

# *Archaeology Wales*

## **Industrial Storage Unit at Whittington Road, Oswestry, Shropshire**

Archaeological Assessment & Visual Impact Analysis



By

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Report No. 1491


# Archaeology Wales

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## CONTENTS

Non-Technical Summary	1
1. Introduction	2
2. Topography and Geology	2
3. Methodology	2
3.1 Introduction	
3.2 Aims	
3.3 Study Area	
3.4 Resources	
3.5 Walkover Survey	
3.6 Visual Impact Analysis	
4. Results of the Assessment	7
4.1 The Historic Landscape	
4.2 Scheduled Ancient Monuments	
4.3 Listed Buildings	
4.4 Registered Parks & Gardens	
4.5 Conservation Areas	
4.6 Registered Battlefields	
4.7 Non-Designated Sites	
5. Map Regression	17
6. Aerial Photographs	17
7. Site Visit	18
8. Impact Assessment	18
8.1 Assessment of archaeological potential and importance	
8.2 Historic Landscapes	
8.3 Scheduled Ancient Monuments	
8.4 Listed Buildings	
8.5 Conservation Areas	
9. Conclusion	20
10. References	22

### List of Tables

1. Criteria for defining the value of cultural heritage assets
2. Matrix to assess the overall impact on cultural heritage assets

### List of Figures

1. Location map
2. Map of designated heritage assets
3. Map of non-designated heritage assets
4. Map of historic landscapes and Conservation Areas
5. Extract of Ordnance Survey map of 1838
6. Extract of Ordnance Survey map of 1875
7. Extract of Ordnance Survey map of 1901
8. Extract of Ordnance Survey map of 1968-9
9. Plan of geophysical survey (2007) and evaluation trenches (2009)

## **List of Plates**

- 1-5. The industrial estate and the new storage unit
- 6&7. Views of the storage unit from Old Oswestry Hillfort
- 8. View of the storage unit from Wat's Dyke

## **Appendix I: Gazetteer of Sites – Shropshire HER**

## **Appendix II: Specification**

## **Appendix III: Archive Cover Sheet**

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## NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

*Archaeology Wales Limited (AW) has been commissioned by Traditional Products Limited to carry out an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Visual Impact Analysis for a retrospective planning application relating to a storage unit on Whittington Road, Oswestry, Shropshire. The local planning authority is Shropshire Council, and the planning reference is 16/02139/FUL.*

*The development site overlooks the historic landscape characterised as Principal Settled Farmlands. This landscape is generally well-preserved, but the parcel to the north of the new unit has slightly less coherence due to surrounding development. The overall significance of effect of the development on this landscape is considered to be negligible.*

*There are two significant monuments recorded within the study area; Old Oswestry hillfort (Historic England No: 1014899), which includes two sections of Wat's Dyke, and another 80m section of the Dyke in Oswestry (Historic England No: 1020564). Old Oswestry is one of the finest Iron Age hillforts in Britain. Occupation at Old Oswestry dates back to the Bronze Age, and there is evidence for re-use during the Roman and early medieval periods. Incorporation of the hillfort into the eighth century Wat's Dyke, is of particular archaeological and historical importance. The overall value of this monument has been assessed as very high. Views of the new storage unit from Oswestry Hillfort, are partly obscured by vegetation, but this industrial unit is visible against the backdrop of surrounding buildings. The visual impact of the development on the hillfort is considered to be minor adverse. The cumulative impact of development encroaching towards the scheduled hillfort has been assessed as moderate. Wat's Dyke is considered to be a high value asset; notably, the incorporation of Old Oswestry within the defensive structure indicates continuity prehistoric through to the medieval period. Views towards and from the Shelf Bank section of the Dyke are screened from the storage unit by urban development and the existing industrial units on Whittington Road. The significance of effect on the scheduled area at Shelf Bank has been assessed as neutral. Views from Wat's Dyke, south of Old Oswestry Hillfort, are partly obscured by vegetation, but the new unit is clearly visible. The significance of effect has been assessed as negligible adverse. The cumulative impact of development encroaching towards the scheduled hillfort has been assessed as moderate.*

*There are two listed buildings associated with the mid-nineteenth Cambrian Railway located within 1km of the development; the Cambrian Works (Historic England No: 1054302) and the railway station and former headquarters (Historic England List No: 1367339). Views of the new industrial unit are fully screened by the existing industrial units on the Whittington Road estate. The visual impact of the development has been assessed as neutral. Similarly, any view of the new building from Oswestry Conservation Area is blocked by the existing industrial buildings, so the visual impact is also considered to be neutral.*

*The development site is located within an archaeologically sensitive area, in the vicinity of Old Oswestry Hillfort. The archaeological record nonetheless suggests the existing industrial estate on Whittington Road is located within an area of generally low to moderate archaeological potential. The surrounding fields have been subject to a geophysical survey (2007) and archaeological evaluation (2009). The trial trenching identified a small number of post-medieval and modern features in addition to WWI mortar craters, and there is no evidence for later prehistoric or Roman features similar to those located to the north of the hillfort.*

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Archaeology Wales Limited (AW) has been commissioned by Traditional Products Limited to carry out an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Visual Impact Analysis for a retrospective planning application relating to a storage unit located on an industrial estate at Whittington Road, Oswestry, Shropshire, SY11 1HZ (Figure 1). The local planning authority is Shropshire Council, and the planning reference is 16/02139/FUL.

The storage unit is approximately 30.30m long, 16.20m broad and 7.10m high, with a triple pitch roof and a light brown coloured external cladding material (Plates 1-5). Information relating to the development has been supplied by Advance Building Designs Ltd, Top Floor, 9 Broad Street, Newtown, Powys, SY16 2LU.

Shropshire Council Archaeology Service - Historic Environment Team (SC-HET) have requested that an assessment and visual impact analysis is undertaken to determine the significance of any heritage assets affected by the development.

The purpose of the Desk-Based and Visual Impact Assessments is to provide SC-HET with the information they are likely to request in respect of the retrospective planning, the requirements for which are set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012).

The AW project number for the work is 2453 and the site code is WRO/16/DBA. The project details are summarised on the Archive Cover Sheet (Appendix III).

## **2. TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY**

The building is located within an established industrial estate within the premises of Tradition Products Ltd on the northern side of Whittington Road, on the outskirts of Oswestry. The site contains a number of other large industrial buildings. This building has been erected close to a disused railway line that marks the north-western boundary of the property. There is an area of rough ground to the north of the site and agricultural enclosures to the northeast of the industrial estate.

The development is located approximately 1km to the northeast of the historic settlement core of Oswestry. The site is about 350m southeast of Old Oswestry Hillfort, which is recorded by Historic England as a Scheduled Ancient Monument (HE List No: 1014899).

The development site at an approximate altitude of 115m OD, centred at NGR 329945 330610 (SJ 2995 3061).

The regional geology as mapped by the British Geological Survey (at 1:50,000 scale) indicates that the development is situated on bedrock deposits of mudstone, siltstone, sandstone and conglomerate of the Salop Formation. The superficial geology consists of glacial till (sands, clays and gravels).

## **3. METHODOLOGY**

### **3.1 Introduction**

The methodology for this assessment follows that set out in the approved Specification (Appendix II).

The archaeological assessment has been carried out in accordance with the *Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment* issued by the *Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014)*. The visual impact analysis has been undertaken according to *The Setting of Heritage*

*Assets*, published by *Historic England (2015)* and the *Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments for Cultural Heritage World Heritage Properties* issued by the *International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS, 2011)*.

### **3.2 Aims**

The primary objective of the study is to assess the impact of the development on the historic environment by means of a desk-based study, site visit and visual impact analysis. This report aims to provide information of sufficient detail to allow informed planning decisions to be made which can safeguard the archaeological resource.

### **3.3 Study Area**

The archaeological and historic records have been considered within 500m of the development site in the Shropshire Council Historic Environment Records (HER) and the National Record of the Historic Environment (NRHE) held by Historic England. The data on portable antiquities has also been assessed within the intensive study area.

A study area of 1km from the development site has been assessed for heritage assets with statutory protection (as recorded by Historic England) as well as Conservation Areas and Registered Battlefields, the setting of which may be affected by the proposed development.

### **3.4 Resources**

As part of the desk-based assessment, the following repositories were consulted for readily available information:

- The Historic England list of Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Registered Parks/Gardens and Registered Battlefields;
- Conservation Areas and Historic Landscapes recorded by Shropshire Council;
- The Shropshire Council Historic Environment Record (HER) databases for the locations of all known heritage assets;
- County archives for all material relating to local studies, historic documents and historic mapping;
- Online services for relevant information, historic mapping, portable antiquities, geological/geotechnical information and satellite imagery.
- Online assessment of aerial photographs and satellite imagery;

### **3.5 Walkover Survey**

This involved walking systematically over the proposed development area. The aims of the site survey were:

- To assess the present condition of the known heritage assets identified through the assessment;
- To identify heritage assets not included on the HER;

- To assess the proposed development area for its potential to contain buried archaeological remains;
- To assess the visual impact of the scheme upon significant heritage assets in the surrounding landscape.

### 3.6 Visual Impact Analysis

#### *Assessment of the Significance of a Heritage Asset*

In order to understand the effect of the proposed scheme upon a heritage asset, these assets have been individually assessed in relation to statutory designations and the regional research agenda. The value of the heritage assets have been defined using the following grades: Very High, High, Medium, Low, Negligible and Unknown. The criteria for defining the importance of an asset are shown in Table 1.

**Table 1: Criteria for Defining the Value of Cultural Heritage Assets**

<b>Value of Heritage Asset</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>Very High</b>	<p><b>Archaeological Sites:</b> Sites of international importance, inscribed as a World Heritage Site. Individual attributes that convey Outstanding Universal Value of a World Heritage Site. Assets that can contribute significantly to international research objectives.</p>
	<p><b>Built Heritage:</b> Buildings or structures of acknowledged international importance, inscribed as a World Heritage Site. Buildings or urban landscapes of recognised international importance.</p>
	<p><b>Landscape:</b> Landscapes inscribed as a World Heritage Site. Undesignated landscapes of international importance.</p>
<b>High</b>	<p><b>Archaeological Sites:</b> Scheduled Ancient Monuments Assets that can contribute significantly to national research objectives. Undesignated sites of national importance.</p>
	<p><b>Built Heritage:</b> Listed Buildings Conservation Areas containing very important buildings. Undesignated buildings with exceptional historical associations Undesignated structures of national importance. Well-preserved historic townscapes with exceptional coherence.</p>
	<p><b>Landscape:</b> Registered Parks and Gardens Registered Battlefields Nationally designated historic landscapes. Undesignated landscapes of outstanding interest and national value. Well-preserved historic landscapes with exceptional coherence.</p>



<b>Medium</b>	<p><b>Archaeological Sites:</b> Assets that can contribute significantly to regional research objectives. Undesignated sites of regional importance. Archaeologically Sensitive Areas.</p>
	<p><b>Built Heritage:</b> Conservation Areas containing buildings which significantly contribute to its historic character. Townscapes or built-up areas with good historic integrity. Undesignated buildings with exceptional qualities or historical associations Undesignated structures of regional importance.</p>
	<p><b>Landscape:</b> Designated historic landscapes. Moderately well-preserved historic landscapes with reasonable coherence. Townscapes with moderate historic integrity.</p>
<b>Low</b>	<p><b>Archaeological Sites:</b> Undesignated sites of local importance Assets compromised by poor preservation and/or poor survival of contextual associations. Assets with the potential to contribute to local research objectives.</p>
	<p><b>Built Heritage:</b> Historic buildings of modest architectural or historic quality Historic buildings with modest historical associations Undesignated structures of local importance. Townscapes with vernacular characteristics but limited historic integrity.</p>
	<p><b>Landscape:</b> Landscapes of local importance. Poorly preserved historic landscapes.</p>
<b>Negligible</b>	<p><b>Archaeological Sites:</b> Assets with limited surviving archaeological interest.</p>
	<p><b>Built Heritage:</b> Historic buildings with no significant architectural or historic merit. Townscapes with no historic integrity.</p>
	<p><b>Landscape:</b> Landscapes with no historic integrity.</p>

### *The Significance of the Setting of a Heritage Asset*

The setting of a heritage asset relates its immediate surroundings and the extended views of the asset. Setting embraces all of the surroundings from which the heritage asset can be experienced or that can be experienced from the asset. The setting takes into account views from, towards and through the asset. It should be noted that the contribution that setting makes to the significance of an asset does not depend on ownership or public access to experience that setting.

The value of setting for a heritage asset has been assessed by considering the importance of that asset, as defined by the criteria set out in Table 1. The degree to which the setting contributes to the understanding or appreciation of the asset has been determined according to the extent the surroundings complement the location and appearance of an asset. The overall value of the setting of an asset has been assessed as a function of the importance of an asset and the significance of its setting.

### ***Assessment of Impact of the Proposed Development***

The impacts considered for the proposed development significantly include the physical impact within the footprint of the site, and the visual impact upon the setting of surrounding monuments or the change in view from those assets.

In order to assess the visual impact of the scheme, all heritage assets have been considered within the Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) of the development site. The ZTV has been used to define the area from which an asset may be totally or partially visible by reference to surrounding topography. In accordance with Historic England guidelines, the analysis does not take into account landscape artefacts such as trees, woodland or buildings.

The scale and severity of impacts upon heritage assets have been ranked using the following grades: No Impact, Negligible Impact, Minor Impact, Moderate Impact and Major Impact.

**Table 2: Matrix to Assess the Overall Impact on Cultural Heritage Assets**

	VALUE OF HERITAGE ASSET				
	Very High	High	Medium	Low	Negligible
SEVERITY OF IMPACT	OVERALL IMPACT / SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECT (AVERSE OR BENEFICIAL)				
Major Impact	Major	Major	Major	Moderate	Minor
Moderate Impact	Major	Major	Moderate	Minor	Negligible
Minor Impact	Moderate / Major	Moderate	Minor	Negligible	Negligible
Negligible Impact	Minor	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible
No Impact	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral

### ***Assessment of the Significance of Effect***

The overall impact of the proposed development upon individual heritage assets has been assessed as a function of the importance of the asset and the scale of change to the asset or the setting of that asset. These assessments have been used to inform the professional judgement of the likely significance of the effect or overall impact of the development.

Table 2 presents the matrix that has been used as a guide to assess the significance of effect on assets and their settings. The significance of change on each asset has been ranked using a nine-point scale: Major Beneficial, Moderate Beneficial, Minor Beneficial, Negligible Beneficial, Neutral, Negligible Adverse, Minor Adverse, Moderate Adverse and Major Adverse.

## **4. RESULTS OF THE ASSESSMENT**

### **4.1 The Historic Landscape (Figure 4)**

The development site is situated on the edge of the urban townscape of Oswestry, and overlooks the historic landscape characterised as Principal Settled Farmlands. These are the settled lowlands prevalent in north Shropshire. The settlement pattern is defined by hamlets and smaller villages and a medium to high density dispersal of farmsteads. There are clusters of wayside cottages and smallholdings resulting from encroachments on common land between the sixteenth and early nineteenth century. There are a number of parks within this landscape, such as Brogyntyn. Aside from the designed parkland, this landscape type lacks significant woodland; characteristically, tree cover comprises scattered hedgerow and field trees, mainly Oak and Ash. In the medieval period many of the villages in this landscape were surrounded by open fields. These fields were enclosed on an informal basis from the sixteenth century onwards. Farms developed away from villages by the nineteenth century, associated with piecemeal, reorganised enclosure, creating a pattern of sub-regular hedged fields. The land use is primarily mixed farming. The farmsteads are characterised by large-scale estate farms such as Brogyntyn Home Farm, with courtyard plans and L-shaped ranges. Combined granary and cart-shed ranges are common. The traditional building type is of timber-frame and local limestone construction, with brick used from the mid-1800s.

