses in this area, possibly due to animal grazing, a small amount of evidence of tipping was seen in this area with large slabs of tarmac visible on the ramparts, and occasionally within the immediate vicinity of the earthworks. It is possible that these events have impacted the moat earthworks to a degree; however, it should be noted that, while this earthwork forms part of the site, it is not designated for development, as per information supplied by David Wilson.



***Photograph 3 – View of moated site facing west***

- 4.6.7 Overall the site visit demonstrated that past impacts have occurred on site; however, the precise locations of such impacts are difficult to plot, given the current overgrown nature of the site.

## 5. IMPACT ASSESSMENT & MITIGATION STRATEGY

### 5.1 Summary of Known Cultural Heritage Receptors

5.1.1 Within the limits of proposed development is the Calderfields Medieval Moated site [AB 01] as well as a potentially associated boundary cropmark [AB 04] which has national importance which factors in the relatively good survival of documentary evidence, which establishes a mid-13th century date for the moated site. The areas of Ridge and Furrow [AB 05 & 06] are likely to be of local importance. LiDAR imagery (Figure 7) also confirms the presence of earthworks, which are concluded to relate to the Medieval activity recorded on the site.

### 5.2 Past Site Impacts

5.2.1 The site is known to have been subject to unauthorized tipping in c.1990 (Shaw 2012). The north east corner of the moat was bulldozed to create a platform, from which waste material was dumped over the interior of the moated site and further waste material was dumped over the ridge and furrow earthworks to the east of Longwood Cottages. Enforcement action was taken in 1992 to require the removal of the waste material and the restoration of these areas but this was not done (Shaw 2012).

5.2.2 Personal communication with Diane Wilkes of Walsall Local History Centre (Diane Wilkes, pers.comm) and aerial photography evidence (NMR OS/88249) also document that the interior of the moated site was occupied by caravans for a time during the 1980's.

### 5.3 Assessment of Archaeological Potential

5.3.1 Based on the known evidence and the areas of past impact there is a low potential for activity dating to all periods except the Medieval, which is assessed as having a moderate potential. This is because the presence of the Moated site [AB 01] demonstrates that the site has some focus of activity during this period. Therefore, while surviving medieval Ridge and Furrow [AB 05 & 06] across parts of the site suggests activity post-dating this period is likely to be in the form of agricultural activity, there may be a potential for more complex remains to survive buried beneath these earthworks, possibly in closer proximity to the moated site.

5.3.2 Should complex archaeological remains dating to the medieval, or earlier, be buried beneath the ridge and furrow earthworks, it may be of between local and national importance (in-line with Table 1; see section 2.3).

### 5.4 Proposed Development

5.4.1 The proposed development encompasses a change of land use from agriculture to a cemetery. The proposed development involves the creation of site access and car parking, and an additional access track running around the site. Designated areas for internments (including woodland burials) and extensive tree planting also forms a large part of the proposal. A collection of outbuildings to the north are due to be demolished and a new, purpose built, reception building is proposed toward the centre of site. The following generalised construction activities are likely to be undertaken as part of this redevelopment:

- Demolition of existing structures
- Groundworks associated with any ground levelling (build up and reduction; removal/excavation of existing surfaces and foundations; foundations for new structures)

- Groundworks associated with the construction of any additional services (drainage, electric supply etc.)
- Groundworks associated with tarmac and slab track way construction leading into and around the proposed development site.
- Landscaping in the form of memorial garden planting, culvert management/removal, pond/wetland creation, bridge erection and tree and hedge planting.

## 5.5 Impact Assessment

- 5.5.1 In relation to the archaeological resource it is possible that groundworks associated with proposed construction could impact on any surviving, below ground archaeological deposits. Where more complex remains do survive it is possible that these will relate to Medieval activity in this area, which could be associated with activity at Calderfields Medieval Moated site [AB 01], as well as a potentially associated boundary cropmark [AB 04].
- 5.5.2 Because the moated site and its outer earthwork are regarded as of national importance, any impact of development on these features would be likely to have a major adverse effect. Therefore the moated site [AB 01] and the associated outer enclosure [AB 04] are not proposed for development according to plans sent to AB Heritage, instead being proposed as set aside for ecology in order to mitigate any potential adverse effect.
- 5.5.3 The impact of proposed development on the surviving Ridge and Furrow [AB 05 & 06], along with potential below ground archaeology dating to the medieval (which are concluded to be of between local to regional importance) is predicted to be medium impact (Table 2), which would result in an overall significance of effect of between minor to moderate adverse, in line with Table 3.
- 5.5.4 In relation to built heritage impacts there is concluded to be no direct physical impact on the fabric of any designated structures associated with proposed works. There is also not predicted to be an adverse setting effect on any designated built heritage assets associated with proposed development.

