POTTERY FARM MUCKLOW HILL HALESOWEN WEST MIDLANDS

Archaeological Desk-Based and Historic Building Assessment 2009

### Project No. 1963

June 2009

## Pottery Farm

# Mucklow Hill, Halesowen, West Midlands

### **Archaeological Desk Based and Historic Building Assessment**

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	Name	Position	
Edited by/			
Reviewed by:			
Approved by:			
	Signature:		
Version: v0a	Version Date: 07.07.2009		
File location:			
P:Projects by No.\1900-1999\1963 Pottery Farm, Mucklow			
Hill\05-Post Excavation & Post Fieldwork\01-Reports\02-Final			
Report\01-Cover and Text			

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# POTTERY FARM, MUCKLOW HILL, HALESOWEN, WEST MIDLANDS

Archaeological Desk-Based and Historic Building Assessment, 2009

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### POTTERY FARM, MUCKLOW HILL, HALESOWEN, WEST MIDLANDS

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#### **SUMMARY**

A desk-based and historic building assessment was undertaken at Pottery Farm, Mucklow Hill, Halesowen, West Midlands (NGR SO 9778 8471), for Neil Shepherd Design Ltd, in order to accompany a planning application respecting conversion of agricultural buildings, including a grade II listed 17th-century barn, to residential use. The buildings are situated to the west of The Old House, another grade II listed building, which is the former farmhouse to the present agricultural buildings, the whole complex being known in the 19th century as 'Hill Farm' or 'Mucklow Hill Farm'. The present name is derived from the former existence of a pottery manufactory (Bellevue Potteries) adjacent to the farm.

Documentary research revealed that the pottery came into existence sometime between 1845 and 1885. In 1845 the occupier of Hill Farm was John Bullus, 'potter and farmer'. Bullus was still operating in 1861, but ten years later the business was being run by Benjamin Parkes also a potter and farmer. Parkes was succeeded by his son John who was the proprietor in 1891, although he had disappeared from the records by 1896. Bellevue Potteries are shown on the 1904 map but the buildings had largely disappeared by 1911.

There is good reason to suppose that the below-ground remains are well preserved. The site of the pottery is assessed as regionally significant owing to the close proximity of the canal, which would have allowed a wide distribution of the products, and the interest of the complex in helping us to understand the agrarian/industrial interface in the 19th century.

The main interest amongst the surviving buildings is the grade II listed barn. This structure was originally timber-framed, but survival of the fabric is vestigial and largely confined to the roof. By virtue of its listed status the barn is of national significance, but, the poor survival of the early fabric, and the derelict condition of the building that will almost certainly ensure some further loss, whether or not repairs are undertaken, means that it is not amongst the most significant structures of this class.

The significance of the group was also considered, and its interest in being a comparatively rare example in which at a comparatively late date the proprietor was both farmer and industrialist running two quite different businesses side by side. It is argued that because of this Pottery Farm site in general might be considered to have regional, perhaps even national significance.

Recommendations include a programme of historic building recording prior to any structural work being carried out, and an archaeological evaluation or watching brief on the site of the pottery, dependent upon the scale and location of any associated groundworks.



### POTTERY FARM, MUCKLOW HILL, HALESOWEN, WEST MIDLANDS

Archaeological Desk-Based and Historic Building Assessment, June 2009

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1.1. In July 2009 Birmingham Archaeology carried out a desk-based and historic building assessment at Pottery Farm, Mucklow Hill, Halesowen. The work was commissioned by Neil Shepherd Design Ltd in advance of a proposed planning application to convert agricultural buildings to residential use. This report outlines the results of the assessment.
- 1.1.2. The record conformed to a Written Scheme of Investigation (Birmingham Archaeology 2009) which was approved by the Local Planning Authority prior to implementation.

#### 2. LOCATION

2.1.1. Pottery Farm is situated close to the top of Mucklow Hill, on the west side of the road that now bears that name, approximately one mile northeast of Halesowen town centre, in the West Midlands conurbation, at NGR SO 9778 8471 (Figure 1). The buildings are situated to the west of The Old House, another grade II listed building, which is the former farmhouse to the present agricultural buildings. A track leads southwest from a bend in the main road, past the Old House to the south and agricultural buildings to the north to the main block of buildings that constitute Pottery Farm, which also lie on the south side of the track to the rear of The Old House (Plate 1).

### 3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1.1. The principal aim is to research the history and evolution of the barn complex and its vicinity with the objective of identifying those elements that are particularly historically significant and therefore potentially sensitive to change as part of the proposed conversions.