### **4.2 Scheduled Ancient Monuments (Figure 2)**

#### ***Old Oswestry Hillfort and two sections of Wat's Dyke (Selattyn and Gobowen Parish)***

Old Oswestry hillfort (Historic England No: 1014899) is situated on a glacial mound to the north of Oswestry. Finds of flints and a stone axe suggest there has been activity at the site since the Neolithic period, and excavation has revealed occupation from the Late Bronze Age through to the end of the Iron Age. In the eighth century AD the hillfort was incorporated into the line of Wat's Dyke, which extends to the north and south, and the two sections of dyke adjacent to the hillfort are included in the scheduling. Old Oswestry saw military use during the First World War, when it was used for training exercises by troops based at nearby Park Hall camp.

Old Oswestry has a roughly diamond-shaped plan, with maximum dimensions of 570m northeast to southwest by 420m transversely. It is a multivallate hillfort, having ramparts of five earthen banks and ditches, interrupted by two complex entrances, one on the east side and one on the west. The inner two banks and ditches are the earliest of the earthworks visible today, probably dating to around the sixth century BC, and they enclose a gently domed area of approximately 8.4 hectares. They comprise an earthen bank with a flattish top and steep outer slope with a ditch some distance outside it, and a second, slighter bank beyond. Both banks completely surround the hilltop, except where they are broken by the entrances. A third bank and ditch extend around the west side of the hillfort, the bank surviving to approximately 2.4m in places. Downslope of these, to the north and south of the western entrance, are a series of roughly rectangular hollows between additional steeply sloping banks. They have been variously described as cisterns, storage pits, stock enclosures, and quarry pits, although their regular shape would argue against the latter.

The outer and latest phase of defences are formed by two massive 'glacis style' earthen banks with steep sides rising directly from the bottom of their deep outer ditches and standing up to 6m high. These banks and ditches again surround the whole hillfort except where broken by the entrances, and the banks survive in places up to 6m high. Both entrances were initially created by inturning the inner

bank to form short passages into the hillfort's interior. As the defences developed, the western entrance in particular became more complex, and survives today as a sunken approach flanked on both sides by transverse banks and ditches extending to the outer edge of the rampart. The eastern entrance is defended by an earthen bank along its south side.

In general the banks and ditches are better preserved on the north and west sides of the hillfort, as the steeper slope to the southeast has caused the ditches to become more infilled, producing an almost continuous slope in places.

The visible earthworks of Old Oswestry represent the culmination of several phases of construction, which successively increased the defensive capabilities and status of the site. Excavations during the 1940s revealed that the earliest occupation within the rampart was a Late Bronze Age settlement of round huts. Charcoal from similar settlements elsewhere has been dated to the ninth century BC. The trench for a surrounding timber palisade was found, and a pottery bronze-working crucible was found in the hearth of one of the huts, indicating that small-scale industrial activities were taking place. During the Early Iron Age the palisade was replaced by the hillfort's innermost earthen bank. This was of 'box rampart' construction, with revetment walls constructed of boulders, some of which can be seen protruding from the bank. The shallow surrounding ditch was quarried roughly 10m outside the bank, and a second bank and ditch was constructed beyond it, rather lower than the first. The box rampart may have had a timber lacing similar to examples elsewhere, which have been radiocarbon dated to the sixth century BC. Excavations at Old Oswestry found a number of stone-kerbed huts to be contemporary with this phase of rampart construction, and associated finds of Early Iron Age pottery supports a sixth century date. The inner bank was later enhanced by a sloping earthen revetment against the inner stone wall, and the third bank and ditch were added around the western half of the monument. It is likely that the inturned entrances were created at this time, while occupation is represented by circular stone-walled huts which replaced the earlier stone-kerbed variety. The third, western, bank and ditch were also extensively rebuilt, with the original bank and ditch buried beneath an enlarged bank around a boulder core. These impressive glacis-style ramparts probably date from between the fifth and third centuries BC, and were constructed in a similar way. The complex western entrance had probably already been created by this time and was enhanced during the construction of these outer works. Contemporary with these developments, a large circular hut with stone footings was found to partly overlay the inturn of the inner bank, to the south of the western entrance.

A Roman presence at the site is indicated by finds of pottery and tile from the upper fills of the ditches. However, where the Roman activity at Old Oswestry was concentrated remains uncertain.

Some centuries later the hillfort was again utilised for defence as a strong point in the earthwork known as Wat's Dyke. The remains of the dyke's earthen bank and flanking ditch extend north and south from Old Oswestry. The southern section stands as an earthwork for roughly 140m, starting from the southwest quarter of the hillfort and ending at a recreation ground whose landscaping has modified the archaeological remains. From the northernmost quarter of the hillfort the dyke extends for over 700m north-northeast, its first 400m marked by a low earthen bank which has been incorporated into the post-medieval field boundary. Along this line the ditch had become infilled but will survive as a buried feature. Further north the ditch survives as an earthwork and the broad bank remains up to 1m high. After roughly 140m the western side of the bank spreads and its line continues north as a clear scarp to just south of the track to Pentre-Clawdd. Here, the construction of Pentre-Clawdd Farm and its approach roads will have modified the remains.

This scheduled area of Old Oswestry Hillfort is located approximately 350m to the northwest of the Whittington Road industrial estate. The scheduled sections of Wat's Dyke are situated between 0.55km and 1.4km roughly west and north of the development site.

### ***80m long section of Wat's Dyke and adjacent Cultivation Terraces (Oswestry Parish)***

The monument includes the earthwork and buried remains of a part of the boundary known as Wat's Dyke (Historic England No: 1020564). This section of Wat's Dyke runs southwards from a former railway marshalling yard to housing at Shelf Bank. Adjacent to this section, on the eastern side, there are two terraces formed out of the northern slopes of the hill. These appear to be broad lynchets or cultivation terraces. These are 110m long, running east to west, and about 30m-50m apart. The date of their formation is not certain. Also associated is an earthwork hollow way running down from the crest of the hill about 30m west of the triangulation point westwards to meet the line of the Dyke.

The bank of Wat's Dyke in this section survives as a low mound, 0.4m high and spreads to 12m wide at the base. To the west are traces of a ditch 4m wide; this has been used as a trackway after it was infilled by erosion in past centuries. The remains have been truncated by a drainage ditch and the levelling for the railway yards at the northern end. They have also been truncated by hedges and the creation of a footpath to access the rear of the houses whose gardens occupy the area to the south.

This scheduled area of Wat's Dyke and associated cultivation terraces is located approximately 800m to the south-southwest of the development site.

### **4.3 Listed Buildings (Figure 2)**

#### ***Former Cambrian Railway Works and Railway Station (Oswestry Parish)***

In 1866, Oswestry became established as the administrative and engineering headquarters of the Cambrian Railways. A large station, with first-floor company boardroom, and a railway works were built, along with ancillary structures such as a goods shed, a footbridge, a signal box, and a signal post. The works was commissioned by the Cambrian board to fulfill the pressing need for the construction, repair and maintenance of railway locomotives and rolling stock. The design was based on the Shrewsbury and Hereford Railway works at Coleham, Shrewsbury, and is attributed to the Manchester locomotive builders Sharp, Stewart & Company, with detailed specifications by Thomas Savin. The works was built under the supervision of Cambrian engineer George Owen and architect John Robinson of Manchester. The main works building is shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1875. The works was adapted and expanded in the later 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century to include a gas works and other structures.

The Cambrian Works are Grade II listed (Historic England No: 1054302). This building complex is located on the eastern side of Oswald Road, approximately 700m south-southwest of the development site.

With the expansion of the national road network in the interwar period and later, the railways gradually fell into decline. The works were closed in phases through 1964-6, culminating in the closure of the locomotive repair shops on 31 December 1966. Passenger services through Oswestry ceased in November 1966 and goods traffic stopped in 1988, by which time the works had been converted for other commercial uses.

The main range of the works has a two-bay central section arranged over three storeys, with two-storey, three-bay buildings attached to either side. The group forms the former works offices, stores and washhouses. It has later, inserted staircases and wall divisions. Either side of the group, and to the rear, are long ranges, a single-bay wide, that form a courtyard. To either side of the main range are locomotive and carriage sheds. The seven-bay sheds to the left (the former carriage shops) are subdivided by a red brick division with round-arched openings, alternately sealed in red brick. The sheds to the right, with an attached footbridge, have been redeveloped with new buildings inserted, and their historic layout is no longer legible. The other sheds, the wagon and paint shops and the foundry, remain in their original open plan. The cambered arches between the carriage and wagon shops have been infilled.

The main façade has three gables to the centre, with lower gables to the left and right. To the left is a seven-bay engine shed (the former carriage works). To the right are three further gabled ranges. The windows are round-arched with cast-iron glazing to the centre. The central gabled ranges have roundels, some of which are sealed. The larger windows to the ground floor form a 19-bay round-arched arcade. There are twentieth century openings inserted to the outer bays of the centre.

The three gabled ranges to the right have reconfigured openings to the front. A courtyard is entered through an arch in the right bay of the centre-right gable. The elevations facing the yard have a range of openings with round or segmental arches. Some openings are sealed and fenestration is a mixture of cast iron and timber. The boiler house range to the southeast has a tall, tapering, octagonal chimney of brown and red brick. Attached to the northeast of the seven-bay engine shed are three sheds of phased construction. The northernmost two sheds (the former wagon shop) are steel-framed, early 20<sup>th</sup> century structures, clad in later 20<sup>th</sup> century steel sheet. The former paint shop shed to the southeast has a red brick exterior with stone kneelers, skew arches, original shop doors, and an arcade of blank arches along its south-eastern wall. The roof structures of the sheds have a variety of treatments, but are partly of early 1900s date. The roof of the central gable has a lantern with a weathervane to the ridge.

The footbridge is attached to the left of the right gables. It is constructed of wrought-iron, latticed trusses, and supported by two sets of cast-iron columns and a central brick pier.

To the rear of the works buildings is a red brick sheet room, with an attached 20<sup>th</sup> century range, and a further attached 19<sup>th</sup> century single-storey gas works. The sheet room has a queen-post roof and attic lights, although there is no first-floor structure.

The railway station and former headquarters of the Cambrian Railway Company was built *circa* 1865 with later additions and alterations (Historic England List No: 1367339). The station is built in red brick on moulded stone plinth with painted stone dressings and chamfered angle quoins. This two-storey building has a hipped slate roof with four rendered ridge stacks. There are decorated bracketed eaves cornice with rosettes and other emblems alternating with each bracket, moulded floor and impost bands. The entrance elevation has 5:4:4:4:5 windows, with second sets from left and right forming projecting bays. The windows comprise round-headed eight-paned sashes with projecting keystones and moulded cills. The central section has a corrugated iron lean-to roof supported on cast-iron brackets with 20<sup>th</sup> century fascia board to front and half-glazed doors. The platform elevation is similar in layout to the front elevation, but has 19 bays with a full-height ashlar-faced four-window canted bay to the centre.

The former Cambrian Railway Station is Grade II listed (Historic England No: 1054302). This building complex is located on the western side of Oswald Road, approximately 900m south-southwest of the development site.

#### **4.4 Registered Parks and Gardens**

Historic England holds a Register of Historic Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest. These Registered landscapes are graded I, II\* or II, and include private gardens, public parks and other green spaces. Registration is a material consideration in planning terms, meaning that planning authorities must consider the impact of any proposed development on the special character of the landscape.

There are no registered parks and gardens within the 1km study area. The parkland at Brogyntyn lies immediately to the northwest of Oswestry, approximately 1.35km west of the development site. The park comprises a roughly triangular tract of land of approximately 230 acres, which is registered at Grade II (Historic England No: 1001326). The parkland relates to the area landscaped in the mid to late nineteenth century, comprising lawns, woodland belts, terracing and formal gardens. There are extended views from the park to the east, notably towards Old Oswestry Hillfort. The Grade II\* listed mansion (Historic England No: 1367373) stands in the centre of its park.

#### 4.5 Conservation Areas (Figure 4)

A Conservation Area is an area considered worthy of preservation or enhancement because of its special architectural or historic interest, "the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance" as required by the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 (Sections 69 and 70). Conservation Areas give broader protection than listing individual buildings, and all features within the area, listed or otherwise, are recognised as part of its character.

The development site is located approximately 900m south-southwest of Oswestry Town Centre Conservation Area. This significantly includes the Oswestry Castle, which originated as an eleventh century motte-and-bailey (PRN's 00332 & 05780-05782) and the thirteenth century town defences (PRN 00493). The Conservation Area contains a number of later medieval and early post-medieval timber-framed houses and has a significant Victorian legacy in the form of shop fronts, terraced houses, churches and railway buildings.

#### 4.6 Registered Battlefields

Historic England holds a Register of Historic Battlefields. Unlike Listed Buildings and the Register of Parks and Gardens, Registered Battlefields are not currently graded as a means of ascribing relative significance. Registration is a material consideration in planning terms, meaning that planning authorities must consider the impact of any proposed development on the special character of the landscape.

There are no registered battlefields reported within 1km of the proposed scheme. However, the town was most probably the focus of numerous skirmishes/battles from the early medieval period. Notably this area is associated with the Battle of Maserfield as well as other early medieval battles between the Saxon Mercia and the Welsh Kingdom of Powys.

*Maserfield Battlefield:* In AD 642 Oswald, King of Northumbria was defeated by Penda, King of Mercia at the Battle of Maeserfelth (Maserfield). The battlefield has been identified with Oswestry, then part of the manor of Maesbury (PRN 04286). Despite the association of King Oswald with the town, the location of the battlefield is uncertain. Other possible sites for the battle have been proposed in Lancashire and Gloucestershire. The Battle of Maserfield is not included on the Register of Historic Battlefields held by Historic England.

*English Civil War:* The outbreak of the Civil War in 1642 revived Oswestry's status as a military stronghold and defences were strengthened to some degree following the town's declaration of support for Charles I. In June 1644 the castle was under the control of Colonel Edward Lloyd of Llanforda. On 22<sup>nd</sup> June the town was laid siege by Colonel Thomas Mytton of Halston Hall (near Whittington), joined by the Lord Denbigh. A small force of 200 infantry attacked the Royalists defending St. Oswald's Church, which lay outside the town walls. The town gates were battered into submission by cannon and infiltrated by troops who rapidly descended upon the castle. The castle was stormed the following day and the royalist troops surrendered.

*The Marcher Lordships:* The Civil War between Stephen and Matilda saw William Fitzalan I join forces with Matilda. The Welsh appear to have taken this chance to reclaim lands they had once held, and the occupation of Oswestry Castle along with the Lordship of the area followed, by Madoc ap Maerdudd the Prince of Powys, between 1149 and 1157. The accession of Henry II saw the Fitzalan's recover their estate, but subsequently there was significant conflict between the Welsh and the English; Oswestry was sacked throughout this period. In 1165, Henry II adopted Oswestry Castle as a base for his campaign against Owain Gwynedd and in 1211, it was used by King John in his war against Llewelyn Fawr. In the fourteenth century Owain Glyndwr attempted to establish himself as the rightful Prince of Wales and throughout this period the town remained a strategic military base.

## 4.7 Non-Designated Heritage Assets (Fig 3)

### *Introduction*

There are 26 sites listed on the Shropshire Historic Environment Record (HER) within 500m of the development site; these include a duplicate record for Old Oswestry Hillfort, which is a Scheduled Ancient Monument. The archaeological and heritage sites are briefly described below according to period, and referenced by their HER Primary Reference Number (PRN).

### *Undated Finds / Monuments*

A spindlewhorl was found in 1932 to the south of Old Oswestry Hillfort (PRN 282). This artifact could be associated with Iron Age or Roman activity at the hillfort, but could be later. The findspot is located some 300m west of the development site.

