

**Lutley Mill, Halesowen,
West Midlands:**

**An Archaeological Desk-
based Assessment 2006**

Project No. 1446

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**Lutley Mill, Halesowen, West Midlands:
An Archaeological Desk-based Assessment. 2006**

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LUTLEY MILL, HALESOWEN, WEST MIDLANDS

CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION	2
2	SITE LOCATION	2
3	AIMS AND OBJECTIVES	2
4	METHODOLOGY	3
5	ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL CONTEXT	3
5.1	PREHISTORIC.....	3
5.2	ROMAN.....	4
5.3	ANGLO-SAXON.....	4
5.4	MEDIEVAL	4
5.5	POST-MEDIEVAL	5
6	HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE STUDY AREA	5
7	CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	6
8	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	8
9	SOURCES	9
9.1	PRIMARY SOURCES	9
9.2	SECONDARY SOURCES	9
9.3	CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES	10

FIGURES

Figure 1:	Location Map
Figure 2:	Study Area
Figure 3:	SMR location plan
Figure 4:	19 th century Estate plan
Figure 5:	1842 Tithe Map
Figure 6:	1883 Ordnance Survey 1 st Edition
Figure 7:	1903-4 Ordnance Survey 2 nd Edition
Figure 8:	1919-20 Ordnance Survey 3 rd Edition
Figure 9:	1937-8 Ordnance Survey 4 th Edition
Figure 10:	1954-5 Ordnance Survey Edition

PLATES

- Plate 1: Looking north to Lutley Mill, pond and Pudding Brook to the right
Plate 2: Looking south from Lutley Mill, pond and Pudding Brook to the left
Plate 3: Looking north to Lutley Mill and garden

APPENDIX

Brief for Archaeological Desktop Assessment. Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council.

*Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Desk-based Assessment
On land at the site of Lutley Mill, Halesowen, West Midlands. Birmingham Archaeology.*

SUMMARY

An archaeological desk-based assessment of land at Lutley Mill, Halesowen, West Midlands (NGR SO 949836) was undertaken by Birmingham Archaeology in May 2006, on behalf of Messrs Knowles and Mitchells, Mr Cartwright and Mr Clifford. Lutley Mill is a Grade II listed building located within the Lutley Mill Conservation Area. The aim of the assessment was to identify the extent, survival and significance of any archaeological remains on the site as part of the pre-application discussion of a proposed development to cease using the existing Lutley Mill Bridge for vehicular access and to create an alternative vehicular route. All readily available documentary, cartographic and published sources were examined, including the archive held at Lutley Mill, and a site visit was made in order to identify topographic features which may influence the presence of in-situ archaeological deposits. The assessment highlighted the fact that there is evidence of activity in the area since the Mesolithic period, and there is a high potential for the presence and survival of archaeological features and deposits. The assessment further highlighted, however, that the later activity associated with the construction of the mill buildings and millpond, though of archaeological and historical merit itself, is likely to have truncated earlier deposits present in this area.

**LUTLEY MILL, HALESOWEN, WEST MIDLANDS:
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT, 2006.**

1 INTRODUCTION

In May 2006 Birmingham Archaeology carried out an archaeological desk-based assessment of land adjacent to Lutley Mill (hereafter referred to as the study area). The work was commissioned by Messrs Knowles and Mitchells, Mr Cartwright and Mr Clifford in advance of a pre-application discussion concerning an alternative road avoiding Lutley Mill Bridge.

This report outlines the results of the assessment, which was carried out during May 2006, and which was prepared in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologists Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (IFA 1999).

The assessment conformed to a brief produced by Dudley Council (see Appendix), and a Written Scheme of Investigation (Birmingham Archaeology 2006), which was approved by the Local Planning Authority prior to implementation, in accordance with guidelines laid down in Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (DoE 1990).

2 SITE LOCATION

Lutley Mill is a Grade II listed building located within the Lutley Mill Conservation Area (Fig. 1). In addition, the site is designated in the adopted Unitary Development Plan as Green Belt, Landscape Heritage Area and Linear Open Space as well as being a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation.

The study area is located between Lutley Lane and Pudding Brook, centred on NGR SO 949836 (Figs. 1 and 2), and is situated on the east facing slope of a ridge of higher ground between the Pudding Brook and Lutley Gutter to the west. Lutley Mill itself is on a steep north facing slope, and to the north of the study area these watercourses converge and join the River Stour. Five miles to the south of the study area is the Clent Hills, and to the east, north and northwest of the site is modern housing.

The present character of the site is partially landscaped garden, and partially open fields.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The principle aim of the project was to assess the survival and potential significance of any archaeology within the study area by collating existing archaeological and historical information for the site and its immediate environs and placing it in its local, regional and national context.

More specific aims were to:

- Compile a summary history of the development and land use within the study area
- Assess the historical/archaeological development of the assessment site and provide a description of any surviving landscape/earthwork features
- Assess the archaeological potential of the study area using the PPG 16 Annex 4 criteria taking account of, where possible, the location, type, likely date, nature and depths of the remains

- Assess the degree of disturbance or destruction to potential archaeological remains by existing or previous structures or events
- Assess the possible impact of the proposed development upon the archaeological resource
- To place the site within a local context referring to other similar local mill sites where appropriate
- To contribute factual data to the knowledge on the history and archaeological development of Dudley
- To assist the client in advancing towards having enough information in order that a planning application for the site can be registered

This information will be used to inform a mitigation strategy for future archaeological work on the site (see Section 7 below).

4 METHODOLOGY

A search of all relevant and readily available published and non-published documentary sources, including historic maps, was carried out at Dudley Archives and Local History Centre, and the Library of the University of Birmingham. The Dudley Sites and Monuments Record, the main source of archaeological information for Dudley, was also consulted (Fig. 3), as were the archives held at Lutley Mill.

In addition, a walkover of the study area was undertaken in order to assess the topography and any above-ground archaeology, including standing buildings.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL CONTEXT

The study area lies on a ridge of land between Pudding Brook and Lutley Gutter (Figs. 2 and 3). To the north these watercourses converge, and further north join with the River Stour. Archaeological evidence, predominantly from fieldwalking, and the study of aerial photographs indicates that the area has been intensively occupied since the prehistoric period.

5.1 Prehistoric

A Palaeolithic worked flint was recovered during fieldwalking in the area to the south of the study area (Hemingway pers. comm.). However, this is unlikely to be an *in-situ* find given the dramatic changes in the landscape since the Palaeolithic period.

Many Mesolithic and Neolithic flint scatters have been recovered during fieldwalking in the fields to the southwest of the study area. These include a collection of cores, flakes, blades, a microlith, a scraper and an arrowhead (SMR 7020), and other scatters (SMR 4862, SMR 4863, SMR 7038, SMR 7410 and SMR 7801) dated to the Mesolithic period, and a denticulated blade (SMR 12049) and a flint scatter (4142) dated to the Neolithic period. Flint is not natural to the area, and in addition, some of the tools identified are made from a buff coloured stone which is rare to use as a material (Hemingway pers. comm.).