#### 4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1.1. A search of all relevant and readily available published and unpublished documentary material, to be undertaken principally at Dudley Archives, and at the libraries of the University of Birmingham.
- 4.1.2. A site inspection was made in order to compile analytical descriptions of the buildings, and to assist in assessing the below-ground archaeological potential.
- 4.1.3. The Dudley Historic Buildings, Sites and Monuments Record (HBSMR), the principal source of archaeological information for the borough was also consulted.



#### 5. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

#### Medieval

- 5.1.1. The greater part of Halesowen parish, including the township of Hill, within which Pottery Farm is situated, was formerly part of Worcestershire. Coal was being mined in Halesowen from at least the 13<sup>th</sup> century (VCH 1913), and in Hill township from at least 1307 when a lease was granted for mining at 'La Combes' (*Ibid*), probably in the vicinity of Coombes Wood, a settlement ¾ mile northwest of Pottery Farm.
- 5.1.2. Coal mining is a natural accompaniment to metalworking, and indeed, medieval metalworking slag is reported to have found in the area (*Ibid*). It may also be pertinent that an ironmonger was a witness to a Halesowen deed in 1304 (*Ibid*).
- 5.1.3. Dudley HBSMR lists a holloway at Pottery Farm as being of medieval date (HBSMR 7077-MDD1131). This is part of the track that extends westward from Mucklow Hill, through Pottery Farm, and which, in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, led through Coombes Mill approximately ½ mile to the west, and, a little further on, to Golden Orchard Farm. Golden Orchard Farm was situated on a track known as Coombes Holloway, which linked Halesowen in the south with Coombes Wood in the north.

### Post-medieval

- 5.1.4. Something of the 17<sup>th</sup>-century character of Mucklow Hill can be gleaned from surviving elements of a small group of timber-framed buildings. The best preserved of these is the Old House, formerly Mucklow Hill farmhouse; its contemporary former barn (now part of Pottery Farm) is less complete (see below), but enhances the significance of the house. To the northeast of these two buildings, Greenhill House, another grade II listed building, though ostensibly of *c* 1830, retains a 17<sup>th</sup>-century timber-framed core (Dudley HBSMR 877-MDD45). Close by at Old Barn Cottages (Dudley HBSMR 7928-MDD1877) there may have been another timber-framed building, elements of which are incorporated in a brick barn.
- 5.1.5. While these sites evoke a rural landscape, like many other Black Country communities, metalworking thrived around Halesowen in the post-medieval period, and, from at least the 17<sup>th</sup> century, Halesowen, was a centre for nail making (VCH 1913). We know too that during the Civil War Halesowen supplied shot to the garrison of Dudley Castle (*Ibid*). It is evident too that during the 17<sup>th</sup> century exploitation of the coal resources of Coombes Wood was still being carried out (*Ibid*).
- 5.1.6. Mucklow Hill itself, however, seems to have retained a largely rural aspect well into the 19<sup>th</sup> century. To the southeast of Pottery Farm, on the opposite side of Mucklow Hill, is the site of the landscaped park developed by William Shenstone, the poet, between the 1740s and 1763 (Dudley HBSMR 3954-MDD391), elements of which are still visible. To the north of Leasowes, but on the same side of Mucklow Hill, was Belle Vue House (demolished in 1999), which was attacked by the Birmingham rioters in 1791 (Dudley HBSMR 7398-MDD1383).
- 5.1.7. By the later 19th century, this sparsely populated landscape of farms, parks, gardens, villas and country houses had been intruded upon by the establishment of the Bellevue Potteries (HBSMR 7876 MDD1826) at Mucklow Hill Farm. In existence by 1885, the pottery lay on the north side of the track leading through the farm from the main road. Comparison of the 1885 and modern maps suggests that two of the buildings from the potteries survive.



