



Waseley Hills High School

Preliminary Archaeology and Heritage Survey

November 2021

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Executive summary

This Preliminary Archaeology and Heritage Survey has been prepared by Mott MacDonald on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE) to inform the design of improvement works to Waseley Hills High School ('the scheme'). Currently, options may comprise refurbishment of existing blocks and/or demolition of existing blocks and construction of new blocks.

Waseley Hills High School is located in Rubery in the district of Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, centred at National Grid Reference (NGR) SO 97837 77124. The original school was designed in 1930 and built by 1937. It was constructed in a courtyard plan, with rooms opening onto covered corridors overlooking a central outdoor space. This was a pioneering school design in the 1930s, allowing for airflow to combat illnesses such as tuberculosis that was prevalent during this time. Much of the historic fabric and form remains of the main courtyard block, alongside a number of varying later additions across the school site.

The key consideration to the scheme is the main courtyard block at Waseley Hills High School. This building represents the earliest historic fabric associated with the school, as designed in 1930. It provides evidence of the original phase of development within the site boundary as well as an understanding of the historic function and the continued use of the school site. Overall, the building is a locally important architectural example of a building designed by A. V. Rowe, the county architect of Worcester, reflecting the communal interest and relationship within the streetscape. The main courtyard block meets the criteria set out for the Bromsgrove District Local List and is therefore considered a non-designated heritage asset. This block should be retained and ideally used for continued educational use, however some works to the building to make it best suited to modern educational needs could be considered appropriate.

Should the scheme include the construction of new blocks, or major alterations to existing, the scheme should seek to reference the existing townscape of Rubery and immediate streetscape of School Road and the surrounding area. This is primarily characterised by low rise development. As such, suitable development would be of one-two storeys. Materials which reference the red brick, tile and slate of surrounding properties as well as those within the site boundary, notably the main courtyard block, would be appropriate.

A small house, adjacent former storage building and gate piers leading into the site, are also thought to date to the earliest phase of the school and should also be retained if feasible. This is because they provide context to the main courtyard block but, as they do not hold heritage interest in their own right, this is a consideration and should be considered a key constraint to the scheme.

An assessment of archaeological potential and significance has found that generally, the site has low potential for survival of unknown archaeological remains due to the development of the school. In green spaces such as playing fields, there is a low to medium potential for unknown archaeological remains. In these areas, the largest possible constraint is the moderate potential for Roman remains, especially in the north-western part of the site boundary. If present, these could be of high or medium significance dependant on their nature and extent. It is recommended that the scheme uses the area covered by existing buildings and hardstanding, in the southern part of the site boundary, for any new development such as new buildings to minimise the risk of encountering any unknown archaeological remains, if present. If areas of existing green space are required for the scheme, this should avoid the north-west corner where there is a higher potential. If this is not feasible, further archaeological work may be required to evaluate the area through consultation with the local planning archaeologist with an agreed mitigation strategy.

1 Introduction

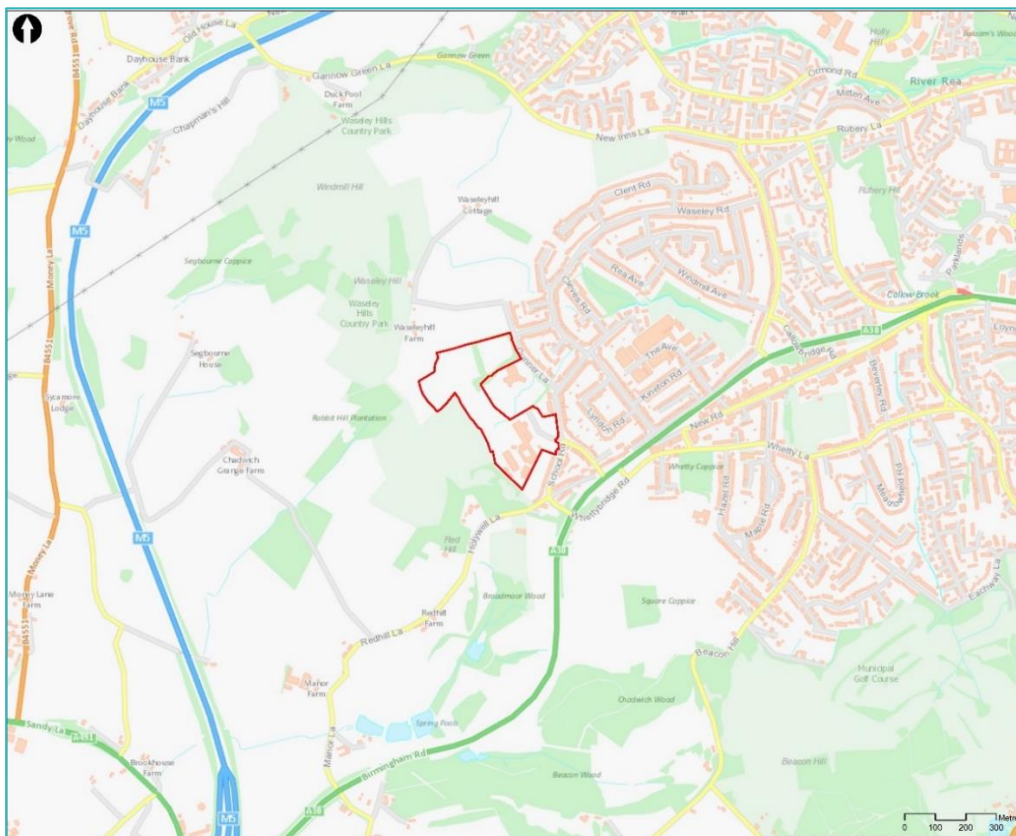
1.1 Overview

This Preliminary Archaeology and Heritage Survey has been prepared by Mott MacDonald on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE) to inform the design of improvements works at Waseley Hills High School ('the scheme'). The proposals are at an early stage and the scope of works is still being developed and will be informed by the findings of this survey. The scheme may comprise refurbishment of existing blocks and/or demolition of blocks and construction of new blocks. This Preliminary Archaeology and Heritage Survey provides an overview of the historic environment baseline in relation to the proposed scheme to inform on the key heritage constraints and considerations for the design of the works.

1.2 Site Location

The site is located at Waseley Hills High School, School Road, Rubery, Birmingham B45 9EL centred at National Grid Reference (NGR) SO 97837 77124 (see Figure 1.1 below). The site is positioned on the western edge of Rubery within an open area of land bounded by the Waseley Hills Country Park in Bromsgrove. The site, captured by the 'site boundary', includes the school buildings to the south, and hardstanding playing courts and playing fields to the north west. Holywell Primary School lies to the north-east, but is situated outside of the site boundary and does not form part of the scheme.

Figure 1.1: Location of the site



Source: Mott MacDonald (2021)

2 Planning Policy and Legislation

2.1 Overarching legislation

2.1.1 The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979

This Act consolidates and amends the law relating to ancient monuments; to make provision for the investigation, preservation and recording of matters of archaeological or historical interest and (in connection therewith) for the regulation of operations or activities affecting such matters.

2.1.2 The Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990

This Act consolidates certain enactments relating to special controls in respect of buildings and areas of special architectural or historic interest with amendments to give effect to recommendations of the Law Commission.

2.2 National Planning Policy Framework

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was published on 27th March 2012, revised on the 24th July 2018 and again on the 20th July 2021, and replaced all previous national planning policy documents. Paragraphs 189 – 208 of the NPPF address the conservation and enhancement of the historic environment; these set out the local planning authority's responsibilities when dealing with planning proposals which have the potential to impact on cultural heritage assets. These policies emphasise the importance of balancing the need for the conservation of heritage assets with the desirability of new development. Those of relevance to the scheme comprise the following:

189. *Heritage assets range from sites and buildings of local historic value to those of the highest significance, such as World Heritage Sites which are internationally recognised to be of Outstanding Universal Value. These assets are an irreplaceable resource, and should be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of existing and future generations.*
194. *In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. 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.*
197. *In determining applications, local planning authorities should take account of:*
- a. the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;*
 - b. the positive contribution that conservation of heritage assets can make to sustainable communities including their economic vitality; and*
 - c. the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness*

203. *The effect of an application on the significance of a non-designated heritage asset should be taken into account in determining the application. In weighing applications that directly or indirectly affect non-designated heritage assets, a balanced judgement will be required having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset.*
204. *Local planning authorities should not permit the loss of the whole or part of a heritage asset without taking all reasonable steps to ensure the new development will proceed after the loss has occurred.*
205. *Local planning authorities should require developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible. However, the ability to record evidence of our past should not be a factor in deciding whether such loss should be permitted.*

2.3 Local Planning Policy

2.3.1 Bromsgrove District Plan 2011-2030

The Bromsgrove District Plan¹ was adopted on 25th January 2017. It sets out the long-term vision for how Bromsgrove and its surrounding towns and villages, including Rubery, should grow and change up to 2030.

The plan contains the following policies of relevance to the proposed scheme.

BDP1 Sustainable Development Principles

BDP1.4 In considering all proposals for development in Bromsgrove District regard will be had to the following:

...

- i. The impact on the historic environment and the significance of Heritage Assets and their setting*

BDP20 Managing the Historic Environment

BDP20.1 The District Council advocates a holistic approach to the proactive management of the historic environment which encompasses all Heritage Assets recognised as being of significance for their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest.