Cropmarks identified from aerial photographs, which are thought possibly to date to the Bronze Age include a ring ditch (SMR 7633).

Other cropmarks in the area that possibly indicate the presence of circular and sub-circular enclosures, and regional and imported pottery sherds that have been found in clusters across the area, also attest to Iron Age settlement (Boland 2006). Evidence for activity in the wider

area during the Iron Age period is present to the southwest of the study area at Wychbury Hill, an Iron Age hill fort (Fig. 1).

5.2 Roman

There is much evidence of Roman activity in the area in the form of pottery spot finds including Samian ware (SMR 4870, SMR 7021, SMR 7025, SMR 7125, SMR 7534, SMR 7590, SMR 7802 and SMR 12395). Beads (including SMR 7578), a lead plumbob (SMR 12040) and a spindle whorl (SMR 12041) have also been identified from fieldwalking assemblages, and are suggestive of domestic occupation. A bronze key, also dating to the Roman period, has also been found in the area (SMR 7579). These finds seem to cease abruptly in a line to the south of Lutley Mill, possibly indicating a boundary in this area. However, evidence based on fieldwalking can be biased so it cannot be ruled out that this boundary is representative of the level of fieldwalking activity in any particular area rather than an absence of evidence itself.

There are no Roman roads mentioned in the area by Margary (1967), the closest known roads run from Greensforge (Stourbridge) to Droitwich approximately 3 miles to the west of the study area, and Birmingham to Bromsgrove, Droitwich and Gloucester approximately 5 miles to the southeast. However, the Roman forts at Metchley (Birmingham) and Greensforge (Stourbridge) are contemporary 1st century forts, and it is possible that there was a road that ran directly between them, which would pass to the north. The study area would then be situated between the conjectured road and the Iron Age hillfort at Wychbury.

5.3 Anglo-Saxon

Evidence of settlement during the Anglo-Saxon period around the study area can be ascertained from place-name etymology. The suffix 'ley' – 'lēah' is not uncommon in the area, and is taken to mean 'forest, wood, glade, clearing' (Gelling 1984, 198). There are several placenames around the study area (including Lutley, Cradley, Romsley, Hagley), which are indicative of Anglo-Saxon origins. The name 'Dudley' is thought to be derived from a personal name Dudda and the Old English term for a woodland estate leah; hence 'Dudda's Leah' (Boland *et al*, 2004). Several metal objects and glass beads thought to be Anglo-Saxon in date have also been recovered near the study area (Boland 2006). These include SMR 12294 (listed at present as Romano-British in date), and may be part of a burial site (Hemingway pers. comm.).

5.4 Medieval

The village of Lutley lies to the south of the study area, and comprises a settlement around a triangular green. This is an unusual pattern of settlement not seen much in Worcestershire, though other examples have been noted in the area (Hemingway pers. comm.). The present farms surrounding the green are likely 16th century in date, though may have earlier origins (*ibid.*). The Victoria County History for Worcestershire (VCH Vol III 1913, p136-146) describes Lutley Manor as being held by the secular canons of Wolverhampton at the time of the Domesday Survey, after possibly being granted by the lady Wulfrun in 996 to the college which she endowed at Wolverhampton. There is little to suggest that Lutley itself was ever more than a small collection of farmsteads.

There is, however, documentation dating to the 12th century for a mill at Cradley, and it is possible that this was on the site of Lutley Mill (Beardsley 1969). The mill itself is equidistant between Lutley and Cradley. There is still mention of a mill during the first half of the 16th century when the course of the stream which formed the boundary between Staffordshire and Worcestershire had been altered, but during the latter half of the 16th century in the reign of

Elizabeth I, a survey of John Lyttelton's lands make no mention of a mill at Cradley (VCH III 1913, p136-146). It has been suggested by Beardsley (1969, 40) that references to the creation of a fish-pond or 'damme head' for a pond called Birches Mill Pond (VCH III 1913, p136-146), may be Lutley Mill pond. If this is the case then the shape of the southern end of the millpond depicted on the 19th century estate map (Fig. 4) and the Tithe map of 1842 (Fig. 5) may be this fish-pond.

5.5 Post-medieval

While the Industrial Revolution and population explosion during the post-medieval period wrought enormous changes to the landscape of the region, Lutley itself remained sparsely populated and predominantly agricultural. By the time of Kelly's Directory of Worcestershire 1896, only 8 people are listed at Lutley, and of these 6 were farmers. The present mill at Lutley dates from the 17th century, and was originally owned by Sir Charles Lyttelton.

6 HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE STUDY AREA

The archive held at Lutley Mill dates back to the 17th century (Boland 2006, Knowles pers. comm.), though the earliest document consulted was an indenture of 1709, an abstract of Title to a freehold (copyhold) and Leasehold mill lands and premises situated at Lutley and Hasbury in the counties of Worcester and Shropshire. The indenture was between '*Sir Charles Lyttelton of Hagley in the Country of Worcester Knight Baronet Lord of the Manor of Halesowen and Thomas Lyttelton Esquire son and heir apparent of Said Sir Charles Lyttelton of the one part and John Richards of Lutley*'. John Richards '*well and truly paid the sum of £4*' to the Lyttletons.

From June 1732 there are indentures of lease, release and assignment between Francis Ely of Oldbury (miller) and Joice his wife and Isaac Cannop of Halesowen (yeoman) and Elianor his wife. Joice and Elianor were daughters of John Richards then late of Ludley (miller) deceased of the one part and Robert Richards of Amblecoat (miller and son of John Richards).

From 1746 there are indentures of lease, release and assignment made between Robert Richards, Bate Richards and Joseph Stokes of Dudley (baker). From 1770 there are indentures of lease and release between Bate Richards, Robert Richards, Mary Dancer of Stourbridge, John Bate of Dudley and John Wells of Stourbridge (baker and maltster).

In 1786, Richard Eaton renewed his lease of Lutley Mill from Bate Richards, a Stourbridge maltster and the mill was still described as a Water Corn Mill though it was probably, by this time, a forge as well (Barnsley 1969, 40). In 1787 Eaton also purchased the lease on Shilton Mill (*ibid.*), and in 1791 made his will in which he bequeathed both mills to his son, Richard Augustus Eaton. By the time Richard Augustus Eaton reached 21, he had surrendered his copyhold land to the Lady of the Manor of the Deanery of Wolverhampton to secure money owing to Francis Rufford and Thomas Biggs, two Stourbridge bankers. His leasehold interests were also mortgaged, and the subsequent history of Eaton's tenure of the mills is one of continual financial struggle (*ibid.*, 41).

Lutley Mill still ground corn, but like all such mills, had to forge metal as well if it was to remain a going concern. Lutley Mill made gun-barrels, and when Richard Augustus Eaton assumed control of the mill, he could not have foreseen the depression in the gun trade which was soon to come. With the end of the Napoleonic Wars, the trade fell into decline (*ibid.*).