#### 6. HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

- 6.1.1. The tithe map of 1845 for Hill township shows what is now The Old House, together with an L-shaped block to the west, which forms a similar configuration to the agricultural buildings currently occupying this position (Figure 2).
- 6.1.2. The accompanying apportionment describes the tenant of this plot as John Bullus, his premises consisting of farmhouse, buildings, yard and garden. There seems to be no doubt from the map and apportionment that Bullus occupied what is now The Old House and that it was formerly the farmhouse to the surviving barn complex.
- 6.1.3. Bullus was also the tenant of the adjacent unit of land to the north, now part of Pottery Farm, and then known as 'Clover Hill'. It was on this site that the eponymous pottery was to be built.
- 6.1.4. In 1850, John Bullus of Mucklow's Hill was described as an earthenware manufacturer and farmer (Post Office Directory), and in the 1851 census returns John Bullus of The Hill Farm is recorded as a potter and farmer employing three labourers. The ensuing entry in the census returns, although no address is given, is the household of a carpenter called Benjamin Parkes, aged 29, which also contained his wife, Eliza, and his six year old son John. Parkes was to be a significant figure in the later development of the pottery.
- 6.1.5. The 1854 Post Office Directory of Worcestershire describes John Bullus of Mucklow Hill as earthenware manufacturer and farmer.
- 6.1.6. In the 1861 census returns John Bullus of Hill Farm, then aged 62, was described simply as 'Potter'. The next entry in the list is, again, Benjamin Parkes, who, on this occasion, was described as 'Potter' rather than carpenter. His son, John, then aged 16, was also described as 'Potter'
- 6.1.7. By 1871 Hill Farm had become 'Mucklow Hill Farm and pottery', and was occupied by Benjamin Parkes, who is described as 'farmer and potter'. In the Post Office Directory for 1876 Benjamin Parkes and Son of Bellevue Pottery are recorded as farmers and earthenware manufacturers.
- 6.1.8. The 1881 census returns record that Benjamin Parkes of Hill Farm, farmer and potter, was employing twelve men and five women. The pottery had evidently prospered to become a proper manufactory. In 1885 this manufactory was shown on the Ordnance Survey map, where it is described as 'Bellevue Potteries', lying to the north of the farm track, on the plot of land known in 1845 as 'Clover Hill' (Figure 3). It is depicted as a group of approximately six buildings loosely grouped around a central courtyard. One of these is circular, and presumably represents the kiln. To the south of the track was the farm; the configuration of the barn complex suggests that stable wing was also in existence by this time, and there was a detached set of pigsties to the southwest of the barn.
- 6.1.9. In the 1891 census, the address had become 'Belle Vue Potteries' rather than 'Hill Farm'. By this time the proprietor was Benjamin Parkes' son, John, farmer and potter, who is described as having been born at Hill Farm. In 1892, however, John Benjamin Parkes was listed in Kelly's Directory as 'farmer' of Bellevue Pottery.
- 6.1.10. Parkes is not recorded in Kelly's Directory for 1896, nor is there an entry in the 1901 census for Hill Farm or Bellevue Potteries, although the site is so named on the 1904 Ordnance Survey map (Figure 3). No changes to the potteries are shown here, but a



new set of pigsties had been built attached to the southwest side of the barn at its southeast end.

6.1.11. By 1919 Bellevue Potteries had been largely demolished (Figure 3). All that remained by this date were two rectangular buildings adjacent to the track. These two structures are currently numbered amongst the outbuildings of Pottery Farm.

#### 7. BUILDING ASSESSMENT

#### **The Barn Complex**

7.1.1. The main group of agricultural buildings forms an L-shaped block, the main range occupied by a barn aligned northwest-southeast, with a stable wing projecting at right angles from the northwest end of the northeast front to enclose two sides of a roughly triangular fold yard (Plate 2). In the angle between the two ranges is a loose box, and behind (to the south-west of) the south-east end of the barn are two double pigsties, both facing southeast. Attached to the northwest end of the barn's southwest elevation is the current farmhouse. Opposite the entrance to the yard, on the north side of the track is an outbuilding that also forms part of the proposed development (Plate 1).

#### Exterior

- 7.1.2. The barn is largely 19<sup>th</sup>-century in character with red brick walls and plain tile roof (Plate 3), although it is evident both from the exterior, and more prominently from the interior that the building has 17<sup>th</sup>-century origins, and was formerly of timber-framed construction. There is, incidentally, no good reason to suspect that there is any truth behind the statement contained within the statutory list description that the frame is 'reputed to contain timbers of Saxon origin'.
- 7.1.3. The northeast front of the barn is dominated by a central gabled entrance bay, breaking forward slightly, and pierced by a full-height cart entrance with sandstone hinge blocks and horse shoe arch; within the gable is a ledge and two entrances to a former pigeon loft. The bricks are 9ins x 4½ins x 2½ins and laid in English garden wall bond. Although this entrance still has an imposing presence, the construction of the stable wing and loose box extensions to the right (northwest) has lessened the impact by obscuring the whole of the right-hand side of the elevation.
- 7.1.4. To the left (southeast) of the entrance, the elevation is in a ruinous condition. However, the right-hand (northwest) section survives, and although it too is of brick, it seems to be of a separate phase of construction, the bricks being lighter in colour and of a different gauge (9ins x 4¼ins x 3ins), although also laid in English garden wall bond. A segmental arched window survives, and, to the right (southeast) of it, the beginnings of a segmental arched doorway that was still in existence in 1999 when the barn was photographed for English Heritage's *Images of England* project. Beyond this is one of the 17th-century wallposts, denoting the division between the two end bays.
- 7.1.5. The rear (southwest) wall of the barn is entirely in brick; differentiation in colour drawing attention to the blocked central entrance.
- 7.1.6. The stable wing and loose box to the northwest are of yet another structural phase, dating from the mid to late 19<sup>th</sup> century, and built in dark red bricks with blue brick headers and laid to English garden wall bond (Plate 4). The visible front elevation of



the stable wing contains a pair of segmental arched doorways to left (southwest) and right (northeast) and a single segmental-arched window between them.