BDP20.2 The District Council will support development proposals which sustain and enhance the significance of Heritage Assets including their setting. This includes:

- a. Designated Heritage Assets, including Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas, Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens;*
- b. Non-designated Heritage Assets including (but not limited to) those identified on the Local List and assets recorded in the Historic Environment Record;*
- c. The historic landscape of the District, including locally distinctive settlement patterns, field systems, woodlands and historic farmsteads;*
- d. Designed landscapes, including parks and gardens, cemeteries, churchyards, public parks and urban open spaces;*
- e. Archaeological remains of all periods from the earliest human habitation to modern times;*

¹ Bromsgrove District Council, *Bromsgrove District Plan 2011-2030*. Available online at: <https://www.bromsgrove.gov.uk/media/2673698/Adopted-BDP-January-2017.pdf>

- f. Historic transportation networks and infrastructure including roads, trackways, canals and railways.*

BDP20.3 Development affecting Heritage Assets, including alterations or additions as well as development within the setting of Heritage Assets, should not have a detrimental impact on the character, appearance or significance of the Heritage Asset or Heritage Assets.

BDP20.4 Applications to alter, extend, or change the use of Heritage Assets will be required to provide sufficient information to demonstrate how the proposals would contribute to the asset's conservation whilst preserving or enhancing its significance and setting.

BDP20.5 In considering applications regard will be paid to the desirability of securing the retention, restoration, maintenance and continued use of Heritage Assets, for example, the District Council will support the sensitive reuse of redundant historic buildings, and will encourage proposals which provide for a sustainable future for Heritage Assets, particularly those at risk.

...

BDP20.10 The demolition of buildings or the removal of trees and other landscape features which make a positive contribution to an area's character or appearance will be resisted.

BDP20.12 The District Council will update the current draft local heritage list² and formally adopt it. It would include all Heritage Assets recognised as being of local importance, including those which are locally distinctive such as nailers cottages, assets associated with the scythe industry and assets associated with the use of the Worcester and Birmingham canal which runs the length of the District, to name but a few.

BDP20.13 The District Council will support development that:

- i. Retains Heritage Assets on the Local List;*
- ii. Involves sympathetic alterations and extensions to Heritage Assets on the Local List;*
- iii. Does not have a detrimental impact on the setting or context of Heritage Assets on the Local List.*

BDP20.14 In considering applications that directly or indirectly affect Heritage Assets, a balanced judgement will be applied having regard to the scale of any harm or loss as a result of proposed development and the significance of the Heritage Asset.

BDP20.16 The District Council will promote a positive interaction between historic sites and places and high quality modern developments which allows for evolution and positive change whilst preserving and respecting the significance and setting of existing Heritage Assets.

BDP20.17 Applications likely to affect the significance of known or potential Heritage Assets or their setting should demonstrate an understanding of their significance in sufficient detail to assess the potential impacts. This should be informed by available evidence and, where appropriate, further information to establish significance of known or potential Heritage Assets.

BDP20.18 Where material change to a heritage asset has been agreed, recording and interpretation should be undertaken to document and understand the asset's archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic significance. The scope of the recording should be proportionate to the asset's significance and the impact of the development on the asset. The information and

² Note: at the time of writing, there is currently no local list for Bromsgrove. A draft local list was drawn up in 2006 based on nomination only and has been withdrawn. A local list based on selection criteria (see 2.3.2 below) is currently being developed.

understanding gained should be made publicly available, as a minimum through the relevant Historic Environment Record.

2.3.2 Local Heritage List Strategy

This document³, produced in 2016 by Bromsgrove District Council, was published to define the strategy for compiling a list of locally important heritage assets in and surrounding Bromsgrove. It includes the criteria against which assets will be tested. At the time of writing this survey, the local list has not yet been compiled. The selection criteria for assets, however, is listed below and can be considered when assessing the significance of assets within and surrounding Bromsgrove, to determine whether they meet the criteria for locally listed buildings within the district:

Age, Authenticity and Rarity

- *Any heritage asset proposed to be considered for selection under any of these criteria the asset would need to have retained a significant and recognisable amount of its original form and fabric.*
- *If there are a number of examples of a particular asset the best examples in terms of their authenticity, should be selected for the Local Heritage List.*

Architectural Interest

This would include;

- *Assets which can be attributed to nationally and locally important architects, designers, builders, gardeners or craftsmen, and illustrate a high quality of design or innovation. Locally important architects might include John Cotton and A V Rowe, as well as Birmingham Arts & Crafts architects such as Charles Bateman. Locally important craftsmen could include members of the Bromsgrove Guild or Birmingham Guild.*
- *Assets which illustrate distinctive artistic, craftsmanship, design, construction or landscaping qualities of interest. This might include a distinctive architectural style, or a good example stained glass or other decorative detailing.*
- *Assets which are a good example of a locally important building type (e.g Nailers Cottages).*

Historic Interest

This would include;

- *Assets which are associated with a locally important historic person, family or group.*
- *Assets which illustrate a particular phase or period of local, social, religious, political or economic history (e.g nailers cottages or assets associated with the Chartist Movement at Dodford).*
- *Assets which are associated with a locally important historic event or movement.*

Townscape/Villagescape/Landscape Interest

This would include;

- *Assets which are locally important building types such as churches, chapels, schools and other distinctive features in the streetscape.*
- *Assets which are landmarks or features which make a positive contribution to the distinctive character of the area.*

³ Bromsgrove District Council, *Local Heritage List Strategy*. Available online at: <https://www.bromsgrove.gov.uk/media/2130464/Local-Heritage-list-Strategy-low-res-19-07-16-3-.pdf>

3 Assessment Methodology

3.1 Study Area

Baseline information has been gathered within 750m from a central point within the school site, at NGR SO 97837 77124, hereby referred to as the 'study area'. This study area is considered sufficient to produce a comprehensive baseline for the school site, to facilitate an understanding of the archaeological potential within the site, its historic significance and heritage assets which may constrain the scheme.

3.2 Research

The following actions have been undertaken for this assessment:

- An examination of the local and national planning policies in relation to the historic environment;
- A search of the National Heritage List for England (NHLE)⁴ for Listed Buildings, Registered Parks and Gardens, Scheduled Monuments, World Heritage Sites and Registered Battlefields within the study area;
- A search of the Worcestershire Historic Environment Record (HER) for archaeological sites, archaeological findspots and other non-designated heritage assets within the study area;
- A search of the Bromsgrove District Council website⁵ for conservation areas and information on local listed buildings;
- An examination of the relevant published and unpublished archaeological and historic sources e.g. journals and historic records;
- An examination of topographical and geological evidence; and,
- A map regression exercise using historic maps, as available online, to determine previous land use of the site.

3.3 Guidance

The following guidance has been used for this assessment:

- The 2014 Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment (updated 2020);
- The 2017 Historic England Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance;
- The 2015 Historic England Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 2: Managing Significance in Decision – Taking in the Historic Environment (GPA2);
- The 2017 Historic England Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 3: The Setting of Heritage Assets (GPA3);
- The 2019 Historic England Statements of Heritage Significance: Analysing Significance in Heritage Assets (TAN12); and
- The 2010 English Heritage England's Schools: History, architecture and adaption.

⁴ As available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/>.

⁵ As available online at: www.bromsgrove.gov.uk.

3.4 Site Survey

A site survey was undertaken by Heritage professionals from Mott MacDonald on September 17th 2021 to:

- Inform understanding of the site conditions, such as topography and vegetation cover,
- Inform understanding of known heritage assets and their settings;
- Identify any additional non-designated heritage assets of relevance within the study area;
- assess possible non-designated heritage assets against the local list criteria;
- understand the potential for archaeological remains to survive within the site; and
- Inform the assessment contained within this report.

3.5 Assumptions and Limitations

Information provided by the HER can be limited because it depends on previous opportunities for research, fieldwork and discovery. Where nothing of historic interest is shown in a particular area, this can be down to lack of targeted research or investigation rather than the genuine absence of sub-surface archaeological deposits.

The HER includes a collection of records containing information on the whole parish which are not location specific. As such, where some of these records fall within the study area, they have been used for information only on the historical development of the study area, as opposed to detailing specific heritage assets which may pose constraints to the scheme design.

Documentary sources are rare before the medieval period, and many historic documents are inherently biased. Older primary sources often fail to accurately locate sites and interpretation can be subjective. Historic maps provide a glimpse of land-use at a specific moment. It is therefore possible that short-term structures or areas of land-use are not shown and therefore not recorded within this assessment.

The local archives have not been consulted as an assessment of sources published online have been considered sufficient for the purpose of this preliminary survey. Whilst this is considered adequate for this assessment, it should be noted that historic mapping and literature that is only accessible by visiting the local archive in person has not been consulted.

There is currently no local list for the Bromsgrove district within which the site is located. A draft local list was drawn up in 2006 based on nomination only and has been withdrawn. A local list based on selection criteria is currently being developed. These selection criteria (see section 2.4 above) have informed understanding of whether buildings identified in this survey may be eligible for the local list and therefore considered non-designated heritage assets.

3.6 Consultation

Consultation was not required with Historic England or any National Amenity Society as there are no designated heritage assets within the study area. Consultation with the Conservation Officer for Bromsgrove District Council has not been undertaken to date. This may be required if the scheme affects the main courtyard block (see sections 4.4.2, 6 and 7 below).

4 Baseline

4.1 Geology and Topography

Waseley Hills High School lies on relatively flat ground at an approximate height of 230m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD)⁶. Immediately to the west, the land rises onto a ridge of hills known as Waseley Hill, Holywell Hill and Windmill Hill and to the east falls towards Rubery.

The bedrock geology upon which Waseley Hills High School sits is the Alveley Member Mudstone. This a red mudstone and sandstone formed approximately 308 to 310 million years ago in the Carboniferous Period. A band of red pebbly mudstone and sandstone lies immediately to the west, known as the Client Formation. There are no superficial deposits recorded on the British Geological Survey (BGS) at the school site. Further west, predominantly along the route of the M5, there are areas of till as well as sands and gravel deposits. These indicate an area formerly occupied by streams ⁷.