In 1822 he again mortgaged his property and it is possible that the money raised by this mortgage was used for rebuilding, or at least altering, the mill building. It is likely that this rebuilding included changes to the external features of the mill such as the pond. Two plaques in the mill structure mark the Shropshire-Worcestershire boundary and bear the date 1823. In July 1824 the mortgage was transferred to Messrs. Rufford and Biggs and in 1832, Eaton sold all the freehold, copyhold and leasehold interests that he possessed, with a right to repurchase within 14 years. He then paid rent on the mills. By this time, both Lutley Mill and Shilton Mill were supplemented by steam engines. Eaton later went bankrupt, and in 1838 Rufford bought both Lutley and Shilton Mill (ibid, 45).

The Tithe map of 1842 (Fig. 5) names Francis Rufford as owner of Lutley Mill and James Morris as his tenant. The census returns for Lutley in 1851 list William Hulstone as farmer and miller, who may have been at Lutley Mill (ibid. 45). The archive held at Lutley Farm contains memorandums of agreements concerning Lutley between Francis Rufford and Charles Birch dated to 1853 and 1855. It is possible that the estate plan (Fig. 4) and details of particulars date to this period. These maps show that the millpond came very close to the house and mill buildings.

The archive also contains agreements concerning the Mines and Minerals of Lutley Mill Estate between Charles Birch and Benjamin Gibbons dated to 1859 and 1860, and the estate was sold at auction by Mr Henry King (Berry v Gibbons) on February 18th 1870.

The Ordnance Survey First Edition 1883 (Fig. 6) describes Lutley Mill as a corn mill, and shows the outline of the millpond as little changed since the earlier estate and tithe maps.

Kelly's Directory of Worcestershire 1892 lists Richard Fletcher as a miller (water) at Lutley Mill, and also lists him in the directory of 1896. However, in Kelly's Directory of Worcestershire 1900, there is no mention of the mill, or of any millers in the Lutley area. The Ordnance Survey Second Edition of 1903-4 (Fig. 7) describes Lutley Mill as disused, and shows that at least part of the millpond had been infilled. There is little change between this map and the Ordnance Survey Third Edition of 1919-20 (Fig. 8), though by the Ordnance Survey Edition of 1937-8 (Fig. 9), the whole of the millpond now has been infilled. By the time of the Ordnance Survey Edition of 1954-5 (Fig. 10), the modern housing development to the east had been erected. The course of the Pudding Brook also appears to have been diverted slightly and flowed under Lutley Bridge.

The walkover survey noted that while the millpond was filled in, the possible outline determined by thick vegetation was still visible on the ground on the western side of the Pudding Brook (Fig. 2, Plates 1 and 2). To the south of the house and east of the brook, the garden was landscaped (Plate 3).

7 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Lutley Mill was originally owned by the Lyttleton family, who also owned Hagley Hall to the southwest of the study area, and constructed the Wychbury Obelisk in 1758 (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clent_Hills). From this website, there is a story concerning Lord Lyttleton:

"He also had constructed many other follies including a Temple of Theseus, other small Greek and Roman temples, a full sized ruined castle and 'The Four Stones' on top of Clent Hill. Some suggest that Lyttelton raised the Four Stones to annoy the Earl of Dudley, who had boasted that from his estate, Himley Hall, he could see no man-made structures."

While this story may not be true, it serves a purpose in highlighting the importance of visualising the landscape as a whole when assessing previous land use. From Wychbury Hill, which had been the focus of settlement at least during the Iron Age, Lutley and Lutley Mill would have been visible. Indeed on a clear day the Clee Hills to the northwest are visible from this point.

There is strong evidence to suggest that the study area has been subject to occupation and activity since the Mesolithic period, due in no small part to the favourable topography and natural resources of the area as a whole. The ridge of higher ground between Lutley Gutter and Pudding Brook, which flow from the Clent Hills to the south to the River Stour to the north, would have been prime real estate for thousands of years. The watercourses especially would have also been an important resource in terms of communication routes and later, power for the mill.

The density of activity within the study area is in itself important. It has been noted by Barfield (2002) that on the higher ground between the Severn and Avon (eg. The Clent Hills, and the Nuneaton area) Mesolithic assemblages seem to predominate, and the flint assemblages identified by extensive fieldwalking to the south of the study area constitute a major Mesolithic site (Hodder 2002). Fieldwalking assemblages also attest to the continuation of human activity in the area into the Neolithic and Bronze Age periods, and aerial photographic analysis also suggests the survival of below-ground archaeological deposits to the south of the study area from the Bronze Age and Iron Age (Boland 2006). Continuity of settlement and land use is further demonstrated into the Roman period, and possibly into the Anglo-Saxon period.

During the Medieval period Lutley is likely to have been little more than a small rural settlement centred around a triangular green. It is possible that the mill recorded at Cradley during the Medieval period is at the location of Lutley Mill (Barnsley 1969). It is further recorded that the course of the Pudding Brook was altered in the first half of the 16th century, and a fish pond was possibly constructed at Lutley Mill millpond in the latter half of the 16th century. If this is the case then the outline of the southern end of the millpond visible on the estate map and Tithe map (Figs. 4 and 5) may be this fishpond, which suggests that any alterations to the external water management features such as the mill pond, associated with the rebuilding of Lutley Mill in the early 19th century were concentrated to the north, closer to the mill buildings.

Changes to the landscape surrounding the mill also occurred with the infilling of the mill pond, and the garden landscaping.

While much of the archaeological activity in the area can only be inferred from the identification of surface remains, it is still possible to assess the archaeological potential of the area using the PPG 16 Annex 4 criteria.

(i) Period – There is the potential for archaeological deposits of all periods from the Mesolithic to the post-medieval period to be present within the study area as a whole.

(ii) Rarity – Evidence for activity during the prehistoric period, especially the Mesolithic period, is rare in a national context. In general undisturbed archaeological deposits are not common in the region due to the urbanisation of much of the area. As a result of the dramatic changes to the landscape in the post-medieval period, mill buildings and their associated earthworks also have some rarity value, though can not be considered so rare as earlier features and deposits.

(iii) Documentation – Lutley Mill holds indentures and other documents concerning both Lutley and Shilton Mill dating back three hundred years, which greatly enhances our understanding and knowledge of the origins, ownership and evolution of this mill, and is also of interest in understanding the origins and evolution of mills of this period in general.

(iv) Group Value – The potential archaeological deposits from the prehistoric and Roman periods have additional group value when viewed in the context of continuity of land use and settlement throughout these periods. The mill buildings, the bridge and earthworks relating to the millpond also have group value when viewed as one archaeological entity rather than separate ones.

(v) Survival/Condition – It is unlikely that the land to the south of Lutley Mill has ever been anything other than farmland since the Medieval period, and as a consequence, the potential survival of archaeological deposits earlier than this must be considered high in the south of the study area. However, the potential survival of these features decreases dramatically to the north of the study area in the vicinity of the mill and millpond, as the creation of the millpond may well have truncated any earlier deposits. There is also the potential for survival of deposits relating to the possible 16th century fishpond. The survival and condition of the mill itself and associated features such as the bridge and dam is also good in places, though some of these features may have been truncated by later garden landscaping.