- 7.1.7. The loose box, in the angle between the barn and stable range, faces northeast where there is a segmental arched doorway and a segmental arched light above it. A later 20th-century brick lean-to store, with independent access in the northeast wall, has been built against the southeast side of the loose box.
- 7.1.8. The third side of the foldyard is formed by a large stone coursed rubble wall, probably of 19th-century date (Plate 5).
- 7.1.9. A pair of pigsties is built against the rear (southwest) wall of the barn. Dating from the late 19th century, it is built of red brick with a plain tile roof. Both sties consist of a hut with segmental-arched entrance, and a front yard enclosed by a wall with rounded coping and an integral feeding chute (Plate 5). The second pair, while appearing on the 1885 Ordnance Survey map, appears to be later in date and may have been reconstructed. It is of a similar design, but is in a much poorer, that is to say, derelict, condition (Plate 6). Attached to the east side of these pigsties is a 19th-century brick outhouse.

#### Interior

- 7.1.10. The interior of the barn has been divided by a partition wall on the southeast side of the central threshing bay so that only the central and two northwestern bays are accessible from the main barn entrance. This area retains elements of the 17<sup>th</sup>-century timber framing that forms the historic core of the building. Only one fragment of wall framing survives, this being on the northeast side of the bay that lies immediately northwest of the entrance (Plate 7). It comprises the upper section of a two tier pattern of square panels, with a straight brace extending from a wallpost on the northwest side of the bay to the wallplate.
- 7.1.11. The remains of three cross-frames survive in this part of the barn, one between the two northwestern bays and one each side of the entrance bay. The former is the only one to retain any timber framing below tie beam level, which consists of a second brace extending from the wall post already described to the tie beam, and a central post extending from a fragment of a sill beam to the tie beam (Plate 8). The tie beam betrays evidence for two former intermediate vertical members, in the form of a mortice in the soffit (northeast) and peg holes in the face (northeast and southwest). The corresponding mortice is hidden by a later stub wall that projects from the rear (southwest) wall of the barn beneath the tie beam. The roof truss here is of queen strut construction, with carpenters' marks at the feet of the two queen struts and corresponding marks on the tie beam. This was a standard West Midland type in the 17th century continuing into the 18th century. Stave holes in the soffits of the collar and tie beam suggest that the truss was at least partially closed.
- 7.1.12. The other two roof trusses are supported by stub walls on both sides (Plate 9); redundant pegs in the faces of both tie beams suggest that these frames also incorporated a vertical timber to each side, but no central member. Here, there is a different kind of roof structure consisting of tie beam trusses with raking struts extending from the tie beam to the principals. In Staffordshire, the earliest examples of this type date from the 16<sup>th</sup> century, and these, together with all the early postmedieval examples, are in barns (Peters 1988, 24). The difference in design is no doubt owed to the need to have free access between the threshing bay and the two adjoining bays even at these level, as the sheaves would have been piled up to roof height. The cross frames carry trenched purlins and a diagonally set ridge piece.



- 7.1.13. So, the timber-framed barn was of at least three bays with a central threshing bay. It is not certain whether the building occupied its current 5-bay length originally, although more detailed investigation may be able to determine this point.
- 7.1.14. The stable wing contains four roof bays (Plate 10); the northeasternmost truss is of brick on a timber lintel, and probably represents a former partition wall isolating the northeastern bay, probably removed when the building was converted into a cowhouse in the 20th century. The other two roof trusses are of king post type, all members machine cut, and the posts secured with iron bolts. The tie beams sit on brick piers, and the principals are set in from the ends of the tie beams; they support a single pair of purlins. Ranged along the northwest wall is a series of low stub walls, denoting the positions of concrete feeding troughs, remnants of which survive at floor level.

### The Pottery Buildings

- 7.1.15. Two buildings survive from the pottery as denoted on the 1885 map. The westernmost is situated opposite the entrance to the foldyard on a northwest to southeast alignment facing southeast towards, and orientated obliquely to, the track that runs through the farm (Plate 11). Probably a cart shed, it is a modest late 19<sup>th-century</sup> single-storey red brick building with brick dentilled eaves and plain tile roof. The gable end facing the track is dominated by large double doors within a larger opening partially covered by corrugated iron, a material that also covers the gable. A length of attached brick walling, which now forms part of an adjacent 20<sup>th</sup>-century shelter shed to the east, may also have formed part of the pottery complex.
- 7.1.16. The second pottery building is orientated east-west, and lay alongside and facing (south) towards the farm track P. It too is a late 19th-century single-storey brick building, although its original roof has been replaced by corrugated iron. Probably a stable, it has segmental arched entrance and windows. This building lies outside the proposed development area.