## 5.6 Proposed Mitigation Strategy

- 5.6.1 Based on the significance of effect identified in this report it is concluded to be beneficial to gain a greater understanding of the potential below ground archaeological resource, to guide future development and limit potential archaeological risk at source, where possible. To achieve this it is proposed that archaeological evaluation trenching be undertaken across areas of proposed development. This would inform a detailed design and enable targeting of appropriate future mitigation responses, where required.

## 6. REFERENCES

### 6.1 Documentary Sources

Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG). 2012. *National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)*

Institute for Archaeologists 1994; rev.2001 & 2008 *Standard and Guidance for Desk-Based Assessment*

Shaw M, 2012. Brief for Archaeological assessment at Longwood Cottages, near Aldridge, Walsall. Unpublished brief. Walsall City Council

Willmore FW. 1892. Records of Rushall with a transcript of the old parish registers. 16-17

### 6.2 Cartographic Sources

Rushall Tithe Map 1843 B/A/15/316 (Previously at Staffordshire Record Office D3729/6/17/16)

Yates W. 1775. A map of the county of Staffordshire.1:63360 (SRO D590/410)

Yates W. 1798. A map of the county of Staffordshire. 1:63360 (SRO D590/410)

Apportionment book for Rushall (1843). Litchfield Record Office B/A/15/316 [Currently under review at SRO – Copy viewed]

Ordnance Survey 1st edition 25" map (1889)

Ordnance Survey 2nd edition 25" map (1903)

### 6.3 Electronic References

BGS (British Geological Society) 2013. Geology of Britain viewer <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>

Black Country Core Strategy 2011 [online] Available at: [file:///L:/Team%20Folders/AB%20HERITAGE/PROJECTS/10177\\_Longwood%20Cottages%20Walsall/TECHNICAL%20DATA/DOCUMENTARY/black\\_country\\_core\\_strategy\\_final.pdf](file:///L:/Team%20Folders/AB%20HERITAGE/PROJECTS/10177_Longwood%20Cottages%20Walsall/TECHNICAL%20DATA/DOCUMENTARY/black_country_core_strategy_final.pdf)

DEFRA Magic <http://magic.defra.gov.uk/>

EH (English Heritage) 2013. The National Heritage List for England <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/protection/process/national-heritage-list-for-england/>

Heritage Gateway 2013. Walsall [online] Available from: <http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/gateway/> [Accessed 04/07/2013]

Office of Public Sector Information (1979) The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 [online] Available from: <http://www.statutelaw.gov.uk/content.aspx?activeTextDocId=444101> [Accessed March 4 2013]

Parker B. unknown. Walsall Origins [online] Available at: <http://www.historywebsite.co.uk/articles/Walsall/origins.htm> [Accessed 04/07/2013]

Walsall Local History Centre, 2012. Walsall In History [online] Available from: [http://cms.walsall.gov.uk/index/libraries\\_museums\\_and\\_arts/museums/localhistorycentre/walsall\\_history/walsall\\_in\\_history.htm](http://cms.walsall.gov.uk/index/libraries_museums_and_arts/museums/localhistorycentre/walsall_history/walsall_in_history.htm) [Accessed 04/07/2013]

Walsall Local History Centre, 2013. Rushall In History [online] Available from:  
[http://cms.walsall.gov.uk/index/libraries\\_museums\\_and\\_arts/museums/localhistorycentre/walsall\\_history/rushall\\_in\\_history.htm](http://cms.walsall.gov.uk/index/libraries_museums_and_arts/museums/localhistorycentre/walsall_history/rushall_in_history.htm) [Accessed 04/07/2013]

Whiston, J W. 1981-2. The Rushall Psalter. Transactions of South Staffordshire Archaeological and Historic Society 23, 89-91.