### *Neolithic (circa 4400 – circa 2300 BC)*

There are no reported Neolithic monuments or finds within the study area. A number of stone axes dating to this era have nonetheless been discovered within the surrounding landscape. These include two axes found at Old Oswestry Hillfort (PRN 02749 & PRN 02750).

### *Bronze Age (circa 2300 – circa 700 BC)*

A significant number of Bronze Age sites are recorded in this part of Shropshire. An occupation site, dating to the ninth century BC, has been excavated at Old Oswestry Hillfort (PRN 00351). The settlement of roundhouses occupied the hilltop, surrounded by a timber palisade. Further evidence for Bronze Age activity in the locality includes the standing stones identified within Oswestry, although these have largely been destroyed over the past 100 years or so. Of note are three large stones that were traditionally hurled by the giants of Selattyn; this group included the stone at Swan Hollow (PRN 00333) in the northern part of the town. Burials identified at Oswestry include two Bronze Age cremation urns, unearthed in 1811 at Coney Green (PRN 04287). Artefacts found in Oswestry, include a socketed axe (PRN 02677) and a palstave (PRN 00337). To west, a number of Bronze Age artefacts, including palstaves and flanged and socketed axes, were reputedly found in 1850 on the Brogyntyn estate (PRN 00573).

### *Iron Age (circa 700 BC – AD 43)*

Old Oswestry Hillfort (Historic England No: [1014899](#); PRN 00351) is the most significant Iron Age monument in the region. Excavations began at this site under W.J. Varley (ESA359) shortly before the outbreak of World War II. Varley cut five sections through the ramparts and opened up a small area within the interior, just inside the western entrance. Varley's excavation remained unpublished during his lifetime, and the sequence put forward by Hughes (1991), based on the site archive, comprises essentially six phases. The first phase consists of a pre-rampart timber palisade which, although undated, is thought to have been constructed in the Late Bronze Age. This was succeeded, perhaps in the Early Iron Age (*circa* 600BC) by the inner, stone-revetted rampart. Varley felt that the enclosure during this phase was bivallate, although Hughes pointed out that there was no firm evidence for this and the recent topographic survey (English Heritage, 2010) indicated that the construction sequence is more complex than Varley envisaged. The stoned-kerbed roundhouses within the interior, unparalleled elsewhere in this region, are also thought to belong to this phase. The third phase involved the construction of an in-turned entrance and the enlargement of the inner ramparts. Phases four and five saw the construction of enlarged ramparts in the later Iron Age and the occupation of stone founded roundhouses within the interior. The sixth phase relates to possible occupation in the Roman period. The multivallate hillfort is located about 350m to the northwest of the development site.



A single artefact is recorded within the study area on the Portable Antiquities database. This is small fragment of a probable cauldron, dating from the late Iron Age or early Roman period (PAS: HESH-7672E8).

### ***Roman (AD 43 – circa AD 410)***

Sherds of Romano-British pottery and tile fragments have been identified at Old Oswestry Hillfort. This indicates occupation of this earthwork in the Roman or sub-Roman periods, and the possible hut platforms identified between the ramparts may relate to this phase of activity.

A number of rectangular single ditch enclosures have been identified within the surrounding landscape, notably in the vicinity of the Old Oswestry Hillfort. These monuments are of Iron Age or Roman date, but may well have been continually occupied throughout both periods. A ditched enclosure measuring about 58m by 65m (PRN 00685) is mapped to the west of Old Oswestry. There is another rectangular enclosure of potential significance located to the northeast of Old Oswestry. Here, a single ditch encloses an area of 80m by 100m (PRN 01412). This monument is perhaps a temporary military camp of Roman date.

There is additional evidence for Roman activity in the locality, as Romano-British pottery and tile has been retrieved from the upper fills of the rampart ditches at Old Oswestry. However, no evidence for Roman period occupation has been identified during archaeological excavations within the hillfort.

### ***Early Medieval (circa AD 410 – AD 1086)***

In the post-Roman period, as in successive centuries, this area is documented as politically unstable. The land around Oswestry was fought over by Mercia and the Kingdom of Powys, and it is worth noting that Brogyntyn is near the Mercian defensive earthwork Wat's Dyke (PRN 01001), with Offa's Dyke (PRN 01000) further to the west.

Offa's Dyke (PRN 01000) stretches some 103 km along the English-Welsh border. The earthwork can be attributed to Offa, King of Mercia, and most probably dates between AD 757 and 796. The associated dykes form a boundary extending from the Severn to the Dee estuaries; these earthworks appear to be connected with Offa's Dyke but may not be contemporary. In the later eighth century it formed some form of delineation between the kingdom of Mercia and the lands of the Welsh Princes. There is a bank on the eastern side of the ditch, and the earthwork passes to the west of hills, providing an open view from Mercia into Wales. This indicates that the earthwork was designed to protect Mercia from attacks or raids from Powys.

The linear earthwork known as Wat's Dyke (PRN 01001) stretches some 60 km to the north of Oswestry to the estuary of the River Dee. It runs generally parallel to Offa's Dyke. A section of the dyke was identified to the north of Oswestry during archaeological work in 1992 by Gifford & Partners (HER Event ESA 6464). This was reported as a v-shaped ditch some 3m deep and 8-9m wide. As with Offa's Dyke, the ditch was located to the west of the bank, indicating the earthwork protected Mercian lands to the east. This appears to have been a substantial boundary or defence. The dyke typically runs across terrain that provides clear views to the west, and takes advantage of local features to the best defensive advantage. Within the scheme area the dyke extends north and south of Old Oswestry, suggesting that the hillfort was part of the defences. Wat's Dyke is historically dated to the eighth century, constructed by Aethelbald of Mercia who reigned from 716 to 757.

### ***Medieval (1086 – 1536)***

During the Medieval period a number of castles were built around Oswestry by the conquering Normans and the Kings of Powys. Oswestry Castle represents one of the earliest motte (PRN 00332) and bailey (PRN's 05780-05782) strongholds in the district. Work began on the earthwork in 1074 and the castle is recorded in Domesday (1086) as being built by Reginald, Sheriff of Shropshire, the

under-tenant of Roger de Montgomery, first earl of Shrewsbury. Oswestry Castle was later refortified, probably in the thirteenth century, with the construction of the stone keep and walls.

Town defences (PRN 00493) surrounding Oswestry were built from 1257. Initially this was probably a bank and ditch surmounted by a timber palisade. A more substantial stone wall had been completed by 1304.

The medieval settlement (PRN 05785) surrounding Oswestry Castle formed the focus of the post-medieval town (PRN 05844). The streets documented in 1393 (Slack, 1951) are Bader Street (Beatrice Street), Ballium (Bailey Street), Lege Streete (Leg Street), Wyllya Strete (Willow Street), Midel Street (north part of Church Street) and Chirton (Church Street south of the walls). The medieval core is situated approximately 1km to the southwest of Whittington Road industrial estate.

Medieval building located outside the town significantly included a medieval chapel dedicated to St Edith (PRN 338). The chapel is noted by Leland as lying 'to the northeast (of Oswestry) on the way to Chester' (Chandler, 1993, 46). This chapel was possibly located where Whittington Road branches off the former turnpike, Gobowen Road. The former chapel, recorded as demolished before the 19<sup>th</sup> century, was potentially situated to the west of the industrial estate.

There are a number of post-medieval farmsteads recorded within the surrounding landscape. The farmhouses and outbuildings are typically of eighteenth and nineteenth century date. It is likely that some of these farmsteads originated in the medieval period.

Earthworks of medieval or post-medieval field boundaries and ridge-and-furrow are recorded on the National Record of the Historic Environment (Historic England) at the foot of Old Oswestry Hillfort (NRHE No. 1400462). These have been identified from aerial photographs dating from 1946 and 1989. The earthworks were mapped in 1993-4 by RCHME's Marches Uplands Mapping Project (ESA 4714). These features are located a few hundred metres northwest of the development site.

### ***Post-Medieval (1536 - 1899)***

The development is located over 600m northeast of the post-medieval town of Oswestry (PRN 5844), as shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1875. In the sixteenth century, John Leland noted that the most important streets were Cross Street, Bailey Street and Newgate Street (Church Street) (Chandler, 1993,395). The documented street names include Stryt yr Aber 1682 (Lower Brook Street), Street y felyn 1631 (Church Street), Midle Street or Crosse Strete (north part of modern Church Street).

In the surrounding landscape, a number of farms are recorded on Historic Farmstead Characterisation Project, undertaken by Shropshire Council in 2008-10 (ESA 6427). These include one site, Oldport Farm (PRN 26499), within 500m of the development site. This is described as an isolated nineteenth century farm, with a regular courtyard and multiple yards. The buildings of the farmstead significantly include the farmhouse (PRN 31446) and a T-shaped barn (PRN31447). The farm is depicted on a map in Thomas Pennant's "Tour in Wales" of 1778. This shows a farmhouse in its present position, with a barn to the north and ranges of shippons to the east and west. Between 1874 and 1901 further ranges of shippons appear to have been added to either side of the barn.

The farmhouse (PRN 31446) appears to be very largely of C19 date, although this includes some older material which was either incorporated from the earlier farmhouse on the site depicted on a map of 1778, or else brought from elsewhere. The Farmhouse is of two storeys and has red brick walling, covered with pebble-dashed render to its south and east elevations, and a slate roof. The eastern elevation, front of the building, has five near-symmetrical bays with a central doorway. There are four-pane sash windows to both floors. The older material in the farmhouse, which consists of re-used timbers to the ceiling and walls of one ground floor room and two fire surrounds, appear to be inclusions which were either incorporated from the earlier farmhouse on the site, shown in the block plan of 1778 in the map in Pennant's "Tour in Wales" or else brought from elsewhere.

The barn (PRN 31447) has seventeenth century framing to its southern end, with colourwashed brick infill and brick walling to the ground floor. The whole building has a Welsh slate roof and is of one and two storeys. This timber-framed building had its ground floor walls rebuilt in brick at sometime in the eighteenth or nineteenth century. It was extended to the north to form a threshing barn with brick walls at some time prior to 1778. Walling at ground floor level has been renewed in the eighteenth or nineteenth century with colourwashed brick. Both flanks of the northern threshing barn have later-nineteenth century outhouses. A pair of threshing doors is now recessed on the western side. The original exterior walling of the barn has diamond-pattern breathers. There is an internal partition wall to the upper floor of the seventeenth century portion. The roof timbers have been replaced but the eighteenth century threshing barn has original roof trusses with a king post and angle struts.

The other agricultural buildings on the site are a mixture of late-C18 to C20 dates and were added in a piecemeal way as needed.

The buildings of the farmstead were assessed by Historic England in 2015, but were deemed not to have sufficient special interest for statutory designation. Oldport Farm is located some 150m to the north of Whittington Road industrial estate.

In 1845 the Shrewsbury, Oswestry and Chester Junction Railway (PRN 5779) was formed with the intention of constructing a line from the Shrewsbury to Chester railway at Gobowen, through Oswestry to Llanymynech. The line was only completed as far as Oswestry, in December 1848, by which time the company had been amalgamated with the North Wales Mineral Railway to form the Shrewsbury and Chester Railway, itself later absorbed into the Great Western Railway in 1854. The line operated until 1966. The old railway line forms the western boundary of Whittington Road industrial estate.

In 1848, the Shrewsbury, Oswestry and Chester Junction Railway to reach Oswestry, but it was not until 1860, when David Davies and Thomas Savin had built the Oswestry and Newtown Railway, that the town began its rise to regional prominence as a transport hub. Successive railway lines brought prosperity to the town. In July 1864, a number of these Welsh and English railway lines were consolidated to form the Cambrian Railways (PRN 5892), thereby providing an important component of the emerging national rail network. The Cambrian Railways connected Wales with the West Midlands and the cities and industrial areas beyond. The line closed in 1965. The former railway line ran to the south of Whittington Road, over 300m from the development.

The railway station and yard is extensive and includes a number of historic buildings: the station building (PRN13103); goods shed (PRN17599); signal box (PRN18695) and signal post (PRN17588). The Cambrian Works (PRN 18687) are located at the east end of yard.

A 2002 walkover survey noted that most of the track was gone (though one line and some sidings remained) and much of the area (including the station area) untended and overgrown. Some of the remaining lines were occupied by rolling stock belonging to the Cambrian Railway Society (Hislop, 2002; ESA5930). Remains of a carriage shed (PRN 20702) and a loading wharf (PRN 20703) were also uncovered in an excavation by BUFAU in 2006 (Krawiec, 2006; ESA6066).

An early nineteenth century milestone (PRN 21050) is located on Thomas Telford's Holyhead Road (now the B5069), approximately 400m north of the Whittington Road industrial estate. The milestone was found in 1995 (ESA 5818) and is included on the database held by the Milestone Society (ESA6253 & ESA6999). The milestone consists of a painted sandstone marker with a slightly recessed cast-iron plate inscribed "HOLY-/ HEAD / 88-M / SALOP / 18M-6F".

Other linear monuments recorded in the study area significantly include the Vyrnwy Aqueduct (PRN 21491). This 68 mile long aqueduct opened in 1891, taking water from Lake Vyrnwy to Liverpool. The intended route is illustrated on a Liverpool Corporation Waterworks map of 1880, and the line is

plotted on the Ordnance Survey maps of 1902 and 1929. The aqueduct comprised three, 42 inch diameter pipes, that follow the Dee/Severn watershed, and maintains high ground until reaching the basins of the Mersey and Weaver. Work began on the dam and aqueduct in 1881, and water from Lake Vyrnwy first reached Liverpool in 1891. Modern water pipe inspection hatches marked 'LCWW' (Liverpool Corporation Water Works) and 'Vyrnwy' are located along the route of the aqueduct. The aqueduct traverses across the Whittington Road industrial estate, some 100m south of the development site. There is also an associated air ventilation shaft (PRN 30738) located on the north side of Whittington Road, some 400m east of the development site.

Victorian industrial sites located to the north of Oswestry include an old brick works (PRN 30747) formerly located to the south of Whittington Road, some 200m southeast of the industrial estate. A brickworks with chimney is marked on second edition OS map. A sawmill (PRN 6535) is also shown on the 1926 map on the northern side of Whittington Road, west of the present industrial estate.

Minor features recorded within the study area include a former lane (PRN 30742) shown on the 1838 tithe map to the northwest of New Park and Bridge Row, and west of Gobowen Road. A post-medieval or modern pit (PRN 31373) is also reported 400m northeast of the development site; this identified in 2015 during a watching brief on topsoil stripping for the Legacy to Oswestry 132kv Powerline (ESA 7412). Two additional post-medieval pits (PRN 21710-1) and a ditch (PRN 21712) were identified during trial trenching in 2009 (ESA 6425) across fields to the north and east of the industrial estate; these features are over 250m from the development site.

### ***Modern (1899 - Present)***

During the First World War the owner of the Park Hall estate, Major Wynne Corrie, gave Park Hall over to the military as their local headquarters (PRN 21713). The camp was constructed during the winter of 1914/15. From July 2015, the camp was in constant use until 1918.

Due to the large number of troops stationed within the grounds of Park Hall, a decision was made to expand the camp westwards onto land belonging to Oldport Farm. The camp, as shown on old OS maps, was over 500m east and northeast of the industrial estate. The area between the outer eastern ramparts of Old Oswestry hillfort and the Park Hall camp was utilised for trench warfare training and the setting off of mortars. An unusually complete system of World War I military training trenches has been recorded through aerial photography and detailed earthwork survey, in the interior of Old Oswestry Hillfort (PRN 31097).

The trench system laid out within Old Oswestry mirrors sections of the early trench system on the Western Front, with parallel lines connected by 'communication trenches'. There are also zig-zags and crenellations, designed to confine the blast impact from shells to small sections of trench and prevented enfilading (a volley of gunfire along the entire length of the trench) if the enemy gained access. Three crenulated trench lines are reported that lie parallel with each other, accompanied by a series of low platforms, probably former observation posts. The trenching has provisionally been dated to 1915-1916.