#### Other Buildings

7.1.17. The present farmhouse is attached to the rear (southwest) of the barn, and a few other farm buildings occupy the land on the north side of the track. All appear to be of 20th-century date and of minimal interest.

#### 8. SIGNIFICANCE

#### **Below Ground Archaeology**

- 8.1.1. If the track that extends west from the farm is of medieval date then it is possible that the settlement at Pottery Farm may be much earlier than any of the extant buildings. It has to be emphasised, however, that no physical trace of such remains has been noted as part of this exercise.
- 8.1.2. The principal below ground archaeological interest of Pottery Farm, however, is the former Bellevue Potteries, the site of which is on the periphery of the proposed development site. Part of the pottery site is now occupied by 20<sup>th</sup>-century farm buildings, but, the foundations for these buildings are vestigial, and the probability for the survival of the pottery building foundations is high.
- 8.1.3. The site is, without doubt, of mid to late 19th-century date, which is late in the sequence of pottery manufacture in the Midlands. In addition, the reference to John



Bullus as an earthenware manufacturer suggests that the quality of the products was comparatively low. These two factors provide an argument for assessing the site as having no more than local significance. However, the proximity of the canal, ¼ mile to the west, which would have allowed a wide distribution for the pottery, and the site's potential for increasing our understanding of the 19th-century agrarian and industrial interface, would elevate this assessment to a possible regional significance.

### **Historic Buildings** (Figure 4)

- 8.1.4. Statutory listing, whatever the grade, bestows a national significance upon a building. In this case, although the listing applies to the 'Barn', it may be argued that it also applies to the entire block, of which the barn is the main component, on the grounds that 'barn' is sometimes used as a generic term for agricultural buildings. A counter argument would be that the list description (admittedly laconic), describes only the barn. Indeed, it is the barn that is the most significant aspect of this group, containing the earliest fabric, and having the greatest historic and architectural interest; the others parts of the complex are not listable in their own right. There is no doubt that it is the barn rather than the complex that has attracted the statutory protection, and it might, therefore, be considered justifiable to treat the two aspects separately in making planning decisions on their future.
- 8.1.5. By virtue of its listing, then, the barn may be considered to be of national significance, although within its grade it cannot be said to come near the top of the hierarchy. Its principal interest is the timber framing, which, apart from the roof, is fragmentary, and of a type that is not particularly uncommon within the West Midlands region; there are certainly much better preserved and more visible examples of 17th-century timber-framed barns. The extremely poor condition of the barn at its southeast end, means that it is almost certain that further loss of the timber frame will occur, whatever the future holds for the building.
- 8.1.6. Next in order of significance are the 19th-century buildings, both the other agricultural structures and the pottery buildings. It has been mooted above that other than the barn, the agricultural buildings are not of sufficient architectural or historic interest to merit statutory listing, although they have a local significance, and contribute to the wider view of the region's historic farm structures. The rapid assessment carried out as part of this exercise suggests that the two surviving structures from the Bellevue Potteries are not of a specifically industrial nature, but are more likely to represent accommodation for horses and a cart, which although associated with the pottery business, are only illustrative of the supply and distribution processes rather than the manufacturing. As such they have rather less significance (no greater than local) than the former industrial components.
- 8.1.7. Finally, none of the numerous 20th-century structures, including the farmhouse and further agricultural buildings has any more than local significance.

#### The Group

- 8.1.8. Apart from the individual elements of the site, the resultant group also needs to be considered in order to obtain a rounded appreciation of Pottery Farm and its immediate environs. For this purpose The Old House also needs to be brought into the equation, as well as the holloway to the west the farm, the line of which is continued through the farm to Mucklow Hill.
- 8.1.9. If the holloway is of medieval date, then this suggests a more ancient site than is implied either by the documentary records or by the existing buildings. The undoubted relationship of the Old House and the barn, which formed a single



farmstead, bolsters the significance of both buildings. The known association of the farm and the pottery provides a rather unusual instance of the rural and industrial economies coinciding on a single site.

8.1.10. Rather than a series of disparate components, we have here, perhaps, an instance of an adaptive archaeological landscape representative of the interface between the agrarian and industrial worlds. Early industry was often set within the heart of the countryside, and rural industrial sites are not uncommon. Rarer are instances like Pottery Farm, where, at a comparatively late date, the proprietor was both farmer and industrialist, running two quite different businesses hand in hand. For this reason there is good reason to suppose that the Pottery Farm site in general might be considered to have regional, perhaps even national significance.