Willmore FW. 1892. Records of Rushall with a transcript of the old parish registers. 16-17

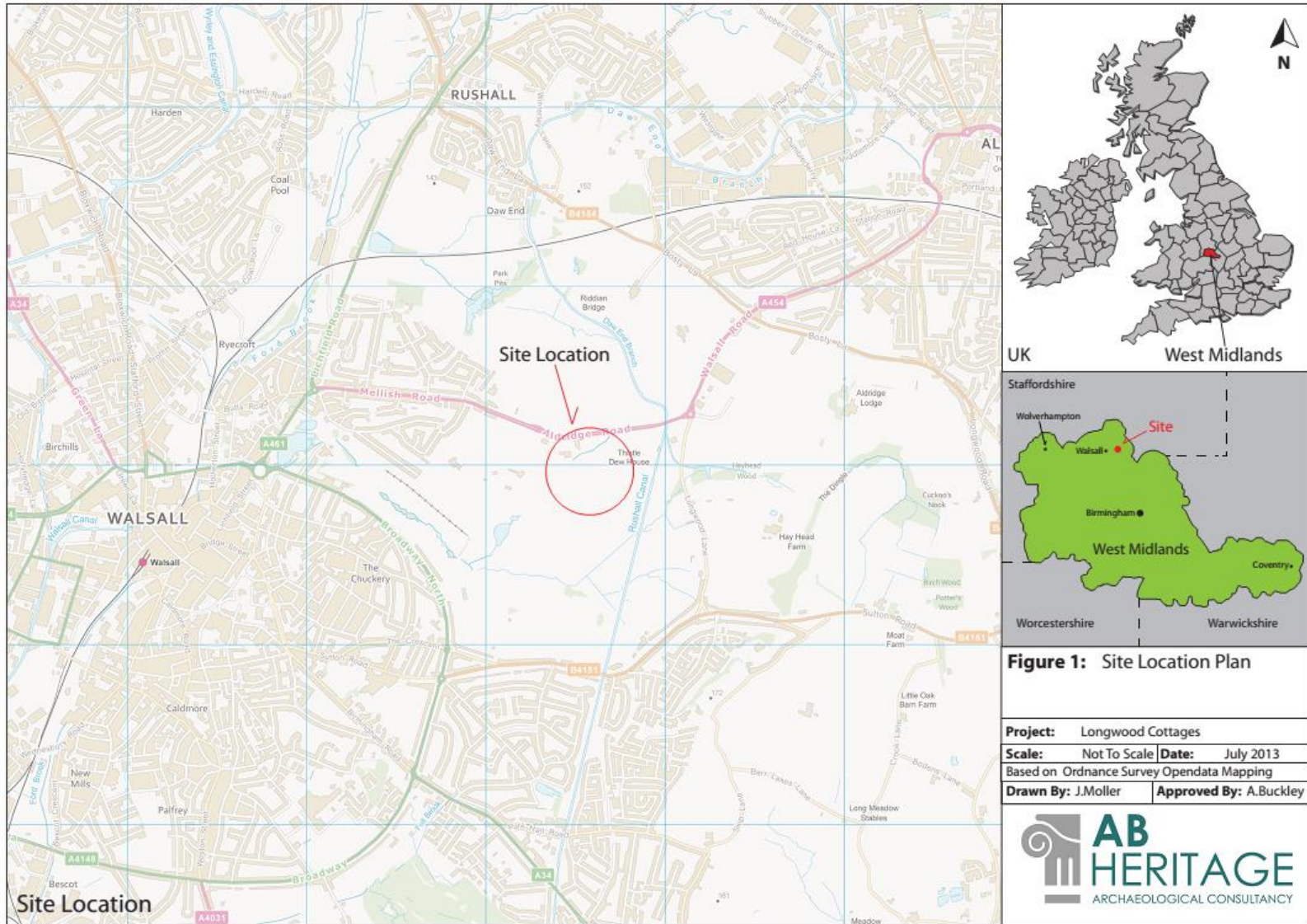
Wolverhampton City Council (2010) Black Country Historic Landscape Characterisation [dataset]. York: Archaeology Data Service [distributor] (doi:10.5284/1000030)