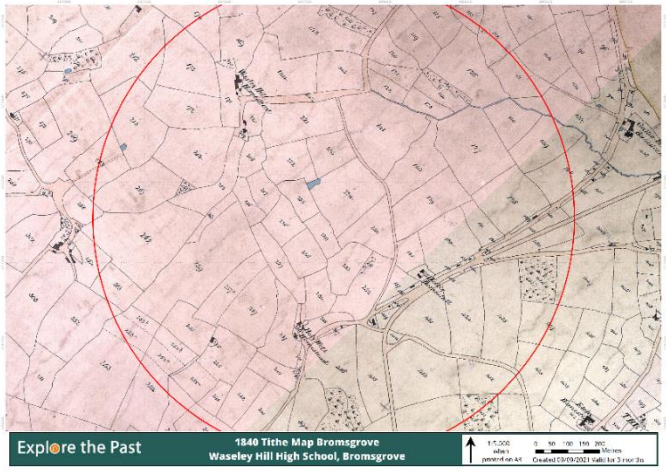
⁶ *Topographic Maps of Britain*. Available online at: <https://en-gb.topographic-map.com/maps/>.


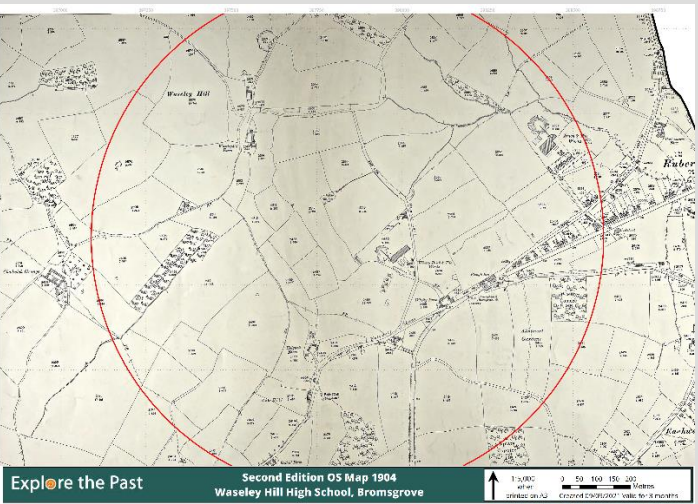
⁷ British Geological Survey, *Geology of Britain Viewer*. Available online at: <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>.



4.2 Historic Map Regression

Table 4.1 below provides a historic map regression for the study area, circled in red.

Table 4.1: Historic Map Regression

Title	Image	Description
Tithe Map of Bromsgrove (1840)		<p>The study area is depicted as fields with occasional farmhouses and some coppices and other wooded areas. Given the large field sizes and regular boundaries the field pattern is likely post-medieval. Some of the road pattern is shown similarly to its present layout, including Gunner lane as well as a fairly major shown road on the route of what is now Holywell Lane (now cut off by the A38). Waseley Hill Farmhouse, Holywell Homestead and Whetty Farmstead are shown.</p>

Title	Image	Description
<p>First Edition Ordnance Survey Map (1883)</p>	 A historical map from 1883 showing the area around Waseley Hill. A red circle highlights the study area. Labels include 'Waseley Hill', 'Waseley Hill Farm', 'Hollywell Farm', and 'Whetty Farm'. A road is visible running towards the east towards Rubery.	<p>The 1883 map now shows some residential development and an Inn on the road towards Rubery. Two former homesteads, Hollywell and Whetty, are now labelled as farms. An 'Old Quarry' is now shown in the north of the study area. A holy well is labelled south of Hollywell farmhouse.</p>
<p>2nd Edition Ordnance Survey Map (1904)</p>	 A historical map from 1904 showing the area around Waseley Hill. A red circle highlights the study area. Labels include 'Waseley Hill', 'Waseley Hill Farm', 'Hollywell Farm', 'Whetty Farm', and 'Rubery'. The map shows more detail, including buildings and roads. A scale bar and north arrow are visible at the bottom. Text at the bottom reads: 'Explore the Past Second Edition OS Map 1904 Waseley Hill High School, Bromsgrove'.	<p>New brick and tile works are shown throughout the area, notably the Whetty Works on Gunner Lane (now School Lane) falls within the modern boundary of the Waseley Hills High School site. In the east, Rubery has expanded including new houses and allotments. A new plantation at Rabbit Hill is shown to the east. The early medieval ridgeway recorded on the HER (see section 4.3.3 below) is depicted as a footpath to the west of the study area on this map.</p>

Title	Image	Description
Ordnance Survey Warwickshire XIXA.13 (1918)		There is little change from the 1918 map above. apart from a windpump depicted north of Holywell Lane, within what is now Waseley Hill Country Park. Chadwich Reservoir lies to the south-east and four semi-detached houses are depicted to the north of Whetty Brick and Tile Works.
Ordnance Survey Warwickshire XIXA.13 (1937)		The main courtyard block at Waseley Hill High School is shown on the 1937 Ordnance Survey map, with an associated sports ground to the west. Part of Gunner Lane has been renamed School Lane. North of this, the former Whetty Brick and Tile Works is now shown as an abandoned pit. In the west of the study area Rubery has expanded including rows of planned semi-detached houses. Some are still shown as under construction. Some of this housing lines School Road, south of the school, but this area is not fully infilled. West of Holy Well and south of Holywell Lane a new sports ground is also shown, with a pavilion and swimming pool. The major road entering the area from the south is now labelled as the A38 Birmingham Road.

Title	Image	Description
Ordnance Survey Plan (1955)	No image available	At the school there are two additional outbuildings shown. The footprint of the main courtyard block is shown as mostly unchanged from the previous map, but may have expanded slightly on the northern elevation. The remaining brick and tile works within the east of the study area is now also labelled as disused. The Chadwick Manor area in the south-west of the study area is labelled on this map as belonging to the National Trust.
Ordnance Survey Plan (1968)	No image available	This map shows significant change at the school, now labelled 'Waseley Hill County Secondary School'. On the northern edge of the main courtyard block a significant expansion has been added. A new school building is shown at the entrance from School Lane along with additional outbuildings. To the north, a new primary school, labelled Genow County Primary School, is shown as under construction. Housing to the south of School Road is now fully infilled. Additional housing is shown as under construction on the outskirts of Rubery to the east. To the south major roadworks are shown in progress. The line of the A38 has been altered and housing and the reservoir cleared to allow for widening and new earthworks.
Ordnance Survey Plan (1983)	No image available	This map shows the school as further expanded, notably with a large rectangular block situated west of the main courtyard block. The field boundaries to the north and around the primary school are no longer shown, indicating this area was converted from former agricultural fields into playing fields associated with the schools. A new car park is shown south-west of the school buildings, where there was formerly a windpump. A youth centre is now shown at the recreation ground to the south. The roadworks to realign the A38 appear complete, as the new route is shown in full on this map. Waseley Hills Country park is now labelled in the west. Rubery has further expanded, and is shown with factories and depots, further schools and a library.

Source: Envirocheck

4.3 Archaeological and Historical Development

This overview of the archaeological and historical background will include a review of the available historic environment information within the study area. Understanding the history of the site and chronology of development helps to determine its archaeological potential, and whether there are any features of heritage significance within the site or study area which may pose constraints on the proposed scheme. The historic environment baseline has been compiled using the data available from the sources identified in section Error! Reference source not found. above. The historic baseline in the following narrative is based on indicative archaeological and historic periods compiled using information primarily collated from the NHLE and Worcestershire HER. These historical periods are outlined in Table 2:

Table 2: Prehistoric and Historic Periods

Prehistoric Period Dates		Historic Period Dates	
Palaeolithic	800,000 to 10,000 BC	Roman	AD 43 to 410
Late Glacial / Mesolithic	10,000 to 4,000 BC	Early medieval	AD 410 to 1066
Neolithic / Early Bronze Age	4,000 to 1,600 BC	Medieval	AD 1066 to 1540
Middle Bronze Age	1,600 to 1,100 BC	Post-medieval	c.AD 1540 to 1900
Late Bronze Age	1,100 to 800 BC	Modern	c.AD 1900 to present
Early Iron Age	800 to 300 BC		
Middle Iron Age	400 to 100 BC		
Late Iron Age / Roman Transition	100 BC to AD 43		

4.3.1 Prehistoric

There is very little evidence of prehistoric activity within the study area. Two flint flakes (HER: WSM41827), dating broadly to the early Mesolithic – late Iron Age, were recovered from Beacon Hill to the far south, possibly outside the study area (the exact location was not recorded)⁸. A possible cropmark enclosure (HER: WSM09851), which may be prehistoric⁹, has been identified within the study area, 300m north of the site boundary. It is likely that forest extended over much of the study area, with the possible exception of the hills to the west, during this period. What remains of this is later referred to as Feckenham Forest¹⁰ and this would aid in explaining the limited evidence of settlement from the prehistoric period.

4.3.2 Roman

There is slightly more extensive evidence of Roman occupation within the study area. An area of Roman occupation (HER: SWM04771) was identified approximately 280m north-west of the site boundary. The area, towards Chadwick Manor, is believed to have been a late Roman

⁸ Worcestershire Historic Environment Record (2021), *WSM41827 Unlocated and Unstratified Finds for Bromsgrove*.

⁹ Worcestershire Historic Environment Record (2021), *WSM09851 Enclosure, North of Gunner Lane, Rubery, Bromsgrove*.

¹⁰ Worcestershire Historic Environment Record (2021), *WSM42160 Feckenham Forest*.

vicus, a civilian settlement¹¹. Additionally, a Roman coin hoard (HER: WSM02303) was recovered in the neighbouring parish of Belbroughton in 1833, but its exact location is unknown¹². Therefore, there was some activity in the study area during the Roman period, but its nature is not well understood, and it was likely not extensive.

4.3.3 Early medieval

Remains from the early medieval period are rare nationally and there is limited evidence from this period within the study area. A ridgeway (HER: WSM15569) passing over the hills to the west part of the study area is presumed to date to the early medieval period¹³.