#### 9. IMPACT

### The Below Ground Archaeology

- 9.1.1. The redevelopment proposals include Pottery Building 1 and may therefore encroach on the site of Bellevue Potteries. Given that the foundations of the buildings are likely to survive, any groundworks in this area might disturb the remains.
- 9.1.2. Less probable is that the holloway to the west of the Pottery Farm will be disturbed. However, the continuation of the line of the track through the farm, past Pottery Building 2, may well be of comparable antiquity. This section is more vulnerable to disturbance.

#### The Historic Buildings

- 9.1.3. Any attempt to convert the barn would involve a major reconstruction programme and would necessarily result in some destruction of the fabric of the barn. However, given the derelict condition of the building and the fact that it has deteriorated rapidly since the 1990s, there is no doubt that if it were left much longer then all the most significant material would be lost. Indeed, conversion to some other use is probably the best chance there is of retaining at least some of the historic fabric, and, at the very least, would provide an opportunity to survey and thereby preserve by record the essential historic characteristics of the barn that might otherwise disappear without significant trace.
- 9.1.4. Conversion of the other buildings to new uses is also likely to affect the character of the historic fabric, and therefore their significance.

#### 10. RECOMMENDATIONS

### The Below Ground Archaeology

10.1.1. Depending on the scale and position of any proposed groundworks in the vicinity of the former pottery, it is recommended either that a programme of archaeological evaluation is carried out before works commence in order to assess the survival of the foundations, or a watching brief is observed during the works in order to record any significant remains



### The Historic Buildings

- 10.1.2. It is recommended that prior to any alterations being made to the historic fabric of the buildings an archaeological record is made of the buildings in their existing state. In the case of the barn and the pottery buildings, the appropriate response would be a level 3 record a defined by English Heritage in *Understanding Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (2006). In the case of the other buildings a lesser level of record would be acceptable.
- 10.1.3. In view of the derelict and possibly dangerous condition of the barn the recording method and programme would need to be carefully considered, both for health and safety reasons, and because any work on the southeast end of the building might result in loss of historic fabric.

#### 11. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

11.1.1. The project was commissioned by Neil Shepherd Design Ltd. Thanks are due to Mr Shepherd for his co-operation throughout the project and to Mr Willets, of Pottery Farm for access to the buildings. Thanks also go to Peter Boland who monitored the project on behalf of Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council, to John Hemingway who supplied information from the Dudley Historic Buildings Sites and Monuments Record, and to the staff of Dudley Archives and Local History Service. The assessment was undertaken by Malcolm Hislop and the report illustrated by Nigel Dodds and Gemma Elliott.

#### 12. SOURCES

#### **Primary Sources**

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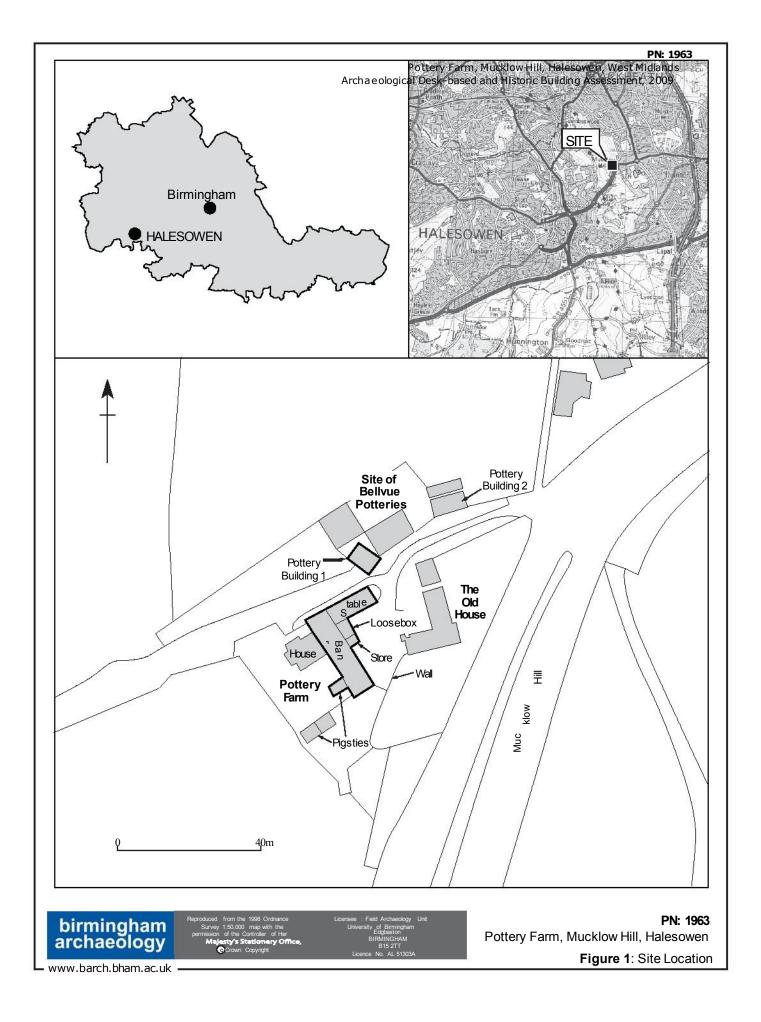
### **Cartographic Sources**