#### **6.4 Other Sources**

English Heritage 1988. Aerial Photograph centred SP 035 992. OS/88249. Library Number 10801

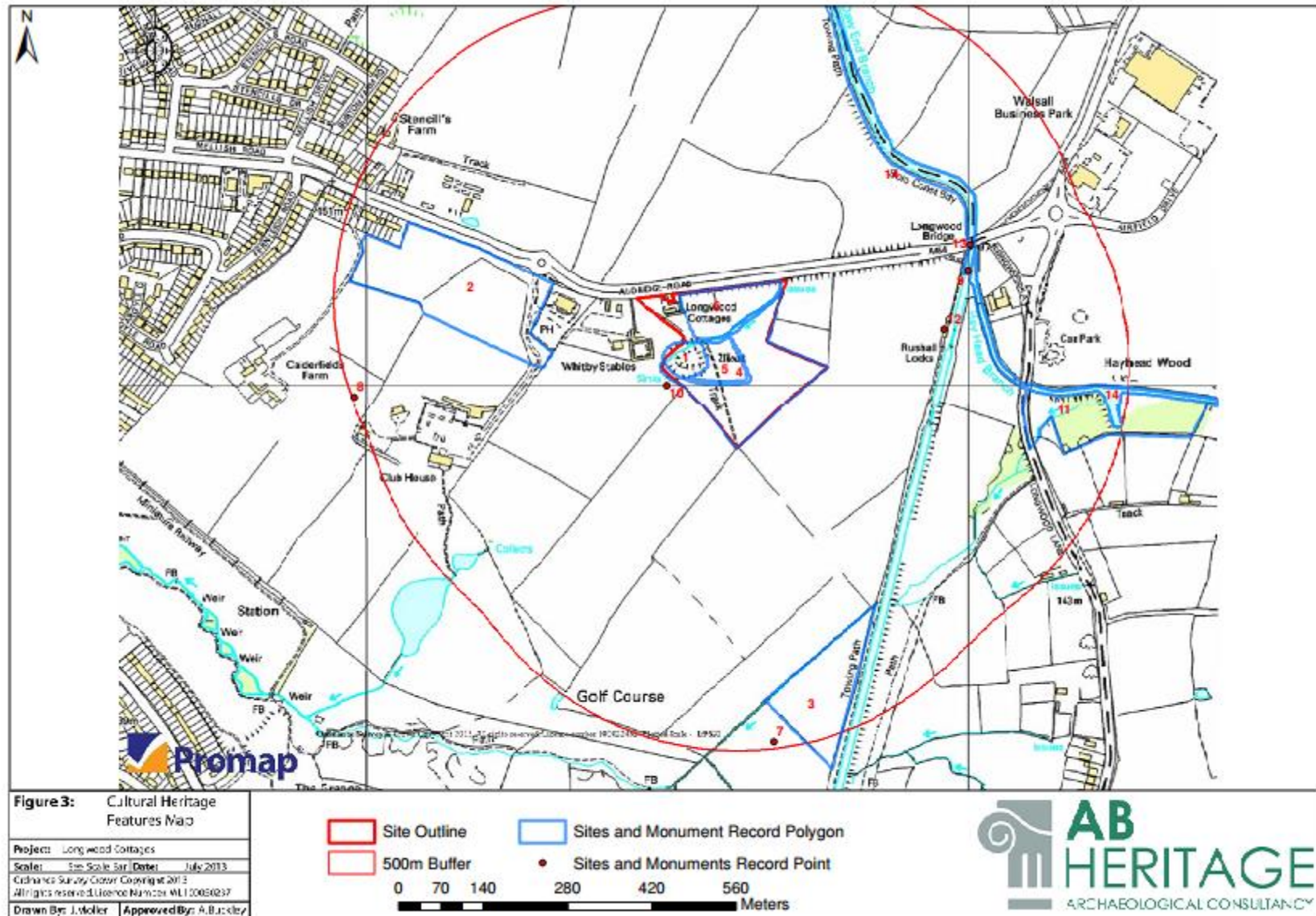
Personal communication between Hannah Simpson (AB Heritage) and Andrew Fuller at Walsall City Council (18.6.2013)

Personal communication between Hannah Simpson (AB Heritage) and Diane Wilkes at Walsall Local History Centre (10.6.2013)