4.3.4 Medieval

There is some evidence of medieval activity within the study area, but this is again limited. A Holy Well (HER: WSM01797) is first mentioned at Holywell, approximately 500m south-west of the site boundary, in 1232. A small spring with slabs is still present today. This well may indicate inhabitation of the area in the medieval period, or that it was part of a pilgrimage route or a route between settlements¹⁴. A holloway (HER: WSM03274), a road or track which sits lower than the surrounding land, runs nearby. This may date to the medieval period and may support the latter interpretation of the Holy Well being situated on a route between settlements¹⁵. A fish pond (HER: WSM37866) recorded at Broadmoor Wood has a possible medieval date but is more likely post-medieval¹⁶. Historic landscape characterisation, as recorded within the HER, indicates that most of the study area formed unenclosed land during the medieval period, including a mix of heathland and woodland.

4.3.5 Post-medieval

There is more substantial evidence of activity during the post-medieval period within the study area, including the establishment of settlement, agricultural activity and small-scale industry.

The placename 'Rubery' is first documented as 'Robery' ('rough hills') in the 17th century¹⁷. It was not cultivated until the 18th century, when much of the land was enclosed¹⁸. Ploughing practices of this period left distinct earthworks, known as ridge and furrow, which has been observed within the study area (HER: WSM41590)¹⁹. There was no nucleated settlement initially, instead scattered farmsteads were gradually constructed in the 18th and 19th centuries²⁰. These include the 19th century farmstead at Waseleyhill Farm²¹ (HER: WSM54951) approximately 100m north-west of the site boundary as well as nearby Holywell Farm²² (HER: WSM54964) and Whetty Farm²³ (HER: WSM54952). Towards the end of the period, linear settlement developed on the road running east-west through the study area (named Holywell Lane closest to the site). Several houses were built on adjacent plots and the Plough Inn was

¹¹ Worcestershire Historic Environment Record (2021), *WSM04771 Site of Romano-British Occupation, Chadwick, south west of Waseley Hill*.

¹² Worcestershire Historic Environment Record (2021), *WSM02303 Unlocated Find of Romano-British Coin Hoard in the Parish of Belbroughton*.

¹³ Worcestershire Historic Environment Record (2021), *WSM15569 Ridgeway Running North-South from Kitwell House to Romsley*.

¹⁴ Worcestershire Historic Environment Record (2021), *WSM01797 Holy Well, Redhill Lane, Rubery, Bromsgrove*.

¹⁵ Worcestershire Historic Environment Record (2021), *WSM03274 Holloway, West of Holy Well, Redhill Lane, Bromsgrove*.

¹⁶ Worcestershire Historic Environment Record (2021), *WSM37899 Fish Pond, Broadmoor Wood, Bromsgrove*.

¹⁷ Dargue, W. (2021) *A history of Birmingham Places and Placenames: Rubery*. Available online via: <https://billdargue.jimdofree.com/placenames-gazetteer-a-to-y/places-r/rubery>.

¹⁸ Ibid

¹⁹ Worcestershire Historic Environment Record (2021), *WSM41590 General Information for the Parish of Belbroughton*.

²⁰ Dargue, W. (2021) *A history of Birmingham Places and Placenames: Rubery*. Available online via: <https://billdargue.jimdofree.com/placenames-gazetteer-a-to-y/places-r/rubery>.

²¹ Worcestershire Historic Environment Record (2021), *WSM54951 Waseleyhill Farm, Bromsgrove*.

²² Worcestershire Historic Environment Record (2021), *WSM54964 Holywell Farm, Bromsgrove*.

²³ Worcestershire Historic Environment Record (2021), *WSM62602 2 - 8 Holywell Lane (Whetty Farm), Bromsgrove*.

established. Further east, a post office, smithy, chapel and school were established in the centre of Rubery, just outside the study area. These changes are depicted on historic maps as described in section 4.2 above.

Historic mapping reveals small scale industry throughout the study area towards the end of the post-medieval period. In particular there are a number of brick-making sites and quarries. One of these was located within the site boundary; Whetty Brick and Tile Works. The rest of the site boundary otherwise comprised farmland at the end of the post-medieval period. Historic mapping also shows some coppices and plantations shown, but these are on a small scale. Otherwise the study area remained in use as agriculture into the modern period.

4.3.6 Modern

In the early modern period, Rubery continued to expand westwards towards the site boundary, as a linear settlement along the road. A school and a smithy were established within the eastern part of the study area and additional housing, mostly semi-detached, was constructed. Some housing was constructed west of Gunner Lane, but none within the site boundary. The brick-making industry appears to have been in decline by 1918, based on available historic mapping which shows sites becoming disused. This is likely due to many employees signing up to support the war effort during the First World War.

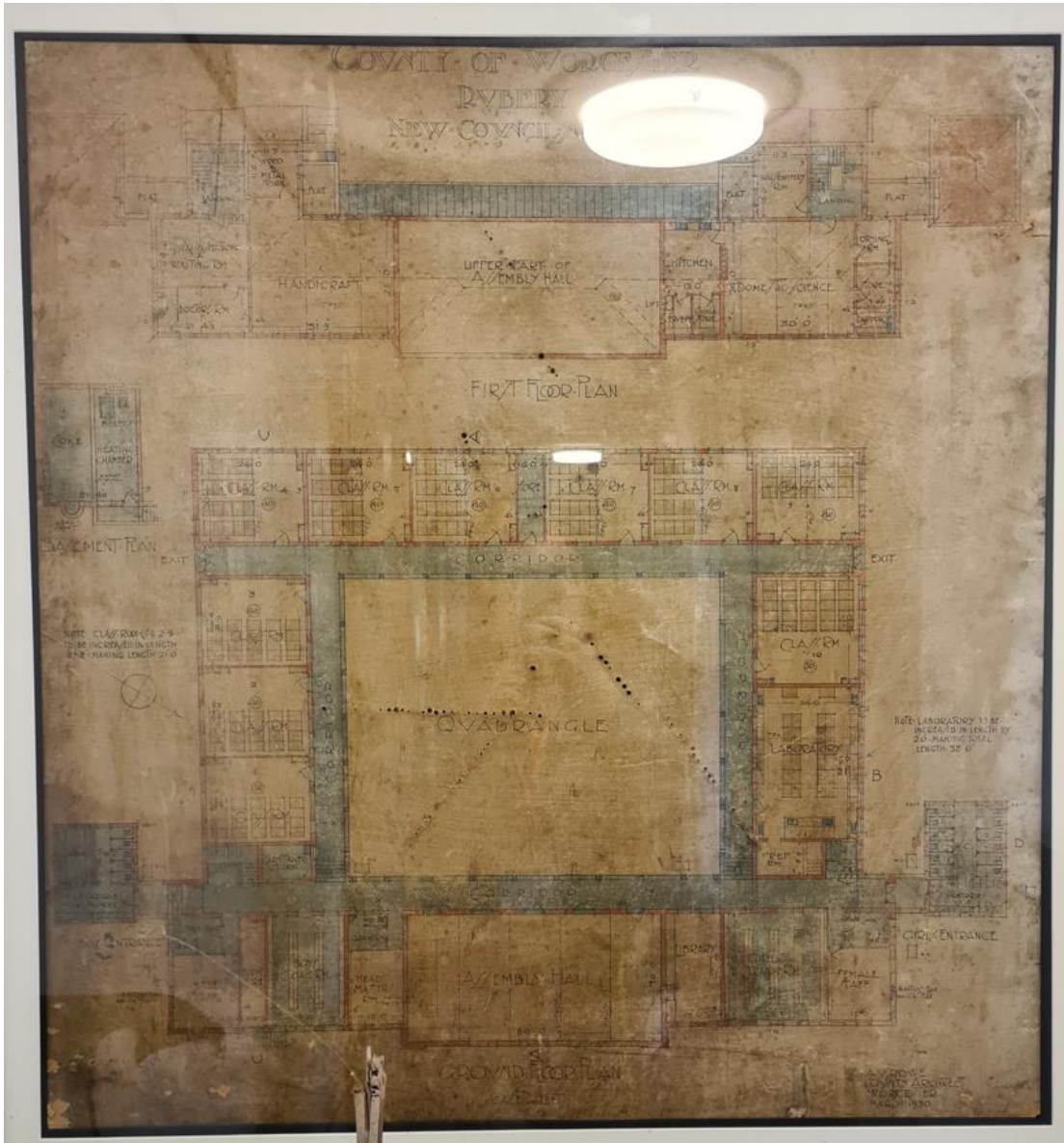
In 1906, Edward and George Cadbury, of chocolate company fame, established St Oswald Camp (HER: WSM71058) to provide adult school members with a weekend holiday centre. The camp was located at what is now Rubery Community and Leisure Centre, south of Holywell Lane. During the First World War the site became an evacuee centre and provided accommodation during summer months for families whose homes had been destroyed during the war. It served this role again in the Second World War, before falling into disrepair by 1961²⁴.

In the 1920s and 1930s, planned housing development greatly expanded the population of the area. Uniform developments were constructed throughout the east of the study area. Much of this housing is still present today. The expanding population created the need for additional facilities, including schools.

In March 1930, plans were drawn up for a new courtyard school in Rubery, south of the newly abandoned Whetty Brick and Tile Works. The plans were produced by A. V. Rowe, County Architect for Worcestershire, who had designed a number of schools in the county. The new school was initially called 'Rubery New Council School'. It was built to a rectangular plan with inner open courtyard, with separate boys' and girls' entrances (a typical feature of mixed-sex schools in the 19th and early 20th century), large assembly hall and first floor along the eastern elevation (see Figure 4.1 below).

²⁴ Worcestershire Historic Environment Record (2021), *WSM71058 St Oswald Camp, Holywell Lane, Rubery*.

Figure 4.1: Original plans of 'Rubery New Council School', by A. V. Rowe, 1930.