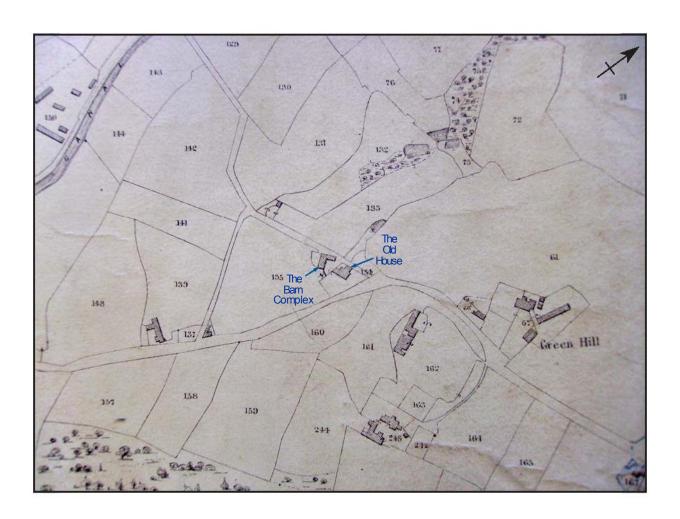
1845 Tithe map for Hill Township

1885 Ordnance Survey 1:2500

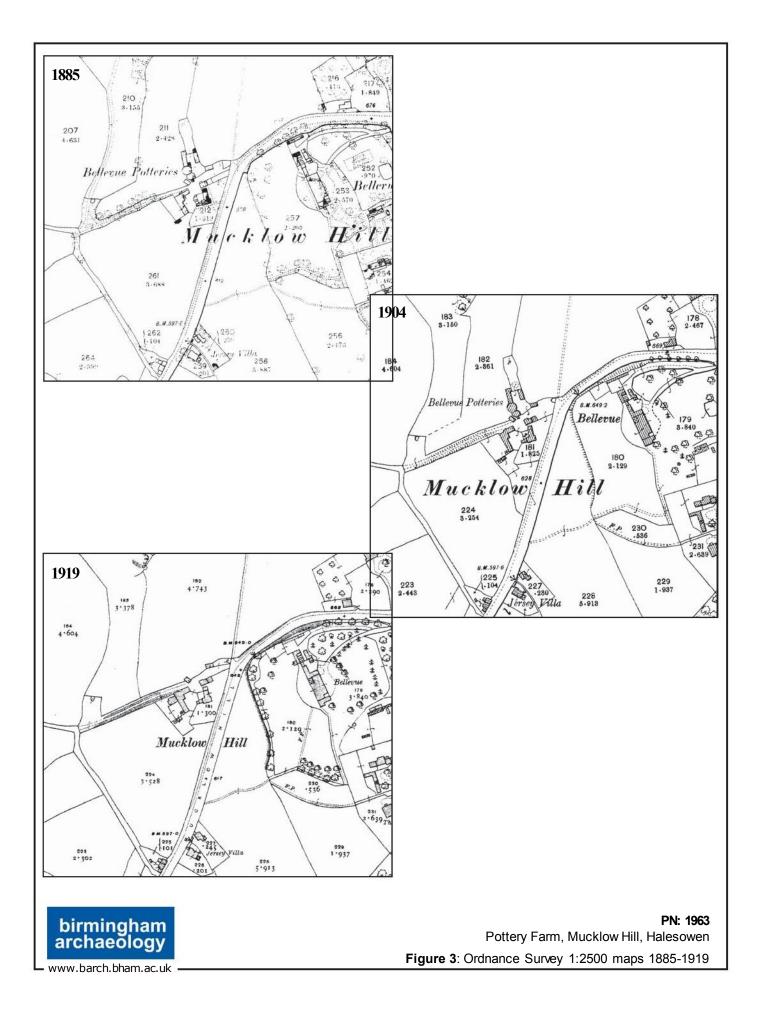
1904 Ordnance Survey 1:2500

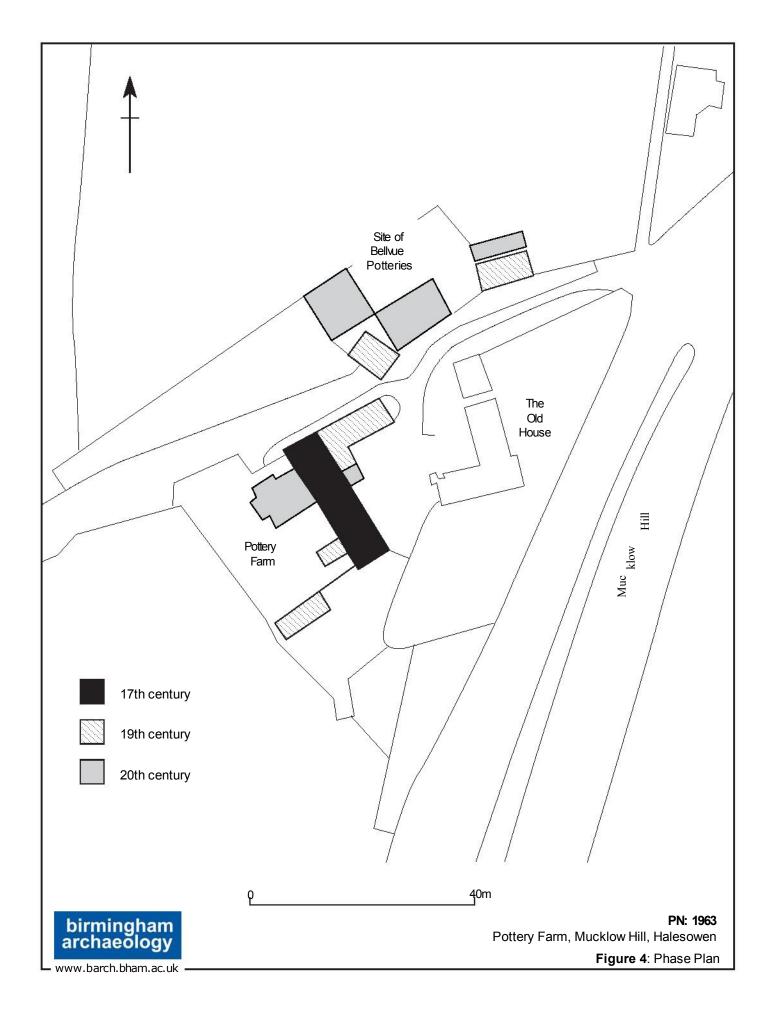
1919 Ordnance Survey 1:2500











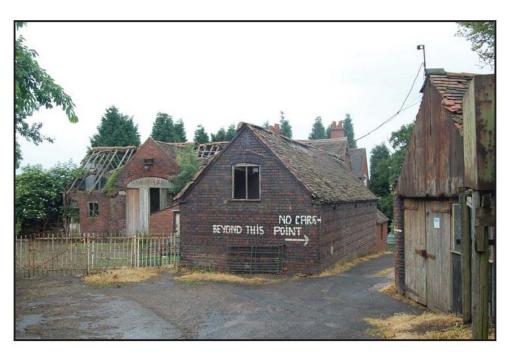


Plate 1: Pottery Farm from the northeast



Plate 2: The barn complex from the east





Plate 3: The barn and loosebox from the southeast



Plate 4: The stable and loosebox from the southeast





Plate 5: Wall on the east side of the foldyard from the southwest