(vi) Fragility/Vulnerability – All below-ground archaeological deposits can be considered to some extent fragile as any below-ground works are likely to affect them. However, archaeological deposits associated with the prehistoric period can be seen as particularly vulnerable, as are any environmental deposits present, which may be destroyed by potential alterations to the water table. The infilled millpond, however, may be considered not especially vulnerable so long as significant below ground works are not undertaken.

(vii) Diversity – post-medieval mills are a relatively diverse monument class, and as such this increases the archaeological importance of the mill buildings. As external mill features are largely dependant on the topography of the area, these also have high diversity. It is not possible to assess the diversity of any earlier archaeological deposits in the study area.

As such it can be seen that the archaeological potential of the study area is good, especially to the south of the study area, with possible features and deposits dating from the Mesolithic period onwards from the vicinity of the southern extent of the mill pond continuing south. The possible rebuilding of Lutley Mill in the early 19th century very likely also included additions and alterations to the external mill features such as the pond, and as such, earlier deposits in this area are likely to have been truncated. While the mill and its environs are in and of themselves an important archaeological and historical resource, the 20th century garden landscaping and the infilling of the mill pond suggests that the impact of a new access route, avoiding Lutley Bridge, would be significantly less to the north of the study area than to the south, where earlier deposits may survive.

8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The project was commissioned by Messrs Knowles and Mitchells, Mr Cartwright and Mr Clifford. Thanks are due to the clients for their co-operation and assistance throughout the project, especially Mr Knowles who made available the Lutley Mill archive and Mr Cartwright who initially commissioned the assessment. Thanks also go to John Hemingway and Jayne Pilkington for their advice and the SMR information and to Pete Boland, Principal Conservation Officer, who monitored the project on behalf of Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council. The

assessment was undertaken by Eleanor Ramsey and Erica Macey-Bracken. Eleanor Ramsey produced the written report which was illustrated by Nigel Dodds, and edited by Mark Hewson who also monitored the project for Birmingham Archaeology.

9 SOURCES

9.1 Primary Sources

Various documents and letters held at Lutley Mill

Kelly's Directory of Worcestershire 1892

Kelly's Directory of Worcestershire 1896

Kelly's Directory of Worcestershire 1900

9.2 Secondary Sources

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<http://historicaldirectories.org>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clent_Hills

http://www.iaa.bham.ac.uk/research/fieldwork_research_themes/projects/wmrrfa/seminars.htm