The practice trenches at Oldport Farm (PRN 31654) were recorded during geophysical survey in 2007 (ESA 6122). This area of trenching was probably extensive, possessing forward crenulated lines, retreat trenching and secondary defensive/offensive lines. These trenches are backfilled in aerial photography of 1946. The evaluation carried out across this area in 2009 also identified a number of mortar pits related to military practice in this area (ESA 6425). Here, mortar craters were recorded in Trenches 15 camp (PRN 21714) and 24 (PRN 21715); these are situated over 250m northeast of the industrial estate.

During the latter part of WWI, the Park Hall camp was the site of a military hospital, housing up to 866 beds. The hall itself was destroyed by fire on Boxing Day 1918. At the end of the end of the Great War, the now ruined Hall and its surrounding military establishment began to fall more and more into

disrepair. Following the death of Major Wynne Corrie the estate was conveyed to the War Office in 1920. The camp hospital remained in use, and the Baschurch Convalescent and Surgical Home, set up by Agnes Hunt, moved here in February 1921. It then became known as the Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital. Since that time it has become world renowned for its pioneering work in the treatment of all forms of physical disablement. The land otherwise became the property of Oswestry Borough Council. One of the main uses of this site in the 1930's was for motorcycle racing.

Park Hall Training Camp was reactivated for military use in July 1939, three months before the outbreak of World War II. By mid-July 1939, the new batch of 2,500 Royal Artillery Militiamen was installed, learning basic skills and gunnery instruction. This was the start of a 30-year Royal Artillery association with Park Hall. The Royal Artillery were joined by the Infantry Junior Leaders until the Artillery left in 1968. The Junior Leaders continued at the Camp until its closure in December of 1975.

Eventually, a lot of the land reverted to farmland, and light industry started on the site of the old encampment. The sports facilities of the camp were excellent, so the grounds and pitches were retained, and are still in use today. Park Hall Farm became a visitor attraction in 1998. It is now home to the Museum of the Welsh Guards.

## **5. MAP REGRESSION (Figures 5-8)**

The development area is clearly shown on the Ordnance Survey (OS) First Series of 1838. The site is marked to the south of Oldport (farm) near the junction between Gobowen Road, running north, and Whittington Road, running east. No other settlement is shown in the vicinity.

The development of Oswestry is evident on the OS 25 inch First Edition of 1895. The Cambrian Works are depicted to the north of the town, with the Cambrian Railway running eastwards, south of Whittington Road and the scheme area. The Great Western Railway is depicted extending along the western boundary of the present development site. The scheme area is marked within an agricultural enclosure with no development noted in the vicinity. Some housing is however shown to the south, along Whittington Road; the terrace 'Bridge Row' and semi-detached dwellings 'Bridge Terrace'.

Ribbon development is illustrated along Whittington Road on the OS 25 inch Second Edition of 1901. The area around the development site is still undeveloped, but Vyrnwy Aqueduct is first marked on this map; this runs south of the scheme site. Further housing is shown on subsequent map editions; the Whittington Road industrial estate appears to have been built at some point between the 1938 and 1954 map editions. This is shown more clearly on the large-scale, 1:2,500 survey of 1968-9. On this map an engineering works and clothing factory are annotated to the south of the present development site. This industrial area had expanded northwards, to its present extent, prior to the 1:2,500 survey of 1991.

## **6. AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS**

The aerial photographs have not been fully examined, as a full assessment of vertical and oblique photographs has previously been undertaken (de Figueiredo, 2013). In addition, this area has been subject to an extensive geophysical survey in 2007 (ESA 6122) and an archaeological evaluation in 2009 (ESA 6425). The results of the geophysical survey and trial trenching are shown on Figure 9.

## **7. SITE VISIT (Plates 1-5)**

The site visit was undertaken on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2016. Conditions were cloudy but bright and visibility was more than sufficient to assess mid and longer distance views from the development towards heritage assets in the surrounding landscape.

No earthwork features or structures of historical significance were identified within the application area during the survey.

## **8. IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

### **8.1 Assessment of Archaeological Potential and Importance (Figure 9)**

The development site is located within an archaeologically sensitive area, in the vicinity of Old Oswestry Hillfort. The archaeological record nonetheless suggests the existing industrial estate on Whittington Road is located within an area of generally low to moderate archaeological potential. The surrounding fields have been subject to a geophysical survey (2007) and archaeological evaluation (2009). The trial trenching identified a small number of post-medieval and modern features in addition to WWI mortar craters, and there is no evidence for later prehistoric or Roman features similar to those located to the north of the hillfort.

### **8.2 Historic Landscapes**

The new storage unit is situated on the edge of the urban townscape of Oswestry, and overlooks the historic landscape characterised as Principal Settled Farmlands. These are the settled lowlands prevalent in north Shropshire, and to the north of Oswestry the settlement pattern is defined by hamlets and smaller villages and a medium to high density dispersal of farmsteads. This landscape is generally well-preserved and has consequently been assessed to be of high value. However, the landscape parcel to the north of the development site has slightly less coherence, due to the extent of sports facilities at Park Hall, to the east, with a hospital to the north of the parkland, as well as the location of industrial estates along Whittington Road and the A5 running along the eastern side of Oswestry. This landscape parcel is perhaps of low to medium value. The visual impact of the new unit, when viewed against the backdrop of the industrial estate is considered to be negligible. The overall significance of effect is negligible.

### **8.3 Scheduled Ancient Monuments**

#### ***Old Oswestry Hillfort***

Old Oswestry hillfort (Historic England No: 1014899) is one of the finest examples of an Iron Age hillfort in Britain. It is an important example of a large multivallate hillfort which has two complex entrances and illustrates multiple phases of development and occupation. There are sweeping views from the interior of the fort to the west, north and east, and southwards to the urban development surrounding the historic medieval core of Oswestry. Occupation at Old Oswestry dates back to the Bronze Age, and there is evidence for re-use during the Roman and early medieval periods. Incorporation of the hillfort into the eighth century Wat's Dyke, is of particular archaeological and historical importance. The overall value of this monument has been assessed as very high.

The monument has high evidential and historical value. The interior of the hillfort will retain evidence for occupation including post holes, foundation trenches, and storage and refuse pits, as well as environmental and artefactual evidence for the domestic and industrial activities which took place there. The surrounding banks will retain details of their method of construction and subsequent modifications, and will have sealed beneath them environmental evidence for land use immediately prior to each phase of construction. The sunken features on the west side of the hillfort will also

preserve evidence for their construction and function, and their stratigraphic relationship with other elements of the site. The entrances will retain evidence for the sequence of their development, and for the revetments and palisades with which they will have been strengthened.

The hillfort has high aesthetic value. The monument forms a landmark within the wider landscape, with the summit of the hill (at *circa* 165m OD) standing up to 30m above the surrounding countryside. The rings of the ramparts are highly visible, and the defensive nature of the monument can be clearly understood. The monument also forms an historical landmark, and its age and significance affirms a sense of local identity and pride of place; in this sense the hillfort has a high communal value. The hillfort is also a popular destination for walkers to appreciate extensive views and explore the monument; this provides an important recreational resource. It should be additionally noted that the WWI practice trenches provide a tangible memorial to those that went from nearby Park Hill Camp to fight in the trenches on the Western Front.

Views of the new storage unit from Oswestry Hillfort, are partly obscured by hedgerows and a few trees, but is clearly visible, albeit against the backdrop of surrounding industrial units at the Whittington Road site. The severity of impact is considered to be negligible adverse, and the resulting significance of effect assessed as minor adverse. However, the cumulative impact of development encroaching towards the scheduled hillfort has been assessed as moderate.

### ***Wat's Dyke***

Wat's Dyke is a linear boundary marker and defensive rampart. It runs for about 60km from Basingwerk, on the Dee estuary, southwards to Maesbury, near Oswestry. It consists of a large ditch, 5m wide and 2m deep, with a bank on the eastern side. The bank is 10m wide at the base, on average, and its original height was about 2.5m. Wat's Dyke runs roughly parallel to Offa's Dyke which lies to the west, sometimes only 500m away. Both dykes run along the border between England and Wales, and it is clear that both were constructed to defend land on the eastern side from incursions coming from the west.

The earthwork bank and ditch ran without interruption except where the course of a stream or river cut through it. The date of the construction has not been accurately determined, but it is considered that it was built at an earlier date than the parallel eighth century Offa's Dyke, although it fulfilled the same purpose. The Dyke forms a boundary between lands firmly in control of Anglo-Saxon overlords and lands more recently taken from the native Britains of this area by the English. The line of the Dyke has been shown to mark a division between hidated (assessed for taxation on the basis of the Anglo-Saxon units known as 'hides') and unhidated lands (lands under a different system of government) at the time of the Domesday records. This suggests that the earthwork was constructed before the 'hide' system was put into practice during the reign of King Offa of Mercia. The Dyke was probably built during the period of expansion of the kingdom of Mercia before the accession of Offa. Wat's Dyke has historically been dated to the eighth century, constructed by Aethelbald of Mercia who reigned from 716 to 757.

Wat's Dyke is nationally important, and has been assessed as a high value asset. The monument has high or very high evidential and historical value, and all known lengths of Wat's Dyke where significant archaeological deposits are known to survive are considered to be nationally important.

The 80m long section of the Dyke at Shelf Bank (Historic England No: 1020564) is Dyke is reasonably well-preserved and has a high public profile on a well-used public footpath. It provides recreational enjoyment and educational interest for the community. This section is therefore considered to have high aesthetic and communal value. Soils buried beneath the bank and in the bottom of the infilled ditch will contain evidence for the management and character of the landscape at the time of its construction. Further information on the cultivation terraces and their relationship to the Dyke will also be preserved. In this respect the monument has high evidential value.

The two sections of Wat's Dyke (Historic England No: 1014899) adjacent to Old Oswestry Hillfort will preserve high value evidence for their date and method of construction. The earthen bank will also protect evidence for land use prior to the Dyke's construction. The reuse of the hillfort within the Wat's Dyke system illustrates the continuity of defensive structures in the vicinity from the prehistoric through to the medieval period. A public footpath follows the northern stretch of Wat's Dyke, allowing the relationship of the two earthworks to be appreciated. In this respect, the monument is considered to have high illustrative, communal and aesthetic values.

Both sections of the Dyke are located within the ZTV of the development. Views towards and from the Shelf Bank monument are however fully screened from the storage unit by intervening urban development in Oswestry, principally consisting of the Cambrian Railway Works (Historic England No: 1054302) and existing industrial units on the Whittington Road estate. Taking account of the screening afforded by existing buildings, the storage unit is considered to have no impact on this scheduled section of Wat's Dyke. The significance of effect has been assessed as neutral. Views from the section of Wat's Dyke, south of Old Oswestry Hillfort, are partly obscured by hedgerows and a few trees, but is clearly visible, albeit against the backdrop of surrounding industrial units at the Whittington Road site. The severity of impact is considered to be negligible adverse, and the resulting significance of effect assessed as negligible adverse. The cumulative impact of development encroaching towards the scheduled hillfort has been assessed as moderate.

#### **8.4 Listed Buildings**

##### ***Former Cambrian Railway Works and Station***

The mid-nineteenth century railway works, along with its attached footbridge, formed part of a nationally important regional hub, the headquarters of Cambrian Railways (Historic England No: 1054302). In architectural terms the works is built using quality materials to a well-executed design. Relatively few buildings of this type survive with associated contemporary structures in a recognisable form. The works and footbridge form a group with other listed buildings, including the railway station and former headquarters of the Cambrian Railway Company (Historic England List No: 1367339) as part of a large Victorian railway complex.

These Grade II listed buildings are located between 700m and 900m south-southwest of the of the development site. Whilst these historic structures are potentially located within the ZTV of the development site, views of the new industrial unit are fully screened by the existing industrial units on the Whittington Road estate. Taking account of the screening afforded by extant buildings, the storage unit is considered to have no impact on these listed buildings. The significance of effect has been assessed as neutral.

#### **8.5 Conservation Areas**

The development site is located approximately 900m south-southwest of Oswestry Town Centre Conservation Area. Whilst the new industrial unit is potentially located within the ZTV of the Conservation Area any views of the new building are blocked by the existing industrial units on Whittington Road. Taking account of the screening afforded by extant buildings, the storage unit is considered to have no impact on the Conservation Area. The significance of effect has been assessed as neutral.

### **9. CONCLUSION**

The development site overlooks the historic landscape characterised as Principal Settled Farmlands. This high-value landscape is generally well-preserved, but the parcel to the north of the new unit has slightly less coherence, due to surrounding development and land-use for sporting facilities at Park



Hall, to the east. This landscape parcel is perhaps of low to medium value. The overall significance of effect of the development on this landscape is considered to be negligible.

Old Oswestry hillfort (Historic England No: 1014899) is one of the finest examples of an Iron Age hillfort in Britain. The scheduled monument has high evidential and historical value; it is an important example of a large multivallate hillfort which has two complex entrances and illustrates multiple phases of development and occupation. Occupation at Old Oswestry dates back to the Bronze Age, and there is evidence for re-use during the Roman and early medieval periods. Incorporation of the hillfort into the eighth century Wat's Dyke, is of particular archaeological and historical importance. The hillfort has high aesthetic and communal value. The monument forms a landmark within the wider landscape. The rings of the ramparts are highly visible, and the defensive nature of the monument can be clearly understood. The overall value of this monument has been assessed as very high. Views of the new storage unit from Oswestry Hillfort, are partly obscured by hedgerows and a few trees, but this industrial unit is visible against the backdrop of surrounding buildings at the Whittington Road site. The severity of impact is considered to be negligible adverse, and the resulting significance of effect assessed as minor adverse. The cumulative impact of development encroaching towards the scheduled hillfort has been assessed as moderate.

There are three sections of Wat's Dyke located within 1km of the development; two sections of the Dyke (Historic England No: 1014899) extend north and south of Old Oswestry Hillfort. Whilst a single 80m long section is located in Oswestry, at Shelf Bank (Historic England No: 1020564). These sections of the Dyke are reasonably well-preserved. These monuments are considered to be high value asset, with significant evidential and historical value; in particular, the bank and ditch will contain information on date of this earthwork and the character of the landscape in the early medieval period. The monument is also considered to have high illustrative, communal and aesthetic values; notably the reuse of the hillfort within the Wat's Dyke system illustrates the continuity of defensive structures in the vicinity from the prehistoric through to the medieval period. All sections of the Dyke are located within the ZTV of the development. Views towards and from the Shelf Bank monument are however fully screened from the storage unit by urban development and the existing industrial units on Whittington Road. The significance of effect on the scheduled area at Shelf Bank has been assessed as neutral. Views from Wat's Dyke, south of Old Oswestry Hillfort, are partly obscured by hedgerows and a few trees, but the new unit is clearly visible. The significance of effect has been assessed as negligible adverse. The cumulative impact of development encroaching towards the scheduled hillfort has been assessed as moderate.

There are two listed buildings associated with the mid-nineteenth Cambrian Railway located within 1km of the development. The Cambrian Works (Historic England No: 1054302) and the railway station and former headquarters (Historic England List No: 1367339) are potentially located within the ZTV of the development site. However, views of the new industrial unit are fully screened by the existing industrial units on the Whittington Road estate. The storage unit is considered to have no impact on these listed buildings. The significance of effect has been assessed as neutral.

The new industrial unit is potentially located within the ZTV of the Oswestry Conservation Area. Any view of the new building will however be blocked by the existing industrial units on Whittington Road. The development is considered to have no impact on the Conservation Area. The significance of effect has been assessed as neutral.