Source: Original plans displayed at Waseley Hills High School

The open courtyard demonstrates typical mid-20th century school designs, as this architectural feature promoted open air helping to alleviate illnesses, such as tuberculosis, that were prevalent within the 1930s. The courtyard design also promoted exercise and learning opportunities outdoors, particularly relevant to the school which was situated in a semi-rural area surrounding by a country park²⁵. Historic mapping of 1937 also shows a small landscaped area to the north-east of the courtyard block, as well as a house (possibly a headmasters or caretakers house) and a long, rectangular building, likely a storage building.

Historic mapping also indicates the stages of subsequent development at the school site over the modern period; by 1955, a small extension had been made to the north elevation of the courtyard block, suggesting an extension to one of the entrances to the building, and two

²⁵ Worcestershire County Council (2021) *Guide to 20th century non-domestic buildings and public places in Worcestershire*. Available online via: <https://www.explorethepast.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Guide-to-20th-century-non-domestic-buildings-and-public-places-in-Worcestershire.pdf>

additional outbuildings had been built in the field labelled 'Sports Ground', suggesting a development of the sports provisions at the school. By 1968, the school was renamed 'Waseley Hill County Secondary School, likely due to the construction of a new primary school, Gasnow County Primary (now Holywell Primary School) to the north. A large extension had been built off the northern elevation of the courtyard block by this period also – the development of both the secondary and primary school demonstrates an increased demand for school provision in this area in the 1960s. New outbuildings and a building at the entrance on School Lane are also shown as being built by this period.

By 1983, a large rectangular block had been added to the school site, to the west of the main courtyard block, and the site survey noted modern extensions to the southern elevation of the courtyard block to provide lift access in the building. Whilst the school site has undergone various phases of development since the school was established in the 1930s, the main courtyard block remains the recognisable 'core' of the school site.

4.4 Heritage Assets

4.4.1 Designated assets

There are no designated heritage assets within the study area.

4.4.2 Non-Designated assets

4.4.2.1 Within the site boundary

All non-designated assets within the study area are shown on drawings in Appendix A and detailed in full in a gazetteer in Appendix B.

The Worcestershire HER records five non-designated assets as being situated within the site boundary. One of these records is the approximate former extent of Feckenham Forest in the 13th century (HER: WSM42160). The record extends into the southern part of the site boundary by approximately 170m.

The remaining four records identified by the Worcestershire HER are not specific to the school site and, instead, comprise records that relate to the whole of the parish authority. These include a record for unlocated and unstratified Mesolithic to Late Iron Age finds (HER: WSM41827) and a recording of bombing raids during the Second World War (HER: WSM37212). The two remaining relate to the parish-wide information for Bromsgrove (HER: WSM37212) and a record of aerial photography (HER: WSM35889). These records provide information as opposed to detailing the site of specific heritage.

Waseley Hills High School

Following site survey (as described in section 3.4 above) and desk based assessment undertaken as part of this report, it has been identified that the main courtyard block at Waseley Hills High School should be considered a non-designated heritage asset.

The main courtyard block maintains much of its 1930s appearance, although some doors and most windows have been replaced and the layout has been altered in some areas (see Figures 4.3-4.5 below). It forms a red brick rectangular building, with tile roof. Other exterior features include a chimney on the southern elevation and decorated lead rainwater heads and guttering. The dormer windows on the north-eastern elevation may be recent additions, given their style. However, if so, it is likely these replaced earlier dormers. The separate boys' and girls' entrances have been lost by modern additions on the northern and southern elevations of the block.

The interior also retains original features and much of its original layout. This is especially evident in the assembly hall (see Figure 4.4 below) in the eastern part of the block, where despite recent renovations, original wooden panelling and cornicing survives. The assembly hall also retains tall, arched windows frames, a key feature of the eastern elevation of the building, which sit under a parapet. This room, likely one of the most elaborately decorated of the school, also includes likely original panelled doors. Panelled doors are also retained elsewhere in the block. One of the key features of the block, the internal courtyard space, is also retained (see Figure 4.5. below). Referred to as a 'Quadrangle' on the original 1930s drawings, this space today features a central paved area surrounded by vegetation. Although currently underused, this remains a well managed space. Much of the remaining rooms, primarily classrooms, remain to the original layout as indicated on the 1930s drawings, with the exception of what is now the administrative offices on the ground floor and where the courtyard block meets the new buildings on the northern elevation.

Figure 4.2: Eastern elevation of the main courtyard block



Source: Mott MacDonald (2021)

Figure 4.3: Interior of the Assembly Hall within the main courtyard block



Source: Mott MacDonald (2021)

Figure 4.4: Internal courtyard



Source: Mott MacDonald (2021)

This main courtyard block at Waseley Hills High School meets the criteria for local listing, as set out in guidance published by Bromsgrove District Council²⁶ (see section 2.4 above):

- **Age, Authenticity and Rarity** – The main courtyard block retains enough historic fabric that it can be argued that a ‘*significant and recognisable amount of its original form and fabric*’ remains, as stipulated in the local criteria. Comparison of the block alongside the original plans of 1930s allow for an understanding that much of the layout is retained, and the open courtyard especially ensures the original design remains legible. There are no comparable examples of 1930s courtyard school buildings within the Bromsgrove District, although there are two school buildings of comparable age. The first is Catshill Middle School, formed of one long range which retains less of its original fabric than Waseley Hills. The second is Parkside School, which was also designed by the county architect A. V. Rowe and is grade II listed (NHLE: 1392999²⁷). Parkside School is more highly decorated than the courtyard block at Waseley Hills High School, which is a principal reason for its listing, however is noted as also having limited alteration to its original layout and architectural detailing in the ‘impressive’ hall space, both of which also apply to the main courtyard block at Waseley Hills High School. A final comparable example within the county (although outside of the Bromsgrove District) is Pershore High School. This is a school building built in 1930, also to the designs of A. V. Rowe to a courtyard plan. This is recognised as a non-designated heritage asset by the local authority, included on the Worcestershire HER²⁸. As such, when considered against other comparable examples, it can be argued that the main courtyard block at Waseley Hills High School is not of listable quality, but meets the criteria for local listing.
- **Architectural Interest** – This is derived primarily from the courtyard plan of the block, a pioneering element of school architecture of the period. Alongside architectural features of interest both internally and externally, notably in the assembly hall space, it can be argued the block meets the requirements for assets of local list quality to ‘*illustrate distinctive artistic, craftsmanship, design, construction or landscaping qualities of interest*’. The principal reason for architectural interest, however, is a result of its affiliation with A. V. Rowe who designed the building. The local list guidance specifically states that assets which can be considered for inclusion on the local list ‘*can be attributed to nationally and locally important architects, designers, builders, gardeners or craftsmen... Locally important architects might include John Cotton and A V Rowe*’.
- **Historic Interest** – The courtyard block provides limited historical interest, associated with the development of educational provision in the area, but this is of importance on a local scale and therefore supports that the courtyard block is of local listing quality.
- **Townscape/Villagescape/Landscape Interest** – The local criteria states that buildings for inclusion on the local list may include ‘*assets which are locally important building types such as churches, chapels, schools and other distinctive features in the streetscape*’. The main courtyard block is not only a school building, therefore meeting this criteria, but is the original building of the school site when established in the 1930s, strengthening its importance and contribution to the local streetscape.

As such, the main courtyard block at Waseley Hills High School meets the criteria for locally listed buildings within the district and as such is considered a non-designated heritage asset.

Also shown on the historic mapping of 1937, alongside the main courtyard block, is a small house (possibly a headmasters house or caretakers house) alongside an adjacent structure, possibly a former storage building. The site survey also identified two gate piers framing the

²⁶ Bromsgrove District Council, *Local Heritage List Strategy*. Available online at: <https://www.bromsgrove.gov.uk/media/2130464/Local-Heritage-list-Strategy-low-res-19-07-16-3-.pdf>

²⁷ Historic England, *Parkside School*. Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1392999>

²⁸ Worcestershire HER 2021, HER Number: WSM66796. Data obtained 30/06/2021 for *Pershore High School Preliminary Archaeology and Heritage Survey*, Mott MacDonald, 2021.

entrance of the school off School Road, which likely also date to the establishment of the school in the 1930s. These three elements contribute to understanding the wider school site and to the main courtyard block especially. They do not, however, meet the criteria for the local list in their own right and as such are not considered non-designated heritage assets.

4.4.2.2 Within the study area

There are an additional 35 non-designated heritage assets within the study area, comprising seven buildings, 19 archaeological monuments, one park, four land records and two parish records for the neighbouring parish of Belbroughton. The following are located closest to Waseley Hills High School:

- Waseleyhill Farmhouse (HER: WSM5491), an early 19th century or possibly earlier farmhouse approximately 80m north-west of Waseley Hills High School;
- Holywell Farm (HER: WSM54964) a partially extant 19th century farmhouse approximately 170m west of Waseley Hills High School;
- Rubery Community and Leisure Centre (HER: WSM71060), a 1988 community centre 125m south of Waseley Hills High School;
- Waseley Hills Country Park (HER: WSM28934) which borders Waseley Hills High School to its west; and
- An early medieval ridgeway (HER: WSM15569) running roughly north-south approximately 60m west of Waseley Hills High School.

4.4.3 Events

All events (for example, archaeological excavation, building recording, reporting of investigations) within the study area are shown on the figure in Appendix A and detailed in full in the gazetteer in Appendix B.

No events are recorded in the Worcestershire HER within the site boundary, suggesting no past investigations pertaining to the historic environment have taken place. The nearest event is a landscape survey (HER: WSM41920) undertaken in 2009 at the adjacent Waseley Hills Country Park (HER: WSM28934). This survey was undertaken to record all historic environment features within the modern country park. Six features were identified, including the early medieval ridgeway (HER: WSM15569). The only other feature identified falling within the study area was a post-medieval quarry (HER: WSM26424). It was observed that overall survival and condition of surviving monuments was moderate to poor, predominately a consequence of invasive scrub and erosion²⁹.