9.3 Cartographic Sources

19th century Estate map

1842 Tithe Map

1883 Ordnance Survey 1st Edition 1:2500

1903-4 Ordnance Survey 2nd Edition 1:2500

1919-20 Ordnance Survey 3rd Edition 1:2500

1937-8 Ordnance Survey 4th Edition 1:2500

1954-5 Ordnance Survey Edition 1:2500

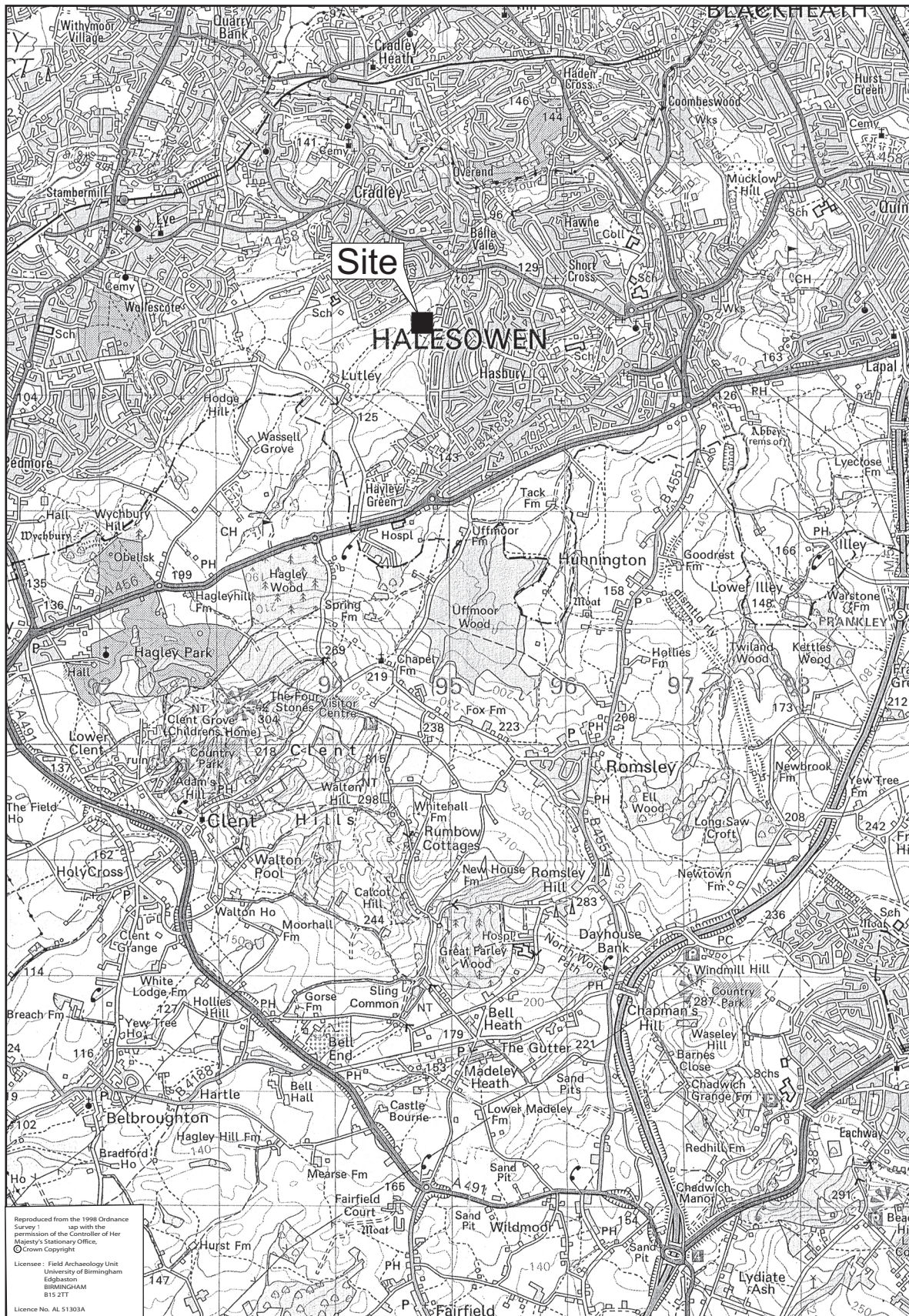


Fig.1

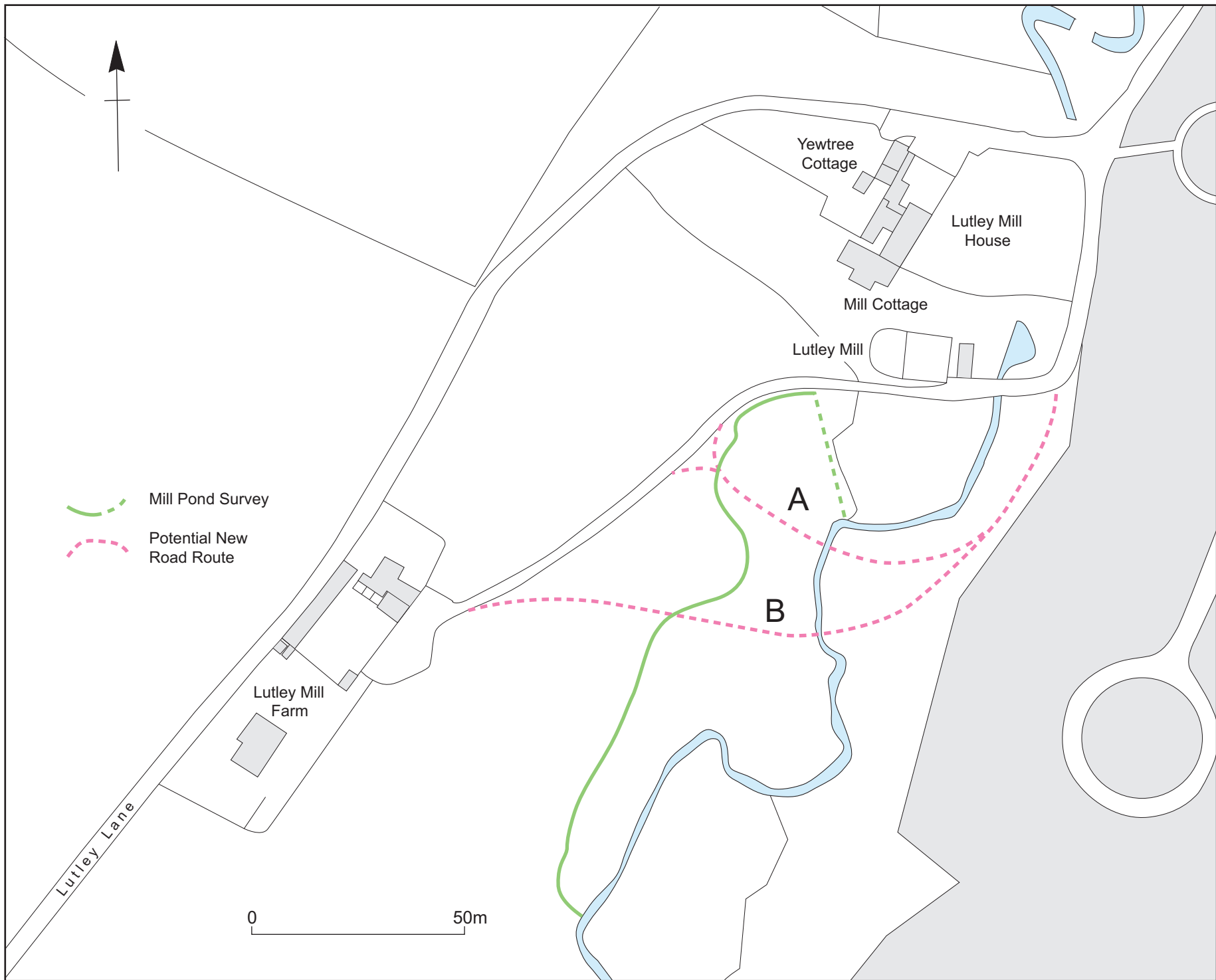


Fig.2

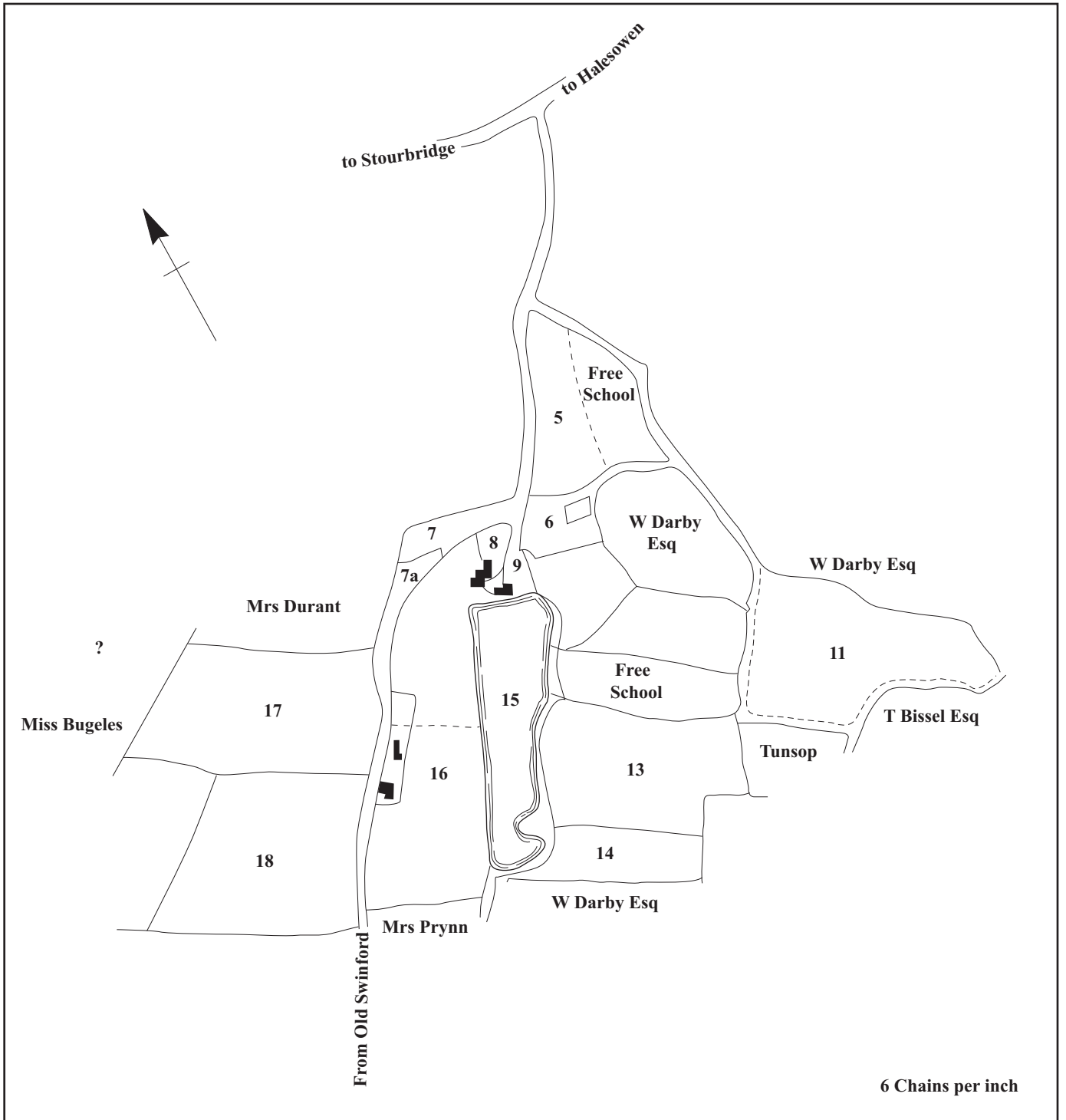


Fig.4

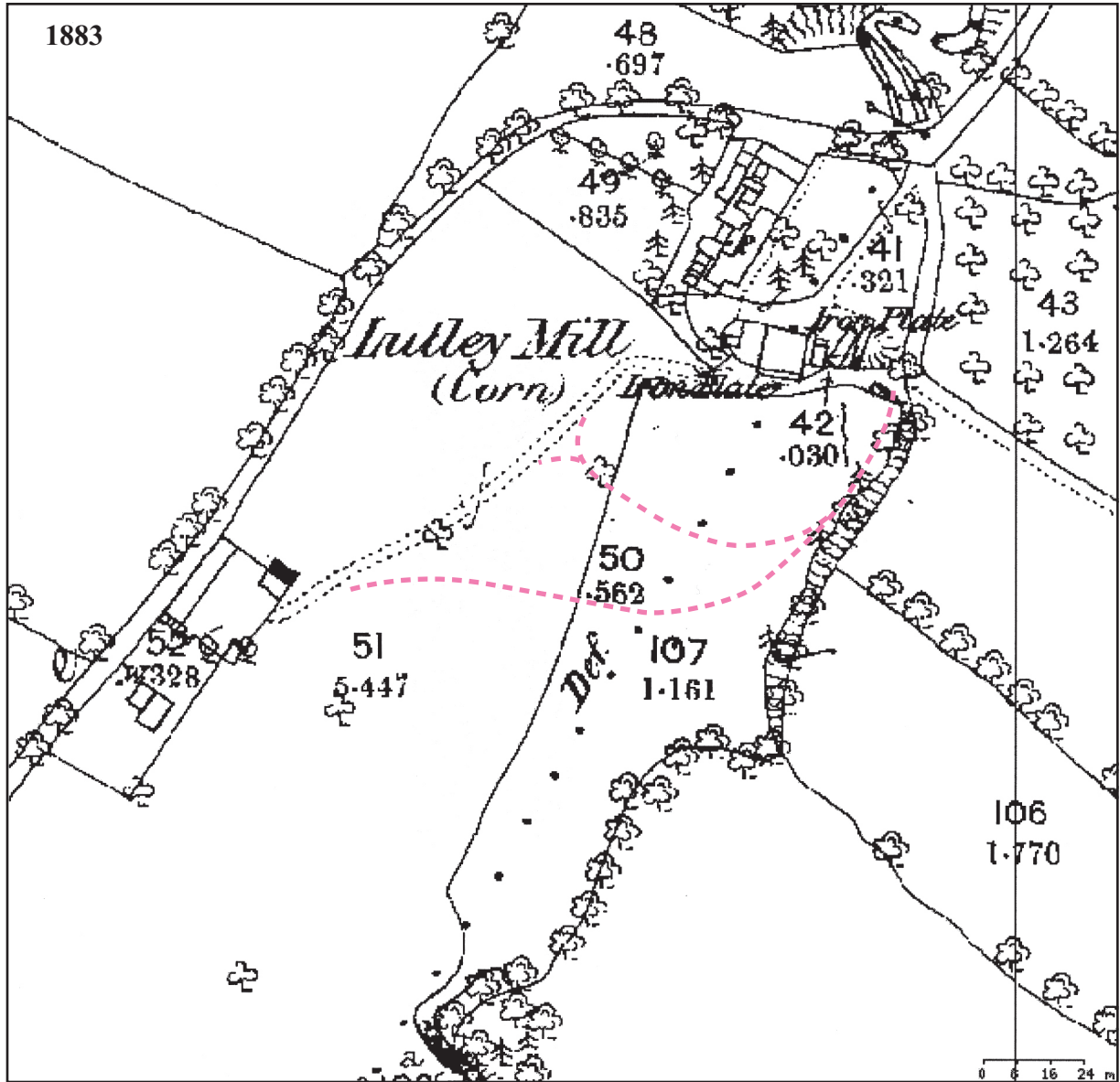


Fig.6

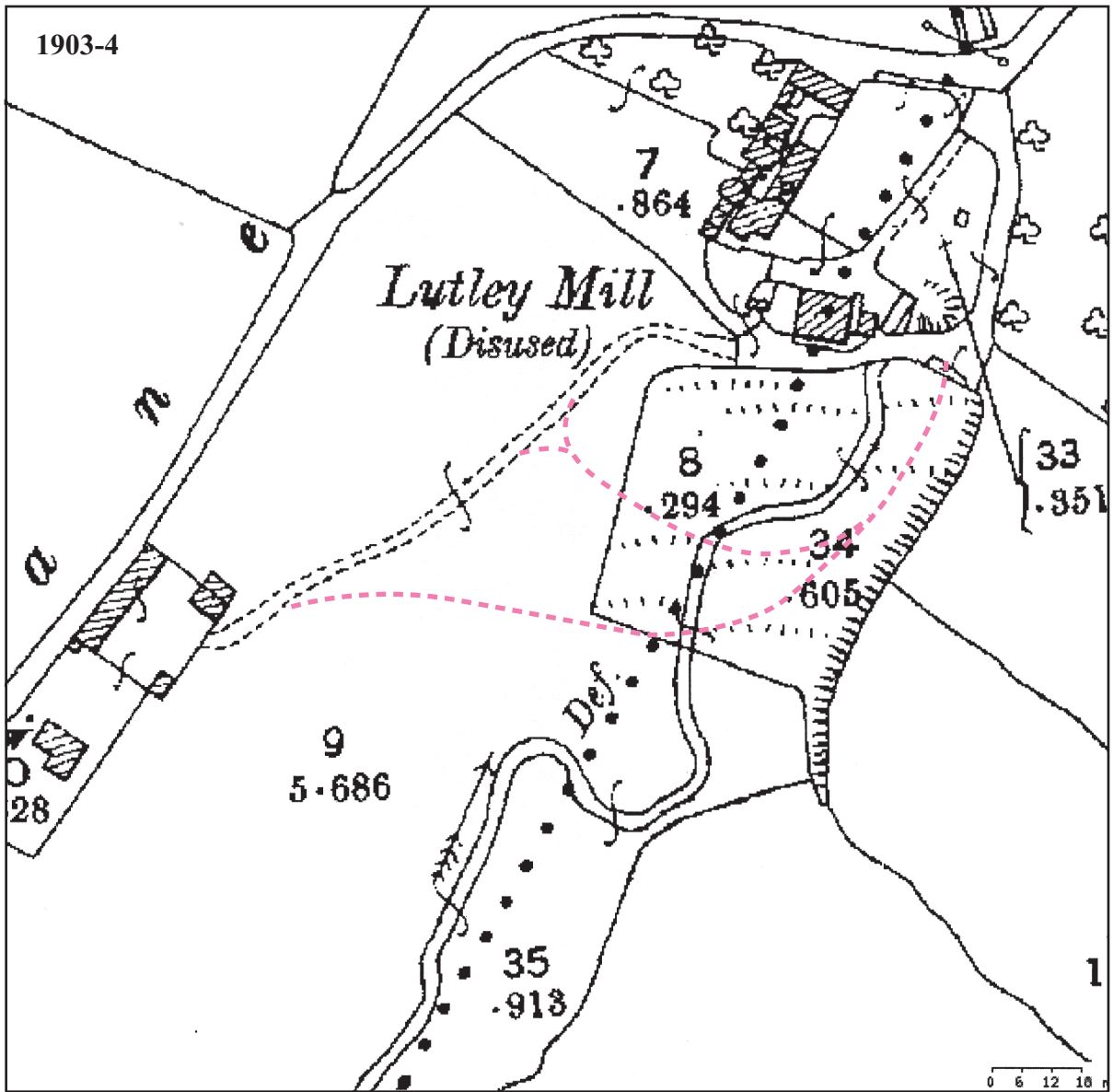


Fig.7

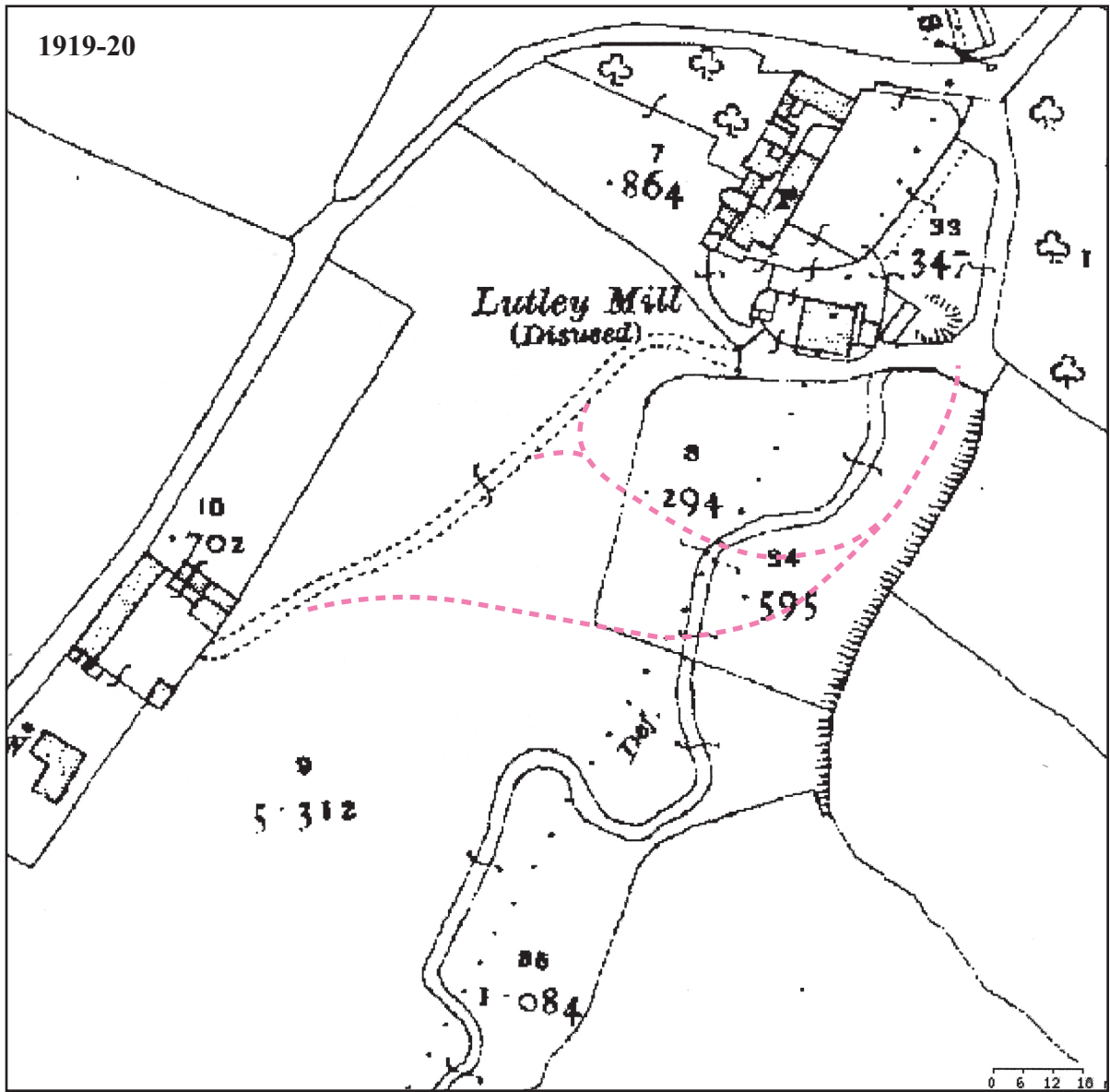


Fig.8

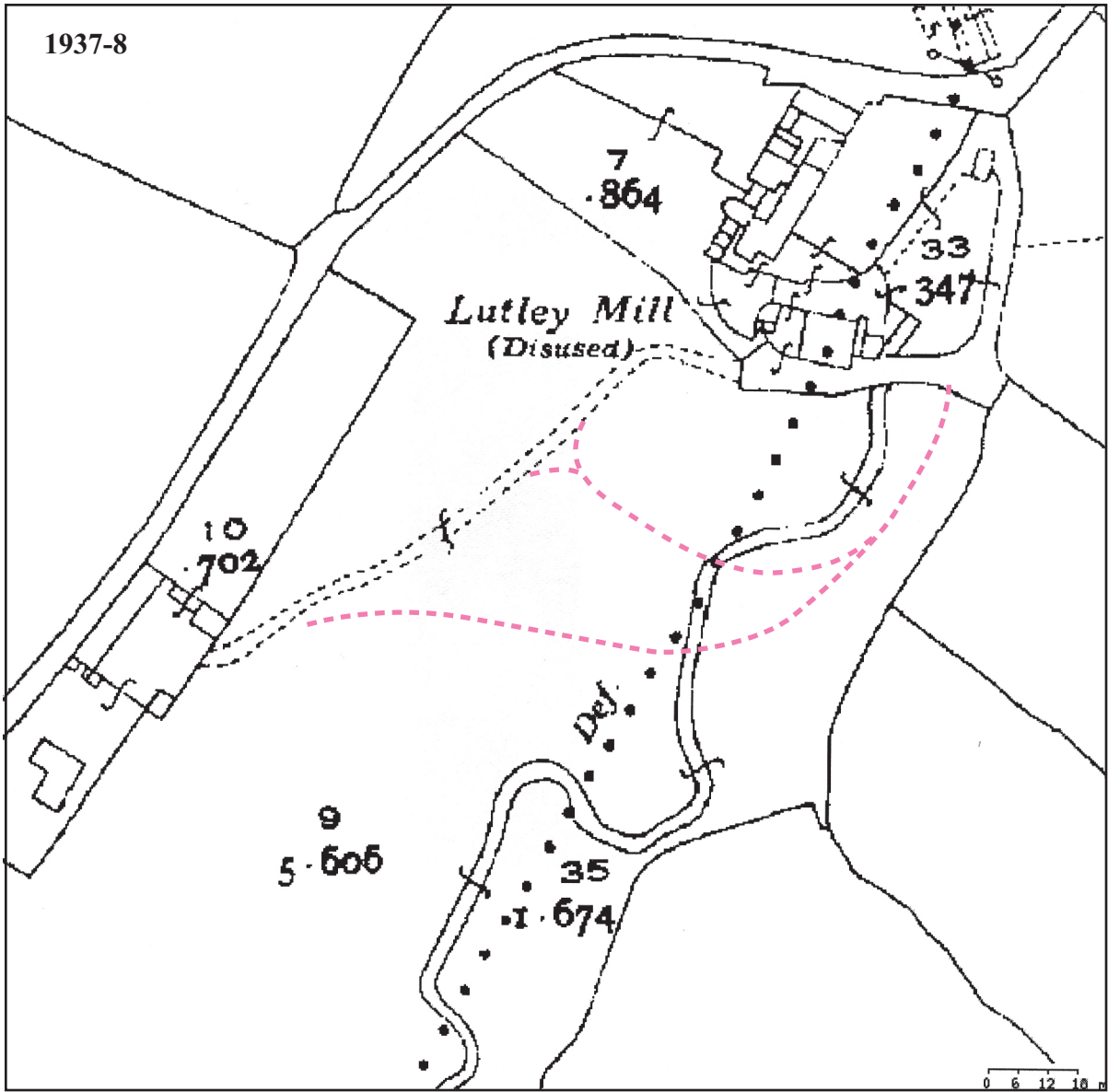


Fig.9



Plate 1



Plate 2



Plate 3

**Written Scheme of Investigation for an
Archaeological Desk-based Assessment
On land at the site of Lutley Mill,
Halesowen, West Midlands.
Client: Mr Kevin Cartwright.
Archaeological Contractor: Birmingham Archaeology**



Birmingham Archaeology

1.0 Introduction

This document details the programme of work required to undertake a desk-based assessment of the above site. It forms a written scheme of investigation as requested by Mr. P. Boland, Principal Conservation Officer/ Borough Archaeologist for Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council. The investigation is required in advance of a planning application to provide an access route. Any variation in the scope of work would be agreed with the above, on behalf of Dudley MBC before implementation.

The assessment will be carried out prior to any development at the site and is intended to provide a record of any historical and potentially significant archaeological evidence, which might be present in the immediate environment.

2.0 Site Location