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<http://www.britainfromabove.org.uk/> (Accessed 1/8/16 – 5/8/16)

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<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/> (Accessed 1/8/16 – 5/8/16)

British Library

<http://www.bl.uk/reshelp/> (Accessed 1/8/16 – 5/8/16)

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<http://search.shropshirehistory.org.uk/> (Accessed 1/8/16 – 5/8/16)

Forestry Commission: Ancient Woodland

<http://maps.forestry.gov.uk/> (Accessed 1/8/16 – 5/8/16)

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Historic England: Pastscape

<http://www.pastscape.org.uk/> (Accessed 1/8/16 – 5/8/16)

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### **Ordnance Survey Maps**

Ordnance Survey 1817 Surveyors Drawing of Shrewsbury (by Henry Stevens)  
Scale: 2 inches to 1 mile (1:31,680). *British Library: OSD 320*

Ordnance Survey 1830 Surveyors Drawing of Oswestry (by Robert Dawson)  
Scale: 2 inches to 1 mile (1:31,680). *British Library: OSD 330*

Ordnance Survey 1838 First Series Map, Sheet 74  
Scale: 1 inch to 1 mile (1:63,360). *A Vision of Britain Through Time*

Ordnance Survey 1875 Scale: 1:2,500 (25 inches to 1 mile). *Promap*

Ordnance Survey 1888 Scale: 1:10,560 (6 inches to 1 mile). *Promap*

Ordnance Survey 1901 Scale: 1:2,500 (25 inches to 1 mile). *Promap*

Ordnance Survey 1902 Scale: 1:10,560 (6 inches to 1 mile). *Promap*

Ordnance Survey 1926 Scale: 1:2,500 (25 inches to 1 mile). *Promap*

Ordnance Survey 1928-29 Scale: 1:10,560 (6 inches to 1 mile). *Promap*

Ordnance Survey	1938	Scale: 1:10,560 (6 inches to 1 mile). <i>Promap</i>
Ordnance Survey	1954	Scale: 1:10,560. <i>Promap</i>
Ordnance Survey	1968-9	Scale: 1:2,500. <i>Promap</i>
Ordnance Survey	1977	Scale: 1:2,500. <i>Promap</i>
Ordnance Survey	1979-80	Scale: 1:10,000. <i>Promap</i>
Ordnance Survey	1980	Scale: 1:2,500. <i>Promap</i>
Ordnance Survey	1983-4	Scale: 1:2,500. <i>Promap</i>
Ordnance Survey	1988	Scale: 1:2,500. <i>Promap</i>
Ordnance Survey	1991	Scale: 1:2,500. <i>Promap</i>
Ordnance Survey	1992	Scale: 1:10,000. <i>Promap</i>

#### **Aerial Photographs (Digital Imagery)**

Bing Maps © Microsoft Corporation, 2016  
<http://www.bing.com/maps/> (Accessed 8/8/16)

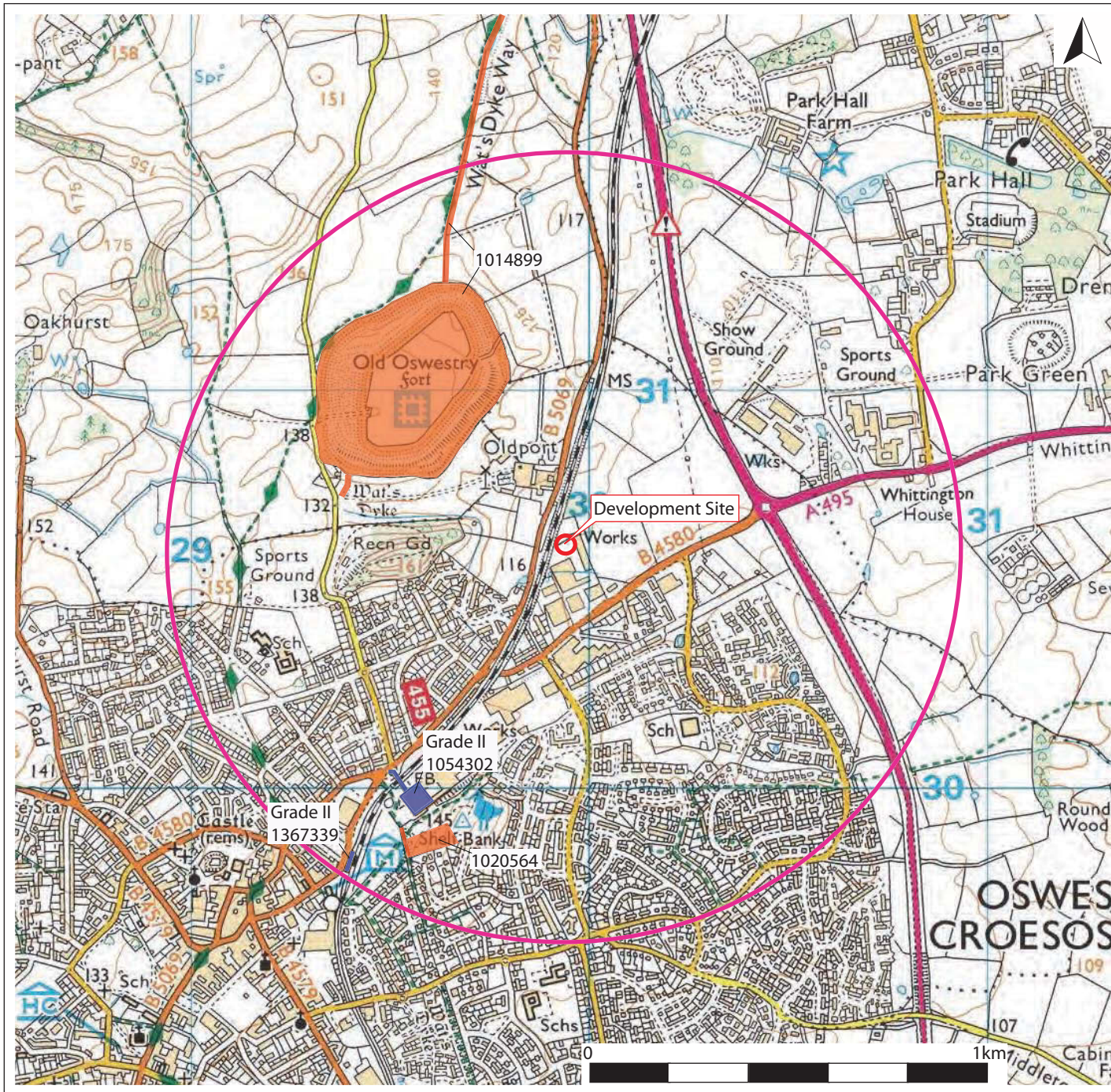
Google Maps © Bluesky, Infoterra Ltd, COWI A/S, Digital Globe, Getmapping Plc, 2016  
<https://maps.google.co.uk/maps/> (Accessed 8/8/16)

# *Archaeology Wales*

## **Figures**

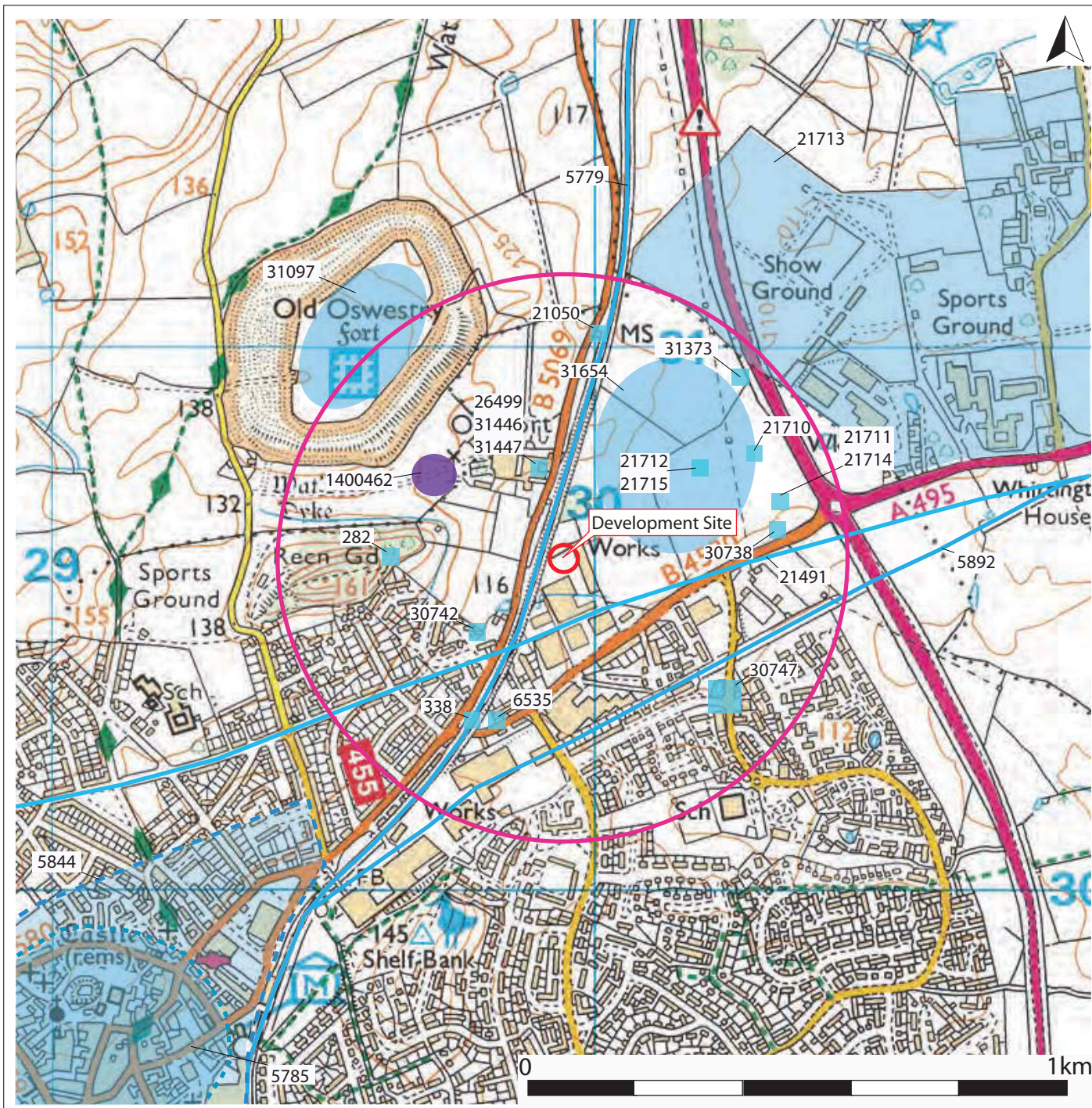


Figure 1  
Location of Site



- Key
- Scheduled Ancient Monuments (Historic England)
  - Listed Buildings (Historic England)
  - 1km buffer zone

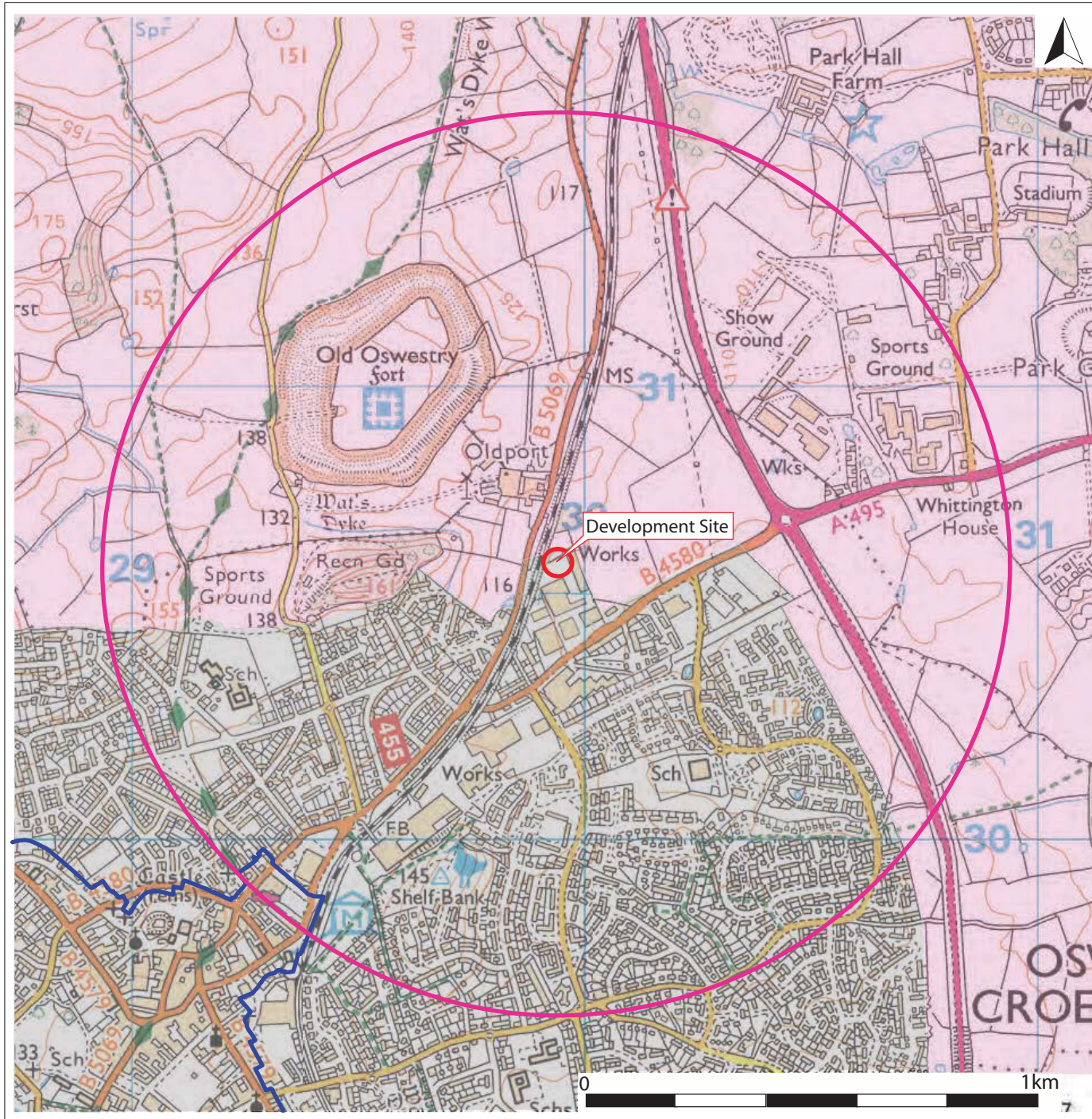
Figure 2  
Map of Designated Assets within a 1km Study Area



- Key
- National Record of the Historic Environment (Historic England)
  - Shropshire Historic Environment Record
  - 500m buffer zone

Figure 3  
Map of Non-designated Assets within a 500m Study Area






Key

- Oswestry Town Centre Conservation Area (Shropshire Council)
- Principal Settled Farmlands (Shropshire Landscape Typology)
- Urban Townscape (Shropshire Landscape Typology)
- 1km buffer zone

Figure 4  
Map of Historic Landscapes and Conservation Areas within a 1km Study Area