²⁹ Worcestershire Historic Environment Record (2021), *WSM41920 Landscape Survey, Waseley Hills Country Park*.

5 Archaeological Potential and Significance

5.1 Survival of Unknown Archaeological Remains

Generally, the site has low potential for survival of unknown archaeological remains due to its historic development as a school since the 1930s. Where buildings and areas of hard standing currently occupy the southern part of the site, the potential for unknown archaeological remains will be negligible. Any previously unidentified archaeological remains would have been removed during initial construction of the school. Within areas currently occupied or retained as green space such as playing fields, there is a low to medium potential for unknown archaeological remains to survive.

5.2 Archaeological Potential

Table 2 below sets out the potential for archaeological remains within the site boundary as identified in the baseline. The archaeological potential is set out chronologically.

Table 3: Archaeological potential

Resource	Significance	Potential
Palaeoenvironmental remains	Medium to low depending on extent.	There is negligible potential for palaeoenvironmental remains to survive. This is due to the underlying geology which is likely to be till. There are no known watercourses within the study area where alluvium will be present and where palaeoenvironmental remains survive.
Prehistoric remains	In-situ remains would be medium or high depending on nature and extent.	There is low potential for prehistoric remains given the lack of activity from this period in the study area. The development of the school would have truncated any possible survival remains in the site boundary itself. Known activity is concentrated away from the site boundary with isolated flint flakes (HER: WSM41827) and a possible cropmark enclosure (HER: WSM09851) providing limited evidence of prehistoric activity in the study area. These assets do not demonstrate widespread activity or occupation.
Roman remains	In-situ remains would be high or medium depending on nature and extent.	There is low potential for Roman remains given the modern development of the school which is likely to have truncated any surviving archaeology. However, the potential is highest in the north-west corner of the site boundary where it is in closest proximity to a site of Roman occupation (HER: SWM04771) to the north-west. However, this is still at considerable distance from the site boundary and overall the potential is low.
Early medieval remains	In-situ remains would be medium or high depending on nature and extent.	There is low potential for early medieval remains, which are rare nationally. The north-west part of the site boundary may contain remains associated with the ridgeway (HER: WSM15569), however the date of the ridgeway is unconfirmed and the asset itself is not located within the site boundary.
Medieval remains	Medium to low depending on extent.	There is low potential for medieval remains. There may be some remains relating to the nearby holloways (HER: WSM03274) or initial clearance of the woodland and heathland, but this was likely later. Most evidence of medieval activity is concentrated to the south of the study area and not within or near the site boundary.

Resource	Significance	Potential
Post-medieval remains	Low	There is moderate to high potential for remains relating to post-medieval agriculture, as the study area contains ridge and furrow and is known to have been in agricultural use (HER: WSM41590). Specific land use within the site boundary for agriculture is not evidenced before the 19 th century. There is also moderate potential for remains relating to small scale industrial activity relating to the former brickworks located at the site (shown on historic mapping).
Modern remains	Low or negligible depending on nature and extent.	There is low potential for the site to contain modern remains other than unstratified finds, as the site has been in use for the school since the 1930s and modern remains predating this are concentrated to the south of the study area around St Oswald Camp (HER: WSM71058).

6 Key Constraints

This section identifies the heritage constraints to be considered regarding development at the site. Heritage constraints are considered to be key elements of the historical, architectural or archaeological significance of the study area, which may pose constraints on the design of the new scheme.

6.1 Main courtyard block, Waseley Hills High School

The key consideration for development within the site boundary is the main courtyard block of Waseley Hills High School. As outlined in section 4.4.2.1 above, this building has been assessed against the criteria published by Bromsgrove District Council and has been found to meet the criteria for inclusion on the local list, and is therefore considered a non-designated heritage asset.

This asset has been identified by this preliminary survey as being most likely to experience impact from development within the site boundary, which may include refurbishment and/or demolition and rebuilding of all existing blocks within the site boundary; therefore this asset places the greatest constraint on the scheme design.

The non-designated main courtyard block represents the earliest historic fabric associated with the school, as designed in 1930 and constructed by 1937. It provides evidence of the original phase of development within the site as well as an understanding of the historic function and the continued use of the school site. Overall, the building is a locally important architectural example of a building designed by A. V. Rowe, the county architect of Worcester, reflecting the communal interest and relationship within the streetscape. The building provides evidence of typical architectural features of 20th century school design, such as separate boys and girls entrances, but also more pioneering elements such as the open courtyard showing the importance of incorporating outside space within buildings to promote open air and help alleviate illnesses that were prevalent within the 1930s. The setting of the asset extends to the site boundary.

This asset has been identified by this preliminary survey as being most likely to experience impact from development within the site boundary, which may include refurbishment and/or demolition and rebuilding of all existing blocks within the site boundary; therefore this asset places the greatest constraint on the scheme design.

Figure 6.1: Non-designated main courtyard block at Waseley Hills High School



Source: ATLAS (2021)

6.2 Original house, former storage building and gate piers

The small house, adjacent former storage building and gate piers leading into the site, date to the original phase of the school site and were likely constructed at the time of the main courtyard block in the 1930s. These retain historic fabric, and provide context to the courtyard block but do not hold enough interest to be considered heritage assets in their own right. As such, these features provide heritage considerations, but do not place any major constraint on the scheme design.

6.3 Potential archaeological remains

An assessment of archaeological potential and significance (see section 5.2 above) found that generally, the site has low potential for survival of unknown archaeological remains due to its historic development as a school since the 1930s. Where buildings and areas of hard standing currently occupy the southern part of the site, the potential for unknown archaeological remains will be negligible and any previously unidentified archaeological remains would have been removed during initial construction of the school.

Within areas currently occupied or retained as green space such as playing fields, there is a low to medium potential for unknown archaeological remains to survive. In these areas, it has been determined there is low potential for archaeological remains dating to the Prehistoric, Roman, early medieval, mediaeval and modern periods. There is moderate to high potential for remains related to post-medieval agriculture. Of these, the largest possible constraint to development within the site boundary is the potential for Roman remains which, if present, could be of high or medium significance dependant on their nature and extent.

No other known heritage assets pose any constraint to development within the site boundary. There are no designated heritage assets within the study area. The non-designated assets identified by the HER as being within the study area are screened by built development, topography and vegetation within the surrounding area. Provided the scheme is proportionate to development within the local townscape (e.g. 1-2 storeys in height; see section 7 below) there is no potential to impact these assets and these pose no constraints on the scheme design.

7 Conclusions and Recommendations

This Archaeology and Heritage Survey has been prepared by Mott MacDonald on behalf of the DfE to inform the design of improvement works to Waseley Hills High School. This preliminary survey provides an overview of the historic environment baseline and specific recommendations for the scheme. The proposals are at an early stage and the scope of works is still being developed. Currently, options for improving the facilities at Waseley Hills High School may comprise refurbishment of existing blocks and/or demolition of existing blocks and construction of new blocks. All blocks present at the school are currently being considered for these works. There is also the potential to build new blocks outside the current footprint of the existing blocks.

The main courtyard block at Waseley Hills High School has been found to meet the local criteria for locally listed buildings, and is considered a non-designated heritage asset. This is primarily due to the interest provided by the overall well surviving historic fabric and form, and association with county architect A. V. Rowe. This non-designated heritage asset should be considered the principal constraint to the scheme.

The scheme should seek to retain and preserve the main courtyard block, ideally utilising it for continued educational use. This would ensure accordance with both local and national policy. A suitable scheme would be to renovate the courtyard block as needed to make it suitable for modern educational needs, whilst conserving and where necessary renovating the extant historic fabric. As much of the original form and layout should be retained in any works to the building, as this makes a large contribution to the interest of the asset. Preservation of the open central courtyard should be given the highest consideration. If it is not feasible to retain the block, or significant changes to the block are proposed, mitigation may be required. The local Conservation Officer should be consulted regarding the proposals to develop a mitigation plan. This is likely to include historic building recording before any demolition or alteration to the asset.

The small house, adjacent former storage building and gate piers leading into the site, should also be retained if feasible. This is because they provide context to the main courtyard block but, as they do not hold heritage interest in their own right, this is a consideration and should be considered a key constraint to the scheme.

Should the scheme include the construction of new blocks, or major alterations to existing, the scheme should seek to reference the existing townscape of Rubery and immediate streetscape of School Road and the surrounding area. This is primarily characterised by low rise development. As such, suitable development would be of one-two storeys. Materials which reference the red brick, tile and slate of surrounding properties as well as those within the site boundary, notably the main courtyard block, would complement the streetscape and be suitable. These measures will help minimise change in the setting of the non-designated main courtyard block (if retained) as well as to other non-designated heritage assets in the study area which may otherwise be impacted should an inappropriate scheme design be progressed.

An assessment of archaeological potential and significance (see section 5.2 above) found that generally, the site has low potential for survival of unknown archaeological remains due to its historic development as a school since the 1930s. In green spaces such as playing fields, there is a low to medium potential for unknown archaeological remains to survive. In these areas, it has been determined there is low potential for archaeological remains dating to the Prehistoric, Roman, early medieval, medieval and modern periods. There is moderate to high potential for remains related to post-medieval agriculture. Of these, the largest possible constraint to development within the site boundary is the potential for Roman remains which, if present, could

be of high or medium significance dependant on their nature and extent. It is recommended that the scheme uses the area covered by existing buildings and hardstanding, in the southern part of the site boundary, for any new development such as new buildings. The footprints may be altered, but by remaining within existing developed areas there is a lower risk of encountering any unknown archaeological remains, if present. If areas of existing green space is required for the scheme, this should avoid the north-west corner where there is a higher potential for unknown archaeological remains to survive. If this is not feasible, further archaeological assessment and/or investigation may be required to evaluate the area through consultation with the local planning archaeologist with an agreed mitigation strategy.