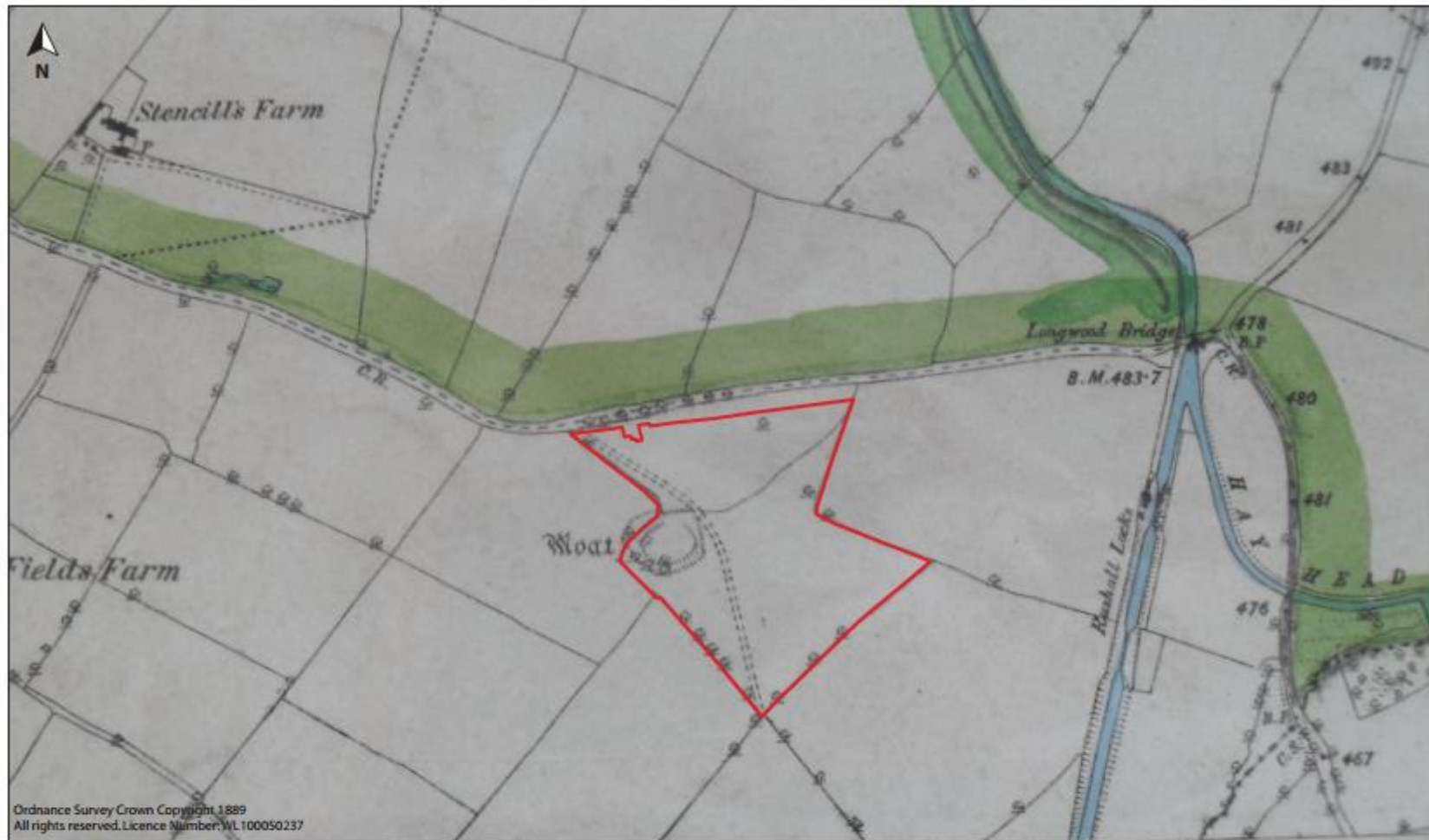
**Figure 4:** 1843 Rushall Tithe Map

Project:	Longwood Cottages
Scale:	Not To Scale
Date:	July 2013
LRO B/A/15/316	
Drawn By:	J.Moller
Approved By:	A.Buckley