Lutley Mill a Grade II listed building site is located within the Lutley Mill Conservation Area (NGR SO 950 837). It is also designated in the adopted Unitary Development Plan as Green Belt, Landscape Heritage Area and Linear Open Space as well as being a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation.

3.0 Historical and Archaeological Background

An extensive archive of material dating back to the 17th century resides with the current mill owners. This will provide an important addition to information derived from other sources during researching for this project.

Lutley Mill is described in its official listing as 'Early 19th century restored. On the site of at least one earlier mill. Red brick. Built on steeply sloping ground giving 2 storeys on south side and 4 storeys on north side.' (DoE). The mill was principally used for corn grinding but also at times was used as a forge for the production of gun barrels.

The valley in which the mill is situated has also been a source of Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic flint tools, recovered during field walking exercises in the valley of Pudding Brook. Aerial photographic evidence reveals cropmarks indicating the possible presence of circular and sub-circular enclosures, of possible Bronze or Iron Age. In addition, artefacts dating to the Iron Age and probable Anglo-Saxon period have also been recovered.

4.0 Objectives

The objectives of the desk-based assessment will be

- To define the likely extent, survival and significance of archaeological remains in the area of proposed development and the possible impact of the proposed development upon the archaeological resource.
- To assess the archaeological potential of the study area using the PPG16 Annex 4 criteria taking account of, where possible, the location, type, likely date, nature and depths of the remains (possibly including an earthwork survey).
- To compile a summary history of the development and land use within the study area and to place the site within a local context referring to other similar, local mill sites where appropriate.
- To contribute factual data to the knowledge of the history and development of Dudley.
- To assess the degree of disturbance or destruction to potential archaeological remains by existing or previous structures or events.
- To determine the need for further archaeological assessment by field evaluation in advance of consideration of development proposals.
- To determine the need for preservation of archaeological remains, and/or further archaeological work in advance of or during development.
- To assist the client in advancing towards having enough information in order that a planning application for the site can be registered.

5.0 Methodology

The desk-based assessment will draw upon existing resources at Birmingham Archaeology, and will comprise a site inspection and an examination of published and unpublished written records, illustrations and maps, any available trial pit and borehole data and photographic data. In addition, the sources residing in the archive at Lutley Mill itself will be consulted, with the permission of the owners. All appropriate sources recommended by the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessments* (Institute of Field Archaeologists 1999) will be consulted, in particular the Conservation Area Character Appraisal for Dudley Town Centre and the Dudley MBC Sites and Monuments Record.

6.0 Staffing