The Mott MacDonald Heritage Team should be consulted on the scheme design as it develops, to advice whether any further assessment is needed to complement this report, which is intended only as a preliminary survey to identify key considerations for the scheme design.

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Worcestershire Historic Environment Record (2021), *WSM54951 Waseleyhill Farm, Bromsgrove*.

Worcestershire Historic Environment Record (2021), *WSM54964 Holywell Farm, Bromsgrove*.

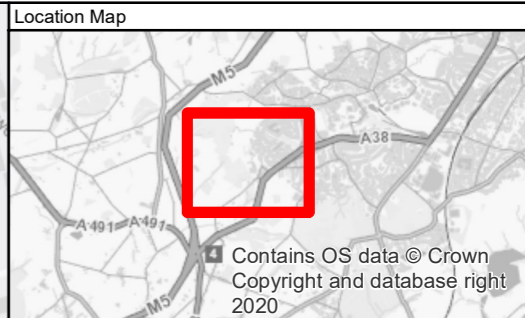
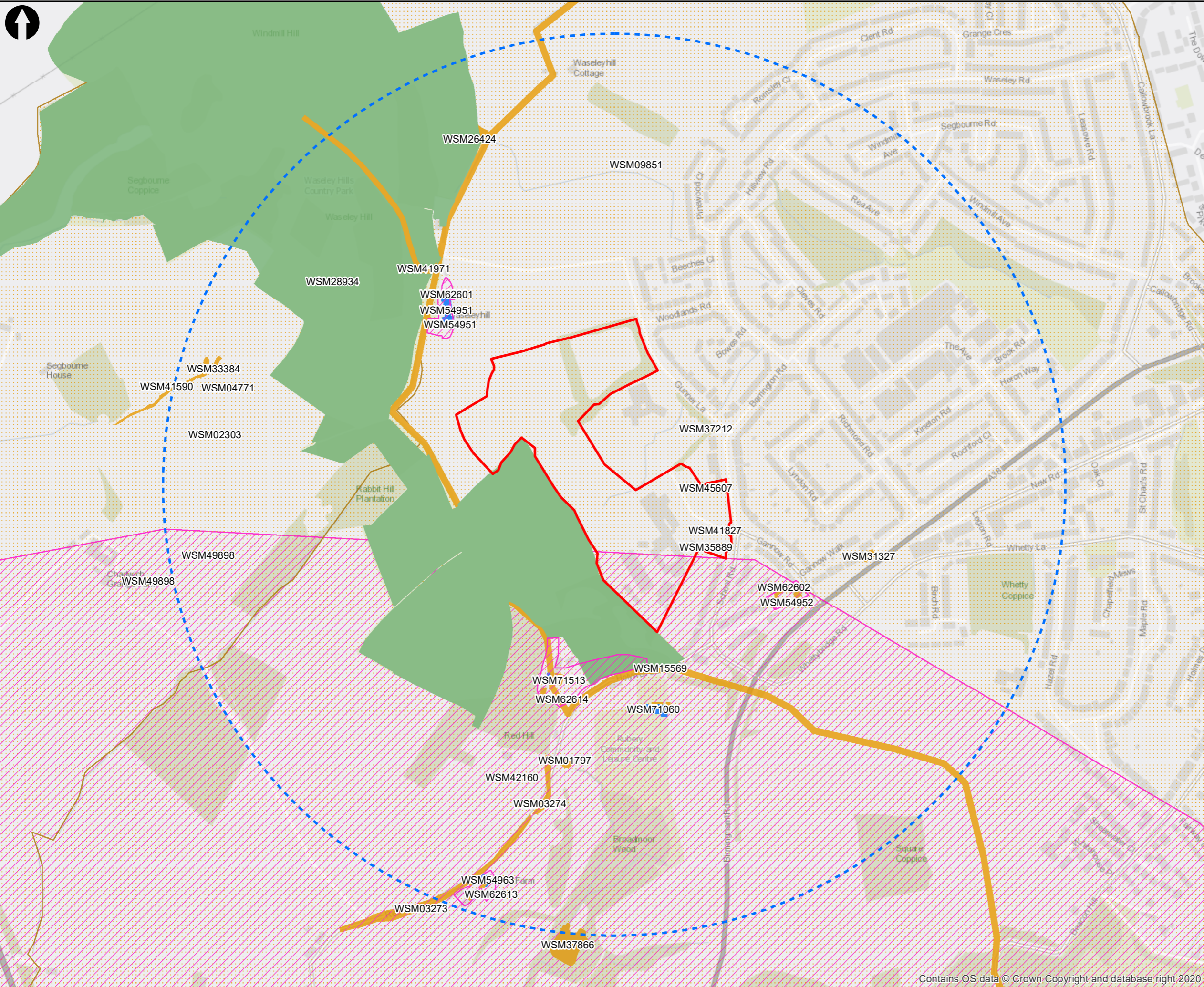
Worcestershire Historic Environment Record (2021), *WSM62602 2 - 8 Holywell Lane (Whetty Farm), Bromsgrove*.

Worcestershire Historic Environment Record (2021), *WSM71058 St Oswald Camp, Holywell Lane, Rubery.*

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A. Figures



Key to Symbols

- Waseley Hills High School
- Study Area

HER Record by Type

- Building
- Park
- Monument
- Land
- Parish

Notes

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01	14/09/21	IG	For Information	KL	JT

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Non-Designated Assets recorded in the HER in the study area for Waseley Hills High School

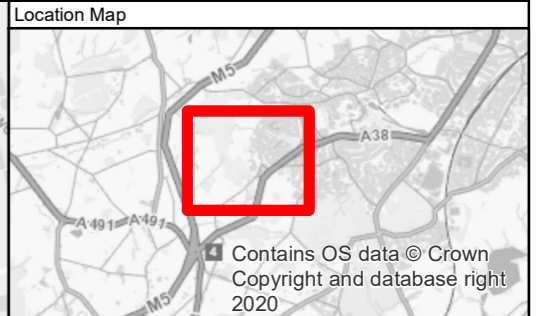
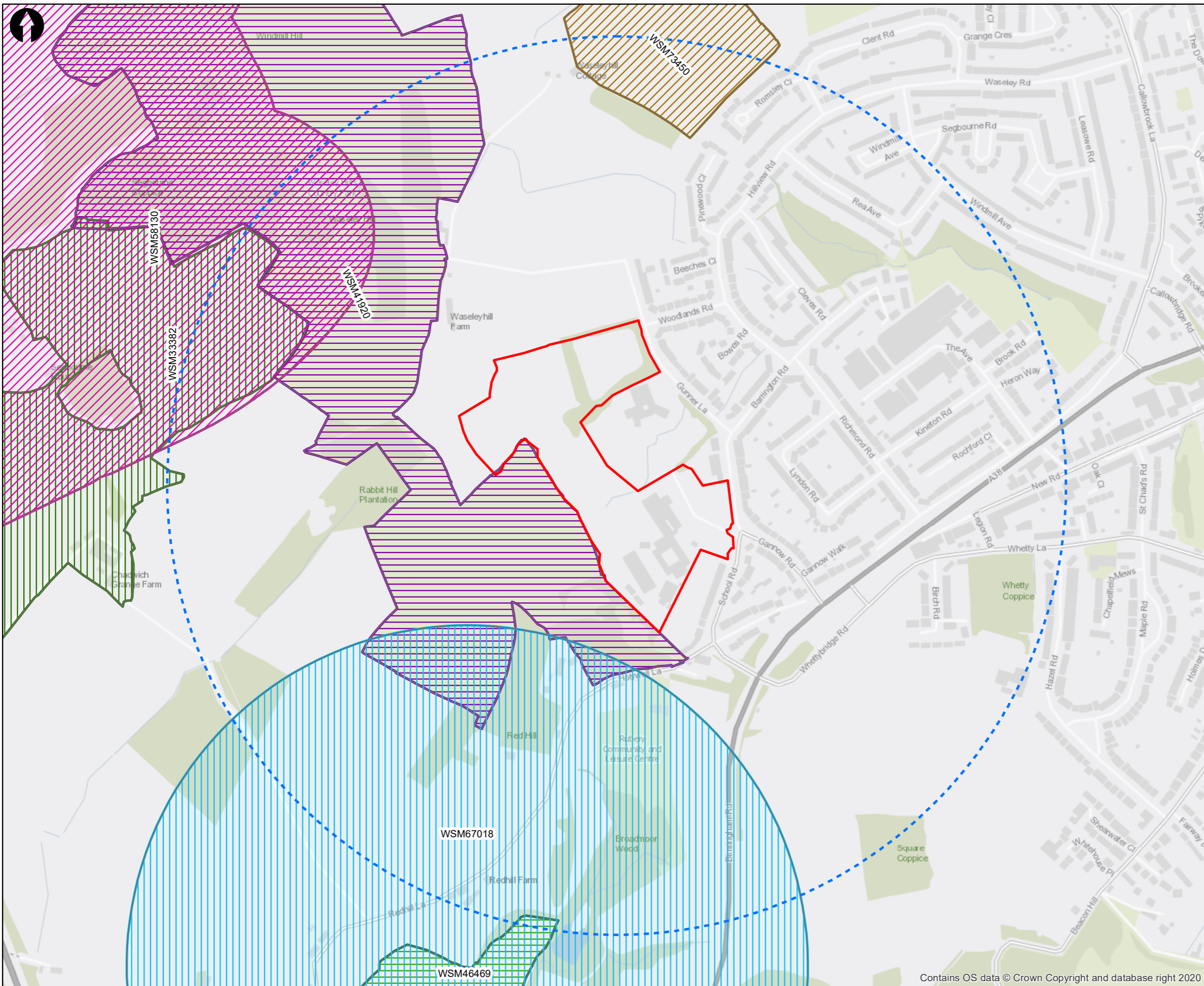
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Drawn	Gray-Davies	Coordination	K Luker
GIS Check	N/A	Approved	J Timothy

Scale at A3	Status	Rev	Security
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Key to Symbols

- Waseley Hills High School
- Study Area

Events by HER Reference

- WSM33382
- WSM41920
- WSM46469
- WSM58130
- WSM67018
- WSM73450

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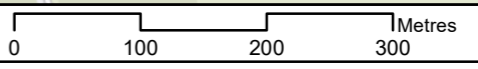
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Drawn	Gray-Davies	Coordination	K Luker
GIS Check	N/A	Approved	J Timothy

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B. Gazetteer of Heritage Assets

There are no designated heritage assets within the study area, therefore a gazetteer of non-designated assets (including events) only is given here.