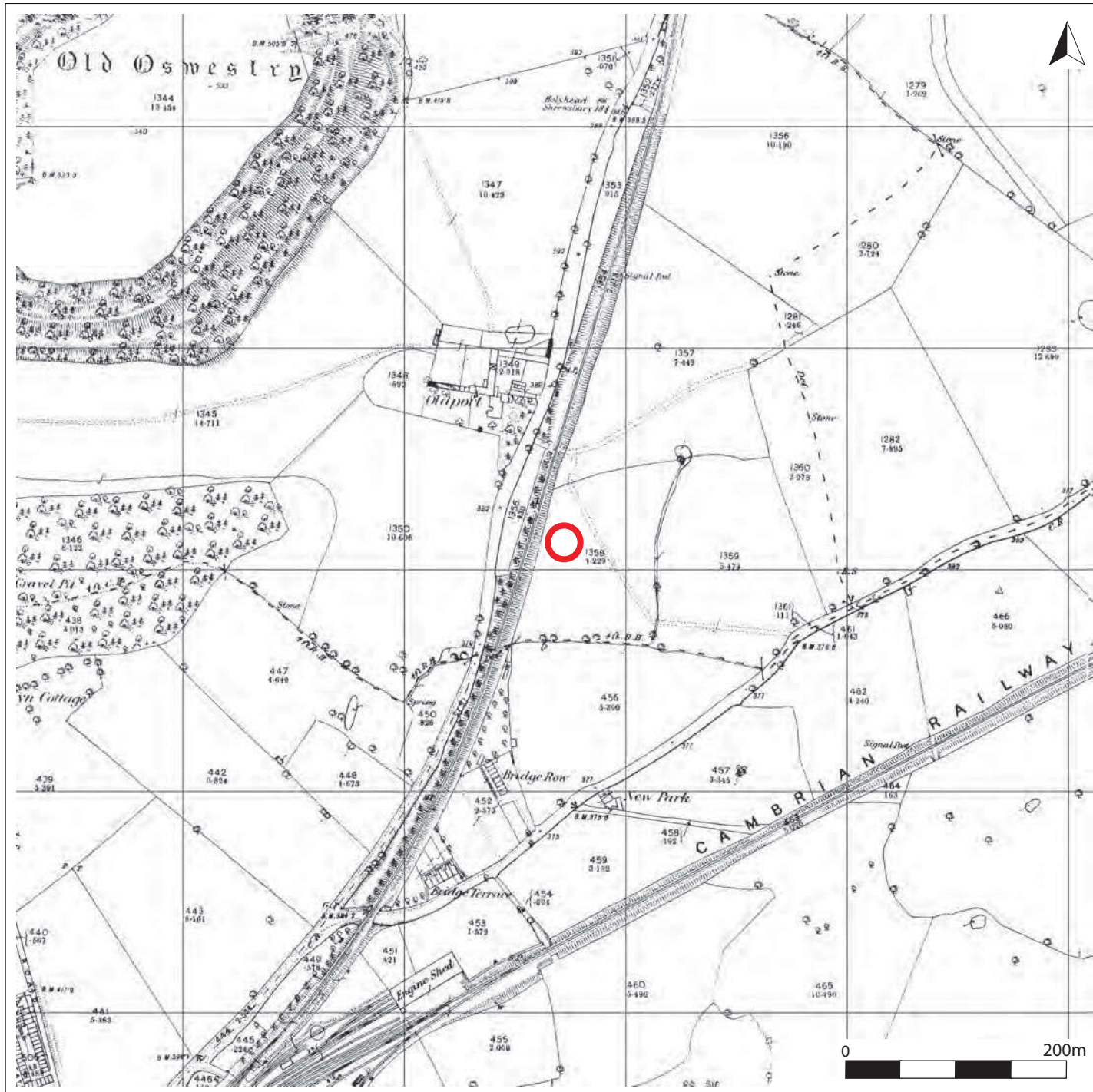


Key

 Approximate Location of Site

0  1km

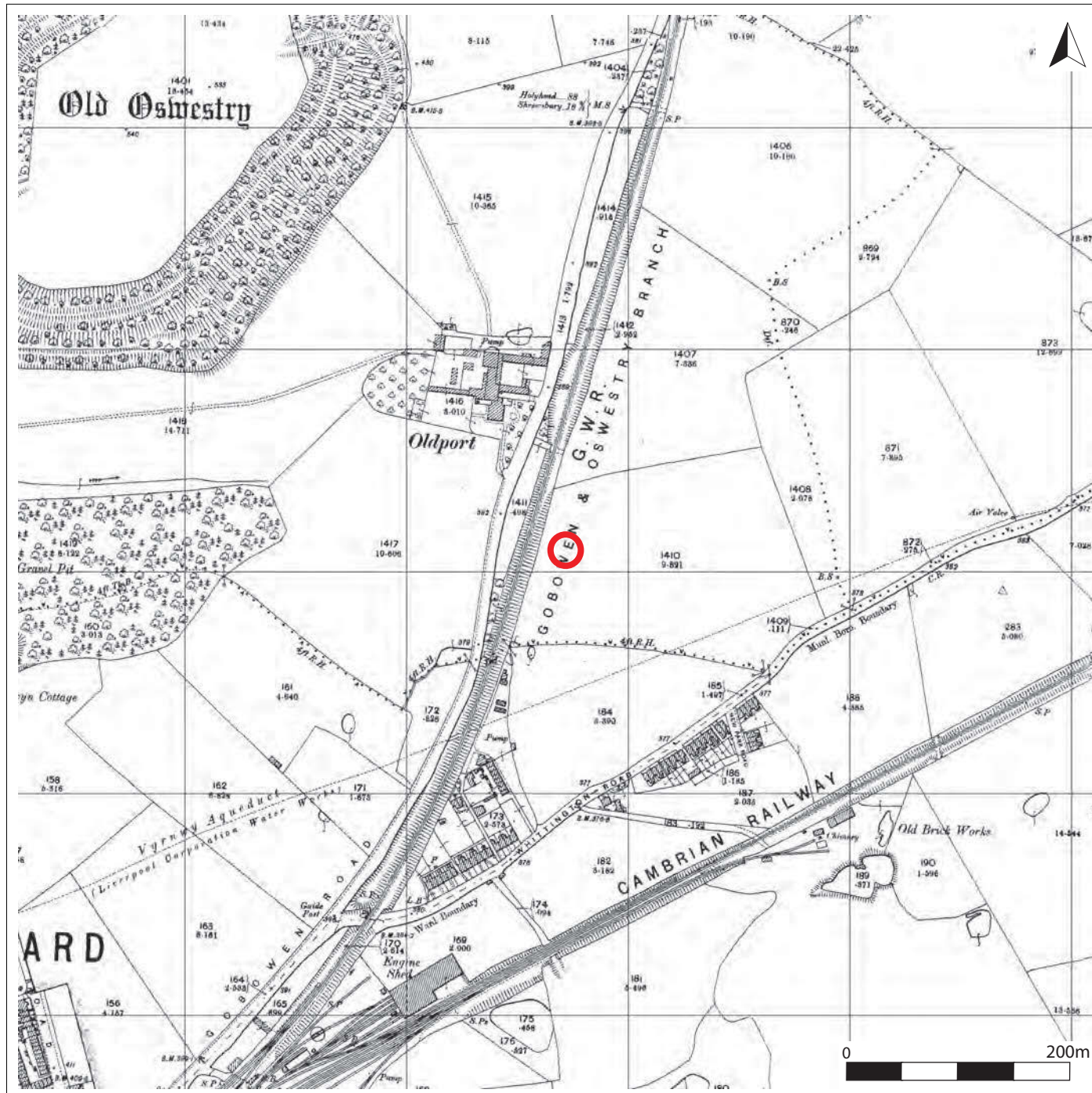
Figure 5  
Extract of the Ordnance Survey First Series of 1838, at 1 inch to 1 mile (1:63,360)



Key

— Approximate Location of Site

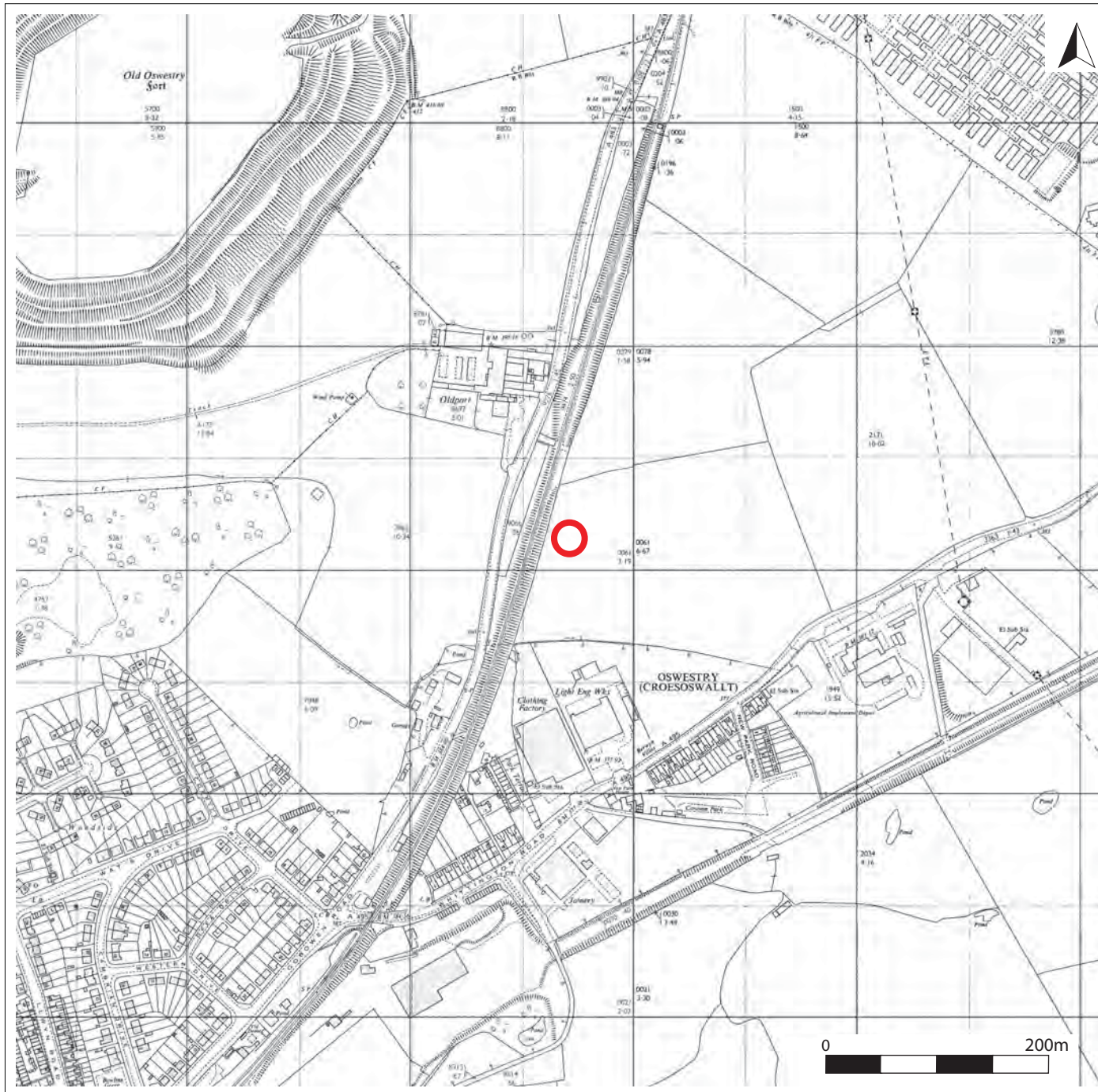
Figure 6  
 Extract of the Ordnance Survey map of 1875, at 25 inches to 1 mile (1:2,500)



Key

— Approximate Location of Site

Figure 7  
Extract of the Ordnance Survey map of 1901, at 25 inches to 1 mile (1:2,500)



Key

— Approximate Location of Site

Figure 8  
Extract of the Ordnance Survey map of 1968-9, at 1:2,500

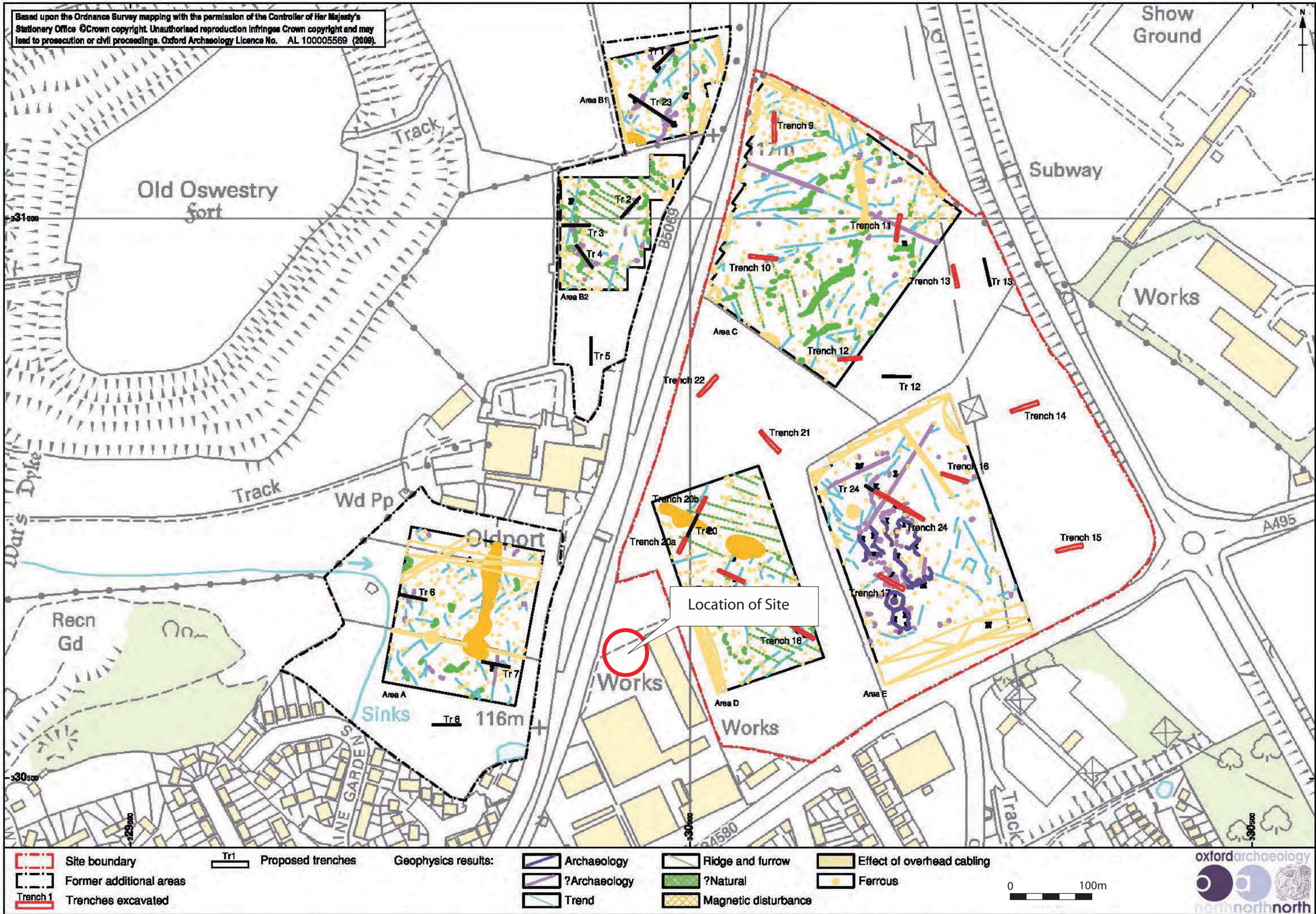


Figure 9  
Plan of the geophysical survey and evaluation trenching for a proposed development at Oldport Farm (after GSB Prospection Ltd, 2007 & Oxford Archaeology North, 2009)

# *Archaeology Wales*

## **Plates**



Plate 1. The front and southwest side of the new industrial unit, looking northeast



Plate 2. The rear elevation of the industrial unit, looking south-southeast





Plate 3. View from the industrial unit towards Oswestry town centre, looking south-southwest



Plate 4. General view of the industrial estate from the front of the new unit, looking south-southeast



Plate 5. View towards the industrial unit with Old Oswestry Hillfort in the background, looking northwest



Plate 6. View south-southeast from Old Oswestry Hillfort, with Oldport Farm in the foreground



Plate 7. View east-southeast from Old Oswestry Hillfort, with Oldport Farm on the left



Plate 8. View from Wat's Dyke, south of Old Oswestry, looking east-southeast

# *Archaeology Wales*

## **Appendix I**

### **Gazetteer of Heritage Assets Recorded on the Shropshire HER Database**

# Shropshire Council HER: Monument Full Report

05/08/2016

Number of records: 27

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SMR Number	Site Name	Record Type
00338 - MSA252	St Edith's Chapel, Oswestry	Monument

This site represents: a chapel of medieval date.