□ Site Outline

0m 200m





**Figure 5:** 1889 Ordnance Survey Map

Project:	Longwood Cottages
Scale:	Not To Scale
Date:	July 2013
Based on Ordnance Survey Data	
Drawn By:	J.Moller
Approved By:	A.Buckley

□ Site Outline

0m 200m





Ordnance Survey Crown Copyright 1903.  
 All rights reserved. Licence Number: WL 100050237

<b>Figure 6:</b> 1903 Ordnance Survey Map	
Project:	Longwood Cottages
Scale:	Not To Scale   Date: July 2013
Based on Ordnance Survey Data	
Drawn By:	J.Moller   Approved By: A.Buckley

□ Site Outline





**Figure 7:** LiDAR Composite

<b>Project:</b> Longwood Cottages
<b>Scale:</b> See Scale Bar   <b>Date:</b> July 2013
Environment Agency LiDAR Composite SP0399_DTM_2M, SP0398_DTM_2M (November 2012)
<b>Drawn By:</b> J.Moller   <b>Approved By:</b> A.Buckley



## APPENDIX A

### Gazetteer of Cultural Heritage Features

This gazetteer incorporates all archaeological and historical sites identified on the Black Country Historic Environment Record and other sources within a radius of 500m from the application site boundary.

Abbreviations

REF (BCHER) Black Country Historic Environment Unique Identification (UID)

NGR National Grid Reference

AB no.	PERIOD	TYPE	NAME & DESCRIPTION	REF	STATUS	NGR
1	Medieval	Monument	Sub-rectangular moat by Calderfields Farm with an area of around 1.2ha. Documentary evidence suggests that the moat is of mid-13th century date but that there may have been an earlier building on the sit	BCHER 2686	N/A	SP 0353 9904
2	Medieval	Cropmark/Earthwork	Ridge and Furrow N.E. Of Calder fields Farm	BCHER 8812	N/A	SP 0314 9915
3	Medieval	Cropmark/Earthwork	Ridge and Furrow W. Of Rushall Canal Walsall	BCHER 10322	N/A	SP 0375 9850
4	Medieval	Cropmark/Earthwork	Modern aerial photography of Walsall appears to show an enclosure running off from Calderfields Farm moat.	BCHER 13582	N/A	SP 03635 99018
5	Medieval	Cropmark/Earthwork	Aerial photos show area of ridge and furrow to E of Whitby Stables and of Calderfields Farm moat.	BCHER 13583	N/A	SP 03626 99024
6	Medieval	Cropmark/Earthwork	Aerial photos show area of ridge and furrow to north of Calderfields Farm Moat and east of Longwood cottages. Seriously damaged by illegal tipping in early 1990s	BCHER 13979	N/A	SP 0360 9912

AB no.	PERIOD	TYPE	NAME & DESCRIPTION	REF	STATUS	NGR
7	Medieval	Cropmark/Earthwork	Ridge and Furrow Adj To Rushall Canal; Walsall Arboretum. Running approx NE-SW in grass of golf course. Appears to respect field boundaries.	BCHER 10756	N/A	SP 403670 298378
8	Medieval	Cropmark/Earthwork	Ridge and Furrow E Of Calderfields Farm NW-SE R & F as earthwork under pasture.	BCHER 8811	N/A	SP 402928 298997
9	Post Medieval	Monument	Rushall canal opened 1847, one of last canals to be built.	BCHER 5875	N/A	SP 0400 9919
10	Post Medieval	Hedge	Evidence suggests hedges are of fairly recent origin - possibly no more than a century or two old - maybe the result of a fairly recent enclosure act	BCHER 5897	N/A	SP 0350 9900
11	Post Medieval	Monument	Lime works. Remains of headwork to shaft access to underground mine. Foundations to brick kiln canal basin. Foundation to pumping engine	BCHER 6069	N/A	SP 0437 9894
12	Post Medieval	Building	Canal office, 2 storeys and in 1891 a lockkeeper cottage with toll office	BCHER 8991	N/A	SP 0396 9909
13	Post Medieval	Building	Longwood Bridge	BCHER 10267	N/A	SP 0400 9923
14	Post Medieval	Monument	Hay Head Wood Branch Canal, Short length of canal branching off from main canal.	BCHER 13012	N/A	SP 0403 9907