Table 4: Gazetteer of non-designated heritage assets within the study area

HER Reference	Record Type	Name	Summary	Detailed Monument Type	Period
WSM54951	Building	Waseleyhill Farm, Bromsgrove	Extant 19th century (?) farmstead with converted buildings.	FARMSTEAD	19TH CENTURY AD to 21ST CENTURY AD
WSM54963	Building	Farmhouse, Redhill Farm, Bromsgrove	19th century red brick farmhouse.	FARMSTEAD; FARMHOUSE	19TH CENTURY AD to 21ST CENTURY AD
WSM54964	Building	Holywell Farm, Bromsgrove	Partially extant 19th century (?) farmstead with unconverted buildings.	FARM BUILDING	19TH CENTURY AD to 21ST CENTURY AD
WSM67726	Building	Pig Sty, Redhill Farm, Bromsgrove	19th century red brick pig sty.	PIGSTY	19TH CENTURY AD to 21ST CENTURY AD
WSM67727	Building	Agricultural Buildings, Redhill Farm, Bromsgrove	19th century red brick agricultural buildings.	AGRICULTURAL BUILDING	19TH CENTURY AD to 21ST CENTURY AD
WSM67729	Building	Threshing Barn, Redhill Farm, Bromsgrove	19th century red brick threshing barn.	PIGSTY	19TH CENTURY AD to 21ST CENTURY AD
WSM71060	Building	Rubery Community and Leisure Centre, Holywell Lane, Rubery	Community and Leisure Centre built in 1988	-	20TH CENTURY AD to 21ST CENTURY AD
WSM01797	Monument	Holy Well, Redhill Lane, Rubery, Bromsgrove	Holy well shown on 1st edition OS map.	HOLY WELL	MEDIEVAL
WSM03273	Monument	Holloway, West of Redhill Farm, Redhill Lane, Bromsgrove	Holloway.	HOLLOW WAY	LATE 11TH CENTURY AD to 18TH CENTURY AD
WSM03274	Monument	Holloway, West of Holy Well, Redhill Lane, Bromsgrove	Holloway.	HOLLOW WAY	LATE 11TH CENTURY AD to 18TH CENTURY AD
WSM04771	Monument	Site of Romano-British Occupation, Chadwick, south west of Waseley Hill	Site of Romano-British occupation.	OCCUPATION SITE	ROMAN
WSM09851	Monument	Enclosure, North of Gunner Lane, Rubery, Bromsgrove	Enclosure.	ENCLOSURE	Unknown
WSM15569	Monument	Ridgeway Running North-South from Kitwell House to Romsley	Ridgeway.	TRACKWAY	EARLY MEDIEVAL
WSM26424	Monument	Old Quarry, Waseley Hill Country Park, Bromsgrove	Old quarry.	QUARRY	Unknown
WSM31327	Monument	Site of Plough Inn, Birmingham Road, Rubery	Site of inn, most probably 19th century. No longer standing.	INN; AIR RAID WARDENS POST	19TH CENTURY AD to 20TH CENTURY AD
WSM33383	Monument	Pond, Chadwick Grange Farm, Rubery	Man-made pond. The pond is dug into the hill, with an earthwork dam downstream of a spring. The pond appears to be a post-	ORNAMENTAL POND	POST MEDIEVAL to 21ST CENTURY AD

HER Reference	Record Type	Name	Summary	Detailed Monument Type	Period
			medieval landscape feature and is along the line of a relict earthwork boundary bank, though it may have earlier origins.		
WSM33384	Monument	Parkland Features, Terraced Trackway, Chadwick Grange Farm Rubery	A terraced trackway running north-east up the eastern side of a small valley occupying field number 1333.	TRACKWAY	POST MEDIEVAL to 21ST CENTURY AD
WSM37866	Monument	Fish Pond, Broadmoor Wood, Bromsgrove	Fish pond evident on historic mapping.	Fish Pond; POOL	LATE 11TH CENTURY AD to 20TH CENTURY AD
WSM41971	Monument	Droeway, North of Waseley Hill Farm, Bromsgrove	Droeway stretching from Waseley Hill Farm to an outfarm.	Droeway	18TH CENTURY AD to 21ST CENTURY AD
WSM49898	Monument	Extraction Pits/Quarries, east of Chadwick Grange, Belbroughton	Two discrete extraction pits/quarries, recorded on 1st Edition OS map.	QUARRY	POST MEDIEVAL
WSM54952	Monument	2 - 8 Holywell Lane (Whetty Farm), Bromsgrove	Demolished 19th century (?) farmstead.	FARMSTEAD	19TH CENTURY AD to 21ST CENTURY AD
WSM67728	Monument	Site of Buildings, Redhill Farm, Bromsgrove	Site of 19th century buildings.	AGRICULTURAL BUILDING	19TH CENTURY AD to 21ST CENTURY AD
WSM67728	Monument	Site of Buildings, Redhill Farm, Bromsgrove	Site of 19th century buildings.	AGRICULTURAL BUILDING	19TH CENTURY AD to 21ST CENTURY AD
WSM67728	Monument	Site of Buildings, Redhill Farm, Bromsgrove	Site of 19th century buildings.	AGRICULTURAL BUILDING	19TH CENTURY AD to 21ST CENTURY AD
WSM71058	Monument	St Oswald Camp, Holywell Lane, Rubery.	Education campsite built in 1906	CAMPSITE; EVACUEE CENTRE	20TH CENTURY AD to World War Two
WSM71058	Monument	St Oswald Camp, Holywell Lane, Rubery.	Education campsite built in 1906	CAMPSITE; EVACUEE CENTRE	20TH CENTURY AD to World War Two
WSM71513	Monument	Holywell Farm, Bromsgrove	Site of farm building at partially extant 19th century (?) farmstead with unconverted buildings.	FARM BUILDING	19TH CENTURY AD to 20TH CENTURY AD
WSM28934	Park	Park, Waseley Hills Country Park.	Country Park owned by Worcestershire County Council and the National Trust. Until the 16th century this area was part of the park associated with Chadwick Manor.	PARK	MODERN
WSM42160	Land	Feckenham Forest	13th century boundary of Feckenham Forest.	HISTORIC COMPONENT	LATE 11TH CENTURY AD to 17TH CENTURY AD
WSM62601	Land	Waseleyhill Farm, Bromsgrove	Extant 19th century (?) unlisted farmstead with converted buildings.	FARMSTEAD	19TH CENTURY AD to 21ST CENTURY AD
WSM62602	Land	2 - 8 Holywell Lane (Whetty Farm), Bromsgrove	Demolished 19th century (?) farmstead.	FARMSTEAD	19TH CENTURY AD to 21ST CENTURY AD
WSM62613	Land	Redhill Farm, Bromsgrove	Redhill Farm, Bromsgrove. Partially extant 19th century (?) farmstead with unconverted buildings.	FARMSTEAD	19TH CENTURY AD to 21ST CENTURY AD
WSM62614	Land	Holywell Farm, Bromsgrove	Partially extant 19th century (?) farmstead with unconverted buildings.	FARMSTEAD	19TH CENTURY AD to 21ST CENTURY AD

HER Reference	Record Type	Name	Summary	Detailed Monument Type	Period
WSM02303	Parish	Unlocated Find of Romano-British Coin Hoard in the Parish of Belbroughton	-	FINDSPOT	3RD CENTURY AD
WSM35889	Parish	Parish of Bromsgrove, General Oblique and Vertical Aerial Photographs.	Oblique and vertical aerial photographs.	-	Unknown
WSM37212	Parish	Parish of Bromsgrove, World War II Bombing Raids	WWII bombing raids in the parish.	BOMB SITE	World War Two
WSM41590	Parish	General Information for the Parish of Belbroughton	General Parish Information	RIDGE AND FURROW; EVENT	LATE 11TH CENTURY AD to 19TH CENTURY AD
WSM41827	Parish	Unlocated and Unstratified Finds for Bromsgrove	-	EVENT	EARLY MESOLITHIC to LATE IRON AGE
WSM45607	Parish	General Parish Information for the Parish of Bromsgrove	-	-	Unknown

Source: Worcestershire Historic Environment Record

Table 5: Gazetteer of Events

HER Reference	Record Type	Name	Organisation
WSM73450	EVT	Evaluation in 2020 at New Inns Lane, Rubery	Network Archaeology
WSM33382	EVS	CSS Site Visit, Chadwick Grange Farm, Rubery	Worcestershire Historic Environment and Archaeology Service
WSM41920	EVS	Landscape Survey, Waseley Hills Country Park	Worcestershire Historic Environment and Archaeology Service
WSM46469	EVS	Student Training Project in 2012 by Birmingham University at Land North of Chadwich Manor	Birmingham Archaeology
WSM58130	DBA	Desk based Assessment in 2014 on various areas in North Worcestershire - Section 3i	Jacobs Engineering UK Ltd
WSM67018	DBA	Ongoing Work: Desk Based Landscape Survey in 2015 on Chadwich Manor Estate, Rubery	Cotswold Archaeology

Source: Worcestershire Historic Environment Record