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## **Monument Types and Dates**

CHAPEL (Medieval - 1066 AD to 1540 AD)

Evidence DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

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## **Description and Sources**

### **Description**

Site of St Edith's Chapel. <1a>

Nothing visible at NGR given. W Horton FI 1991 <2>

Leland said chapel "lies to the north-east on the way to Chester". <3>

Listed as destroyed chapel in 1844. <4>

CMHTS Record Sheet. <5>

CMHTS Report. <6>

### **Sources**

- (00) Card index: Site and Monuments Record (SMR) cards (SMR record cards) by Shropshire County Council SMR, SMR Card for PRN SA 00338. Location: SMR Card Drawers
- (01) Card index: Ordnance Survey Record Card SJ23SE9 (Ordnance Survey record cards) by Ordnance Survey (1952). Location: SMR OSRC Card Drawers
- (01a) Map annotation: Map annotation by OS Correspondent by Whitfield J R W. Location: NMR?
- (02) Field recording form: Site Visit Form, 10/10/1991 (SMR site visit form) by Horton Wendy B (1991-Oct-10). Location: SMR
- (03) Monograph: John Leland's Itinerary: travels in Tudor England by Chandler J (1993), p46. Location: not given
- (04) Monograph: Antiquities of Shropshire by Dukes T F (1844), pxiii. Location: not given
- (05) Record form: CMHTS SMR Records Shropshire: Oswestry (Central Marches Historic Towns Survey record form) by Dalwood Hal (1993/ 1996), Oswestry 338. Location: SMR Library
- (06) Historic landscape survey report: Archaeological Assessment of Oswestry, Shropshire (CMHTS) (Hereford & Worcester CAS Rep) by Dalwood Hal et al (1996). Location: not given

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## **Location**

### **National Grid Reference**

Centred SJ 2977 3031 (10m by 10m) SJ23SE Point

### **Administrative Areas**

Civil Parish Oswestry, Oswestry, Shropshire

### **Address/Historic Names - None recorded**

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## **Designations, Statuses and Scorings**

### **Associated Legal Designations - None recorded**

### **Other Statuses and Cross-References**

**SMR Number** 00338

**Site Name** St Edith's Chapel, Oswestry

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Sites & Monuments Record - 00338

Active

SHINE Candidate (Possible)

Active

**Ratings and Scorings - None recorded**

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***Land Use***

**Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded**

**Other Land Classes - None recorded**

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***Related Monuments - None Recorded***

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***Finds - None recorded***

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***Associated Events/Activities***

ESA346 1991 field observation by Shropshire County Council (Event - Survey)

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***Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded***

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SMR Number	Site Name	Record Type
00351 - MSA261	Old Oswestry Hillfort	Monument

Scheduled Monument: A fine example of a nationally rare type of Iron Age hillfort (large and with multiple ramparts), Old Oswestry forms part of a significant concentration in the Marches and is of particular interest because of its later reuse as part of Wat's Dyke.

### Monument Types and Dates

MULTIVALLATE HILLFORT (Iron Age - 800 BC to 43 AD)

Evidence EARTHWORK

SETTLEMENT (Iron Age - 800 BC to 43 AD)

Evidence EARTHWORK

### Description and Sources

#### Description

OS record card. <1>

Aerial Photographs. <2>-<25>

Brief SAM printout. <26>

A brief mention of the excavations by Varley at Old Oswestry, 1939-1940 in a wider article on the hill-forts of the Welsh Marches. This does not give a detailed account of the excavations but refers to aspects of the excavations passim and provides a series of plans of development of Old Oswestry. <26c>

The excavations carried out here 1939-40 have never been fully published. In an outline he published in 1948 [<26c>] Varley proposes four main phases of Iron Age construction. He also suggests that there was a post Roman occupation shown by so called VCP pottery, but this material is now regarded as Iron Age. <27>

Articles 1957-58. <28><29>

The hillfort encloses c 5.3 hectares. The main phases can be summarised as follows:-

Phase (i) Unfortified settlement with timber houses.

Phase (ii) 3m wide stone revetted rampart with exterior ditch and an outer dump rampart and ditch. The ditches were separated from the banks by 10m berm...

Phase (iii) The inner bank enlarged, and two more banks and ditches added around the circuit. In-turned stone-revetted entrance added. Outermost ditch buried by later phase.

Phase (iv) Massive double bank and ditch added around the base of the hill and complex enclosures on each side of the entrance also probably added at this stage. Round houses with massive stone walls and upright timbers. The VCP pottery, now regarded as Iron Age, associated with this phase.

Phase (v) A few scraps of RB pottery found in the ditch silted.

Phase (vi) The traditional name for the site is Caer Ogyrfan, the father of Guinevere. <30>

Sources indexed but not abstracted. <31>-<40>

Some of the finds at least seem to have been donated to the NMW, judging from correspondence from the NMW to Varley 1974-5. <41>

Scheduling Map. <42>

In 1991 a site narrative and archive assessment of Varley's excavations was produced. A copy of this may be found in the DRF and Event Sequence. <43>

(Aerial) Photos. <44>-<74>

Evaluated for MPP in 1990-1, as one of less than 10 Large Multivallate Hillforts. <75>

Scheduling revised in 1997. Scheduling description: ->

->The monument includes the earthwork and buried remains of the hillfort of Old Oswestry, which is situated on a glacial mound north of the town of Oswestry, with sweeping views to west, north and east. The site has been known by a variety of names, including Caer Ogyrfan, after the father of Guinevere, and Yr hen Ddinas, meaning the old fort or city. Finds of flints and a stone axe suggest there has been activity at the site since the Neolithic period, and excavation has revealed occupation from the Late Bronze Age through to the end of the Iron Age. In the eighth century AD the hillfort was incorporated into the line of Wat's Dyke, which extends to the north and south, and the two sections of dyke adjacent to the

hillfort are included in the scheduling. Old Oswestry saw military use during the First World War, when it was used for training exercises by troops based at nearby Park Hall camp. ->

-> Old Oswestry has a roughly diamond-shaped plan, with maximum dimensions of 570m north east to south west by 420m transversely. It is a multivallate hillfort, having ramparts of five earthen banks and ditches, interrupted by two complex entrances, one on the east side and one on the west. The inner two banks and ditches are the earliest of the earthworks visible today, probably dating to around the sixth century BC, and they enclose a gently domed area of c.8.4ha. They comprise an earthen bank with a flattish top and steep outer slope with a ditch some distance outside it, and a second, slighter bank beyond. Both banks completely surround the hilltop, except where they are broken by the entrances. A third bank and ditch extend around the west side of the hillfort, the bank surviving to c.2.4m in places. Downslope of these, to the north and south of the western entrance, are a series of roughly rectangular hollows between additional steeply sloping banks. They have been variously described as cisterns, storage pits, stock enclosures, and quarry pits, although their regular shape would argue against the latter. The outer and latest phase of defences are formed by two massive 'glacis style' earthen banks with steep sides rising directly from the bottom of their deep outer ditches and standing up to 6m high. These banks and ditches again surround the whole hillfort except where broken by the entrances, and the banks survive in places up to 6m high. Both entrances were initially created by inturning the inner bank to form short passages into the hillfort's interior. As the defences developed, the western entrance in particular became more complex, and survives today as a sunken approach flanked on both sides by transverse banks and ditches extending to the outer edge of the rampart. The eastern entrance is defended by an earthen bank along its south side. In general the banks and ditches are better preserved on the north and west sides of the hillfort, as the steeper slope to the south east has caused the ditches to become more infilled, producing an almost continuous slope in places. ->

-> The visible earthworks of Old Oswestry represent the culmination of several phases of construction, which successively increased the defensive capabilities and status of the site. Excavations during the 1940s revealed that the earliest occupation within the rampart was a Late Bronze Age settlement of round huts. Charcoal from similar settlements elsewhere has been dated to the ninth century BC. The trench for a surrounding timber palisade was found, and a pottery bronze working crucible was found in the hearth of one of the huts, indicating that small-scale industrial activities were taking place. During the Early Iron Age the palisade was replaced by the hillfort's innermost earthen bank. This was of 'box rampart' construction, with revetment walls constructed of boulders, some of which can be seen protruding from the bank. The shallow surrounding ditch was quarried roughly 10m outside the bank, and a second bank and ditch was constructed beyond it, rather lower than the first. The box rampart may have had a timber lacing similar to examples elsewhere, which have been radiocarbon dated to the sixth century BC. Excavations at Old Oswestry found a number of stone kerbed huts to be contemporary with this phase of rampart construction, and associated finds of Early Iron Age pottery supports a sixth century date. The inner bank was later enhanced by a sloping earthen revetment against the inner stone wall, and the third bank and ditch were added around the western half of the monument. It is likely that the inturned entrances were created at this time, while occupation is represented by circular stone-walled huts which replaced the earlier stone-kerbed variety. The third, western, bank and ditch were also extensively rebuilt, with the original bank and ditch buried beneath an enlarged bank around a boulder core. These impressive glacis-style ramparts probably date from between the fifth and third centuries BC, and were constructed in a similar way. The complex western entrance had probably already been created by this time and was enhanced during the construction of these outer works. Contemporary with these developments, a large circular hut with stone footings was found to partly overlay the inturn of the inner bank, to the south of the western entrance. ->

-> Although a Roman presence at the site is indicated by finds of pottery and tile from the upper fills of the ditches, exactly where their activity was concentrated remains uncertain. However, some centuries later the hillfort was again utilised for defence as a strong point in the earthwork known as Wat's Dyke .. [details omitted - see Wat's Dyke] ->

-> All fences and gates around and across the monument, information boards and stiles, metalled road surfaces, electricity pylons, the outbuildings of Oldport Cottages, and the wooden shed on the line of the northern stretch of Wat's Dyke, are all excluded from the scheduling, although the ground beneath these features is included. <76>

A conservation plan was prepared for Old Oswestry in 2010, funded by English Heritage. ->

-> Old Oswestry is a hugely significant archaeological resource. Its importance is derived not only from its prehistoric legacy, but also from its contribution to later periods of history. Its incorporation into Wat's Dyke marks a chapter in the formation of early medieval Britain and it played an important role in the first of two world wars that so dramatically shaped the world in which we live. Old Oswestry is also important for the richness of its wildlife and is a key component in maintaining the biodiversity of the local area. ->

-> The Conservation Plan provides a series of recommendations that respects the cultural and natural heritage of the site. It highlights the need for a more tightly controlled maintenance regime, based on sound and up to date information. In addition, it advocates investigative programmes which will lead to a greater understanding of the site, contributing to an enhanced 'visitor experience'. It is considered that local involvement in decision making and implementation will help secure the long term conservation of the site. It is hoped that the resulting benefits of all of this work will be long-lasting and wide-reaching. ->

-> For convenience, the hillfort is subdivided into component parts and management recommendations are given for each component. <80>

In March 2007, seven stiles were replaced with new kissing gates on paths at Old Oswestry Hillfort. The post holes were too



small to enable firm conclusions to be made about the nature of the deposits disturbed. Clearly the post holes did intrude into archaeological deposits. In most cases these probably represented material that had eroded or slipped down from the ramparts. In two cases, gate C at the inner end of the eastern entrance passage (SJ 2968 3107), and gate E about half was along the southern side of the passage (SJ 2975 3108), the post holes appear to have cut into in situ rampart material. This material was characterised by large cobbles and boulders contained in the soil matrix. No other significant archaeological features were seen in the excavation. <81>

Photographed during aerial photographic survey in 2009-2010. <82>-<85>

A programme of detailed analytical field survey was undertaken in 2008 by English Heritage's Archaeological Survey and Investigation Team at Old Oswestry Hillfort, Selattyn & Gobowen, Shropshire. This included an appraisal of the evidence from Varley's excavations, including unpublished material held in the NMR. Also includes discussion of magnetometer survey carried out by Arnold Aspinall in 1974 of the interior of the hillfort. The report includes detailed analysis of the hillfort earthworks, which recorded detail of the chronological stages of Iron Age development, as well as earthworks associated with the WWI use of the site (see PRN 31097). ->

-> Analytical survey of the earthworks at Old Oswestry indicated that the hillfort began as a univallate enclosure crowning the summit of the hill, to which a second rampart was added following an unknown interval. An annexe or hornwork complex was appended to the western entrance of this bivallate enclosure. Finally an outer rampart was added following the lower contour of the hill and substantially increasing the size of the hillfort. Irregular earthwork configurations and extensive re-working of the ramparts has added to the complexity of the remains which are visible today. Stances found between the ramparts may be evidence for later use of the site, perhaps during the Roman or sub-Roman periods. <86>

Excavations began at this site under W. J. Varley shortly before the outbreak of World War II. He cut a total of five sections through the ramparts and opened up a small area within the interior, just inside the western entrance. Varley's excavations remained unpublished during his lifetime, and the sequence put forward by Hughes (<43>), based on the site archive, comprises essentially six phases. The first of this comprised a pre-rampart timber palisade which, although undated, is thought to have been constructed in the Late Bronze Age. This was succeeded, perhaps in the Early Iron Age (c. 600BC) by the inner, stone-revetted rampart. Varley felt that the enclosure during this phase was bivallate, although Hughes pointed out that there was no firm evidence for this and English Heritage's recent topographic survey indicated that the construction sequence is more complex than Varley envisaged (<86>). The stoned-kerbed roundhouses within the interior, unparalleled elsewhere in this region, are also thought to belong this phase. The third phase involved the construction of an in-turned entrance and the enlargement of the inner ramparts. Phases four and five saw the construction of enlarged, glacis style ramparts in the later Iron Age and the occupation of stone founded roundhouses within the interior. Sherds of Romano-British pottery and tile fragments may point to occupation in the Roman period, and the possible hut platforms that were identified between the ramparts during the recent topographic survey might relate to this phase of activity. ->

-> The finds included a crucible similar to those associated with the metalworking evidence at Llwyn Bryn-dinas in Powys, fragments of salt containers and, perhaps most notably, an assemblage of Early Iron Age furrowed and carinated bowls. This latter assemblage is, to the best of the authors knowledge, unparalleled in the region, and the fabrics suggested that they derived from southern England. The sections from some of Varley's trenches have been lost, including those from the trench he cut through the pits on the southern side of the western entrance. There would, therefore, be great value in locating and reopening some of Varley's trenches to recover this information. This could also be combined with an assessment of the significance of the remains associated with the full division strength practice trench system constructed by soldiers, including for a brief period Wilfred Owen, based at Park Hall during World War I (<80>). ->

-> A site visit was undertaken in 2011-2012, as part of a regional project exploring major later prehistoric enclosures in the region. It was noted that the ramparts were wooded until the later 20th century. Interior appears to have been cultivated in the past, possibly in the medieval period. A full division strength practice trench system was constructed in WWI and the interior was ploughed in WWII. The breakdown in the grazing regime on the ramparts in the late 1990s resulted in scrub regeneration. Visitor infrastructure improved 5 years ago.<88>

Photographed during aerial survey in 2015. <89>

Photographed from the air by Chris Musson in 1996. <90><91><92>

A digital 'contact sheet' of thumbnail versions of 2007 aerial photographs of Old Oswestry by RCAHMW was sent to the HER in 2008. <93>