Plate 6: Pig sty and the rear of the barn from the south





Plate 7: Pig sty and outhouse from the southeast



Plate 8: Timber wall framing inside the barn from the southwest



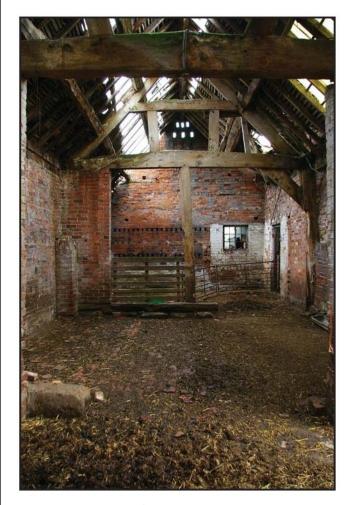


Plate 9: Barn interior from the south



Plate 10: Barn interior from the north



PN: 1963 Pottery Farm, Mucklow Hill, Halesowen



Plate 11: Stable wing interior from the southwest

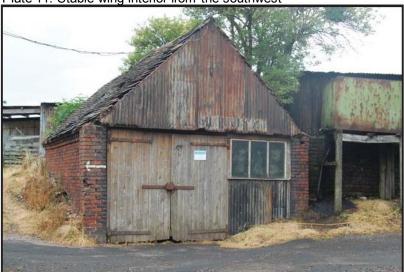


Plate 12: Pottery Building 1 from the southeast



Plate 13: Pottery Building 2 from the east