The project will be managed for Birmingham Archaeology by Mark Hewson, BA, Ph.D AIFA, and undertaken by Eleanor Ramsey. The work will be carried out in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessment* (1999).

7.0 Report

The results of the archaeological fieldwork will be described in an illustrated report, which will contain the following:

- Non-technical summary
- Introduction
- Site location
- Objectives
- Methods
- Historical and archaeological context
- Historical development of the study area
- Assessment of archaeological significance
- Conclusions
- References
- Appropriate illustrations including historic maps and photographs

A copy of the report will be sent to the Black Country Sites and Monuments Record in Wolverhampton and a summary of the work will be offered to West Midlands Archaeology and any other appropriate journal.

8.0: Health and Safety

All work will be carried out in observance of Health and Safety Policy as outlined in SCAUM Manual, Health & Safety in Field Archaeology, 1997.

9.0: General

Birmingham Archaeology is a Registered Archaeological Organisation with the Institute of Field Archaeologists. All staff will adhere to the Code of Conduct of the Institute.

10.0: References

<https://www.dudley.gov.uk/environment--planning/planning/historic-environment/conservation-charact/dudley-town-centre-character-appraisal>

Department of the Environment (DoE) 1990 *Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning*

English Heritage, 1991. *Management of Archaeological Projects*.

Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) 1999 *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment*, revised 2001.

Birmingham Archaeology
May 2006