## Sources

- (00) Card index: Site and Monuments Record (SMR) cards (SMR record cards) by Shropshire County Council SMR, SMR Card for PRN SA 00351. Location: SMR Card Drawers
- (01) Card index: Ordnance Survey Record Card SJ23SE7 (Ordnance Survey record cards) by Ordnance Survey (1979). Location: SMR OSRC Card Drawers

- (02) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 79/CF/0001 to 0002 (2 photos) by Musson Chris R (1979-May-14). Location: HER AP Storage SJ2930/F&G
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| CPAT Film Ref  | 79/CF/0001  |
| National Monuments Records Centre Aerial Photography | SF2243/004A |
| National Monuments Records Centre Aerial Photography | SF2243/005A |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref                        | SJ2930/F&G  |
| CPAT Film Ref  | 79/CF/0002  |
- (03) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 80/C/0188 (Colour) by Musson Chris R (1980-Jul-23). Location: HER AP Storage SJ2930/E
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| CPAT Film Ref  | 80/C/0188  |
| National Monuments Records Centre Aerial Photography | SF2257/030 |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref                        | SJ2930/E   |
- (04) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 83/09/0003A to 0008A (6 photos) by Musson Chris R (1983-Jul-28). Location: HER AP Storage SJ2931/AG&G&AH&AJ&H&J
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| CPAT Film Ref  | 83/09/0003A           |
| CPAT Film Ref  | 83/09/0004A           |
| CPAT Film Ref  | 83/09/0005A           |
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| National Monuments Records Centre Aerial Photography | SJ2931/009-014        |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref                        | SJ2931/AG&G&AH&AJ&H&J |
- (05) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 80/51/0003 to 0004 (2 photos) by Musson Chris R (1980). Location: HER AP Storage SO2930/C
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| CPAT Film Ref                 | 80/51/0003 |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref | SO2930/C   |
| CPAT Film Ref                 | 80/51/0004 |
- (06) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 80/C/0185 (Colour) by Musson Chris R (1980-Jul-23). Location: HER AP Storage SJ2931/S
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| CPAT Film Ref  | 80/C/0185  |
| National Monuments Records Centre Aerial Photography | SF2257/004 |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref                        | SJ2931/S   |
- (07) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 80/C/0183 to 0184 and 0186 to 0187 (4 photos) (Colour) by Musson Chris R (1980-Jul-23). Location: HER AP Storage SJ2931/N&P&Q&R
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| CPAT Film Ref  | 80/C/0183      |
| CPAT Film Ref  | 80/C/0184      |
| National Monuments Records Centre Aerial Photography | SF2257/026-029 |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref                        | SJ2931/N&P&Q&R |
| CPAT Film Ref  | 80/C/0186      |
| CPAT Film Ref  | 80/C/0187      |
- (08) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 81/C/0120 to 0122 (3 photos) (Colour) by Musson Chris R (1981-Jul-27). Location: HER AP Storage SJ2931/K&L&M
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| CPAT Film Ref  | 81/C/0120      |
| National Monuments Records Centre Aerial Photography | SF2260/023-025 |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref                        | SJ2931/K&L&M   |
| CPAT Film Ref  | 81/C/0121      |
| CPAT Film Ref  | 81/C/0122      |
- (09) Oblique aerial photograph: Oblique View, 1979 by Tyler Alan W (1979). Location: SMR AP Boxes
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| SMR Film Collection Ref       | 071/02   |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref | SJ2930/C |

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- (10) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 79/03/0019 by Musson Chris R (1979-May-14). Location: HER AP Storage SJ2930/D
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| CPAT Film Ref                 | 79/03/0019 |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref | SJ2930/D   |
- (11) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 83/14/0020A to 0023A (4 photos) by Musson Chris R (1983-Aug-03). Location: HER AP Storage SJ2931/E&F&AK&AL
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| CPAT Film Ref  | 83/14/0020A      |
| CPAT Film Ref  | 83/14/0021A      |
| CPAT Film Ref  | 83/14/0022A      |
| CPAT Film Ref  | 83/14/0023A      |
| National Monuments Records Centre Aerial Photography | SJ2931/015-018   |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref                        | SJ2931/E&F&AK&AL |
- (12) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 75/D/0009 to 0010 (2 photos) (Black and White from Colour) by Musson Chris R (1975-Jul-01). Location: SMR AP Boxes SJ2931/A&B
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| CPAT Film Ref  | 75/D/0009  |
| National Monuments Records Centre Aerial Photography | SJ2930/003 |
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| National Monuments Records Centre Aerial Photography | SJ2930/004 |
- (13) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 80/51/0003 by Musson Chris R (1980). Location: HER AP Storage SJ2931/D
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| CPAT Film Ref                 | 80/51/0003 |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref | SJ2931/D   |
- (14) Oblique aerial photograph: Oblique View, NMR SJ2930\_01 (Black and white) by Livock G E (1930s). Location: SMR AP Boxes SJ2930/A
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| National Monuments Records Centre Aerial Photography | SJ2930/001 |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref                        | SJ2930/A   |
- (15) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 75/A/0012 (Black and White from Colour) by Musson Chris R (1975-Jul-01). Location: SMR AP Boxes SJ2930/B
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| CPAT Film Ref  | 75/A/0012  |
| National Monuments Records Centre Aerial Photography | SJ2930/002 |
- (16) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 80/09/0007 by Musson Chris R (1980-Jul-23). Location: HER AP Storage SJ2931/C
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| CPAT Film Ref                 | 80/09/0007 |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref | SJ2931/C   |
- (17) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 82/C/0198 to 0200 (3 photos) (Colour) by Musson Chris R (1982-Jul-22). Location: HER AP Storage SJ2931/T&U&V
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| CPAT Film Ref  | 82/C/0198      |
| National Monuments Records Centre Aerial Photography | SJ2931/002-004 |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref                        | SJ2931/T&U&V   |
| CPAT Film Ref  | 82/C/0199      |
| CPAT Film Ref  | 82/C/0200      |
- (18) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 83/C/0203 to 0206 (4 photos) (Colour) by Musson Chris R (1983-Jul-30). Location: HER AP Storage SJ2931/W&X&Y&Z
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| CPAT Film Ref  | 83/C/0203      |
| National Monuments Records Centre Aerial Photography | SJ2931/005     |
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| CPAT Film Ref  | 83/C/0204      |
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- (19) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 83/C/0331 to 0333 (3 photos) (Colour) by Musson Chris R (1983-Aug-03). Location: HER AP Storage SJ2931/AA&AB&AC
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| CPAT Film Ref  | 83/C/0331       |
| National Monuments Records Centre Aerial Photography | SJ2931/006-008  |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref                        | SJ2931/AA&AB&AC |
| CPAT Film Ref  | 83/C/0332       |
| CPAT Film Ref  | 83/C/0333       |
- (20) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 86/05/0032 to 0034 (3 photos) by Musson Chris R (1986-Feb-22). Location: HER AP Storage SJ2931/AD&AE&AF
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| CPAT Film Ref  | 86/05/0032      |
| National Monuments Records Centre Aerial Photography | SJ2931/024-026  |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref                        | SJ2931/AD&AE&AF |
| CPAT Film Ref  | 86/05/0033      |
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- (21) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 85/MB/0031 (Black and White) by Musson Chris R (1985-Mar-12). Location: HER AP Storage SJ2931/AM
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| CPAT Film Ref                 | 85/MB/0031 |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref | SJ2931/AM  |
- (22) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 87/MB/0724 (Black and White) by Musson Chris R (1987-Jun-26). Location: HER AP Storage SJ2931/AN
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| CPAT Film Ref                 | 87/MB/0724 |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref | SJ2931/AN  |
- (23) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 88/MB/0325 to 0328 (4 photos) (Black and white) by Musson Chris R (1988-Aug-02). Location: HER AP Storage SJ2931/AP&AQ&AR&AS
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| CPAT Film Ref                 | 88/MB/0325         |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref | SJ2931/AP&AQ&AR&AS |
| CPAT Film Ref                 | 88/MB/0326         |
| CPAT Film Ref                 | 88/MB/0327         |
| CPAT Film Ref                 | 88/MB/0328         |
- (24) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 88/MB/0329 to 0333 (5 photos) (Black and white) by Musson Chris R (1988-Aug-02). Location: HER AP Storage SJ2931/AT&AU&AV&AW&AX
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| CPAT Film Ref                 | 88/MB/0329            |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref | SJ2931/AT&AU&AV&AW&AX |
| CPAT Film Ref                 | 88/MB/0330            |
| CPAT Film Ref                 | 88/MB/0331            |
| CPAT Film Ref                 | 88/MB/0332            |
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- (25) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 89/MB/0181 to 0182 and 0184 to 0185 (4 photos) (Black and White) by Musson Chris R (1989-Mar-11). Location: HER AP Storage SJ2931/AY&AZ&BA&BB
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| CPAT Film Ref                 | 89/MB/0181         |
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- (26b) Volume: Archaeologia Cambrensis (Archaeologia Cambrensis) by Anon. Location: not given
- (26c) Article in serial: The hill-forts of the Welsh Marches (Archaeol J) by Varley W J (1948). Location: SMR Library
- (26d) Monograph: Hillforts of Britain by Hogg A H A (1975), p255 -257 with plan, 131, 19. Location: not given
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| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref | SJ2929/G |
- (45) Oblique aerial photograph: Oblique View, A163096 (Black and white) by Aerofilms Ltd. Location: SMR AP Boxes
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| Aerofilms Film Ref            | A163096  |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref | SJ2929/I |
- (46) Oblique aerial photograph: Oblique View, A162965 (Black and white) by Aerofilms Ltd. Location: SMR AP Boxes
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| Aerofilms Film Ref            | A162965  |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref | SJ2929/N |
- (47) Oblique aerial photograph: Oblique View, A162959 (Black and white) by Aerofilms Ltd. Location: SMR AP Boxes
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| Aerofilms Film Ref            | A162959  |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref | SJ2929/O |
- (48) Oblique aerial photograph: Oblique View, A152952 (Black and white) by Aerofilms Ltd. Location: SMR AP Boxes
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| Aerofilms Film Ref            | A152952  |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref | SJ2930/J |
- (49) Oblique aerial photograph: Oblique View A162968 (Black and white) by Aerofilms Ltd. Location: SMR AP Boxes
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| Aerofilms Film Ref            | A162968  |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref | SJ2929/K |
- (50) Oblique aerial photograph: Oblique View A163097 (Black and white) by Aerofilms Ltd. Location: SMR AP Boxes
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| Aerofilms Film Ref            | A163097  |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref | SJ2929/M |

- (51) Photograph: Old Oswestry (Colour) by Watson Michael D (1984). Location: SMR Slide Storage
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- (53) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 88/C/0034 to 0040 (7 photos) (Colour) by Musson Chris R (1988). Location: SMR Slide Storage 0036 and 0040
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- (54) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 92/MB/0304 (Black and White) by Musson Chris R (1992-May-03). Location: HER AP Storage SJ2931/BW
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| CPAT Film Ref                 | 92/MB/0304 |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref | SJ2931/BW  |
- (55) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 92/MB/0309 (Black and White) by Musson Chris R (1992-May-03). Location: HER AP Storage SJ2931/BX
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| CPAT Film Ref                 | 92/MB/0309 |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref | SJ2931/BX  |
- (56) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 92/MB/0750 to 0754 (5 photos) (Black and White) by Musson Chris R (1992-Jul-19). Location: HER AP Storage SJ2931/BY&BZ&CA&CB&CC
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| CPAT Film Ref                 | 92/MB/0750            |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref | SJ2931/BY&BZ&CA&CB&CC |
| CPAT Film Ref                 | 92/MB/0751            |
| CPAT Film Ref                 | 92/MB/0752            |
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- (57) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 92/C/0535 to 0536 (2 photos) (Colour) by Musson Chris R (1992-May-03). Location: Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust
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| CPAT Film Ref | 92/C/0535 |
| CPAT Film Ref | 92/C/0536 |
- (58) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 92/C/1061 to 1062 (2 photos) (Colour) by Musson Chris R (1992-Jul-19). Location: Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust
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| CPAT Film Ref | 92/C/1061 |
| CPAT Film Ref | 92/C/1062 |
- (59) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 92/MC03/0004 and 0006 to 0007 (3 photos) (Colour) by Musson Chris R (1992-May-03). Location: Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust
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| CPAT Film Ref | 92/MC03/0004 |
| CPAT Film Ref | 92/MC03/0006 |
| CPAT Film Ref | 92/MC03/0007 |
- (61) Photograph: Old Oswestry (Black and white) by Tyler Alan W (1978-Aug). Location: SMR Film Negatives Files
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| SMR Film Collection Ref | 016/06    |
| SMR Film Collection Ref | 016/08-10 |
- (62) Oblique aerial photograph: Oblique View, 1979 by Tyler Alan W (1979). Location: SMR AP Boxes
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|-------------------------------|----------|
| SMR Film Collection Ref       | 071/02   |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref | SJ2930/C |
- (63) Photograph: Old Oswestry (Black and white) by Tyler Alan W (1981-Mar). Location: SMR Film Negatives Files
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| SMR Film Collection Ref | 094/02-03 |
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- (64) Photograph: Old Oswestry (Black and white) by Tyler Alan W (1981-Aug). Location: SMR Film Negatives Files
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| SMR Film Collection Ref | 106/00-02 |
| SMR Film Collection Ref | 106/09-18 |
| SMR Film Collection Ref | 106/31-42 |

(65)	Photograph: Old Oswestry (Colour) by Watson Michael D (1983-Aug). Location: SMR Film Negatives Files	
	SMR Film Collection Ref	255/12
(66)	Oblique aerial photograph: Old Oswestry, May/Sep 1983 (Black and white) by Watson Michael D (1983-May/Sep). Location: SMR Film Negatives Files	
	SMR Film Collection Ref	259/01-02
	SMR Film Collection Ref	259/02
(67)	Photograph: Old Oswestry (Black and white) by Watson Michael D (1985-Mar). Location: SMR Film Negatives Files	
	SMR Film Collection Ref	262/27-31
(68)	Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 93/MC02/0001 and 0003 and 0005 to 0007 and 0009 to 0010 (7 photos) (Colour) by Musson Chris R (1993-May-21). Location: Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust	
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	CPAT Film Ref	93/MC02/0003
	CPAT Film Ref	93/MC02/0005
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	CPAT Film Ref	93/MC02/0007
	CPAT Film Ref	93/MC02/0009
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(69)	Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 93/C/0550 to 0552 (3 photos) by Musson Chris R (1993). Location: Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust	
	CPAT Film Ref	93/C/0550
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(70)	Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 93/MB/0085 to 0098 (14 photos) by Musson Chris R (1993). Location: HER AP Storage SJ2931/CL&CM&CN&CO&CP&CQ&CR	
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(71)	Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 85/02/0030 by Musson Chris R (1985-Jan-02). Location: HER AP Storage SJ2921/BD	
	CPAT Film Ref	85/02/0030
	SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref	SJ2921/BD

- (72) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 85/20/0009 to 0016 (8 photos) by Musson Chris R (1985-Jul-23). Location: HER AP Storage SJ2931/BE&BF&BG&BH&BJ&BK&BL
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| CPAT Film Ref                 | 85/20/0009                  |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref | SJ2931/BE&BF&BG&BH&BJ&BK&BL |
| CPAT Film Ref                 | 85/20/0010                  |
| CPAT Film Ref                 | 85/20/0011                  |
| CPAT Film Ref                 | 85/20/0012                  |
| CPAT Film Ref                 | 85/20/0013                  |
| CPAT Film Ref                 | 85/20/0014                  |
| CPAT Film Ref                 | 85/20/0015                  |
| CPAT Film Ref                 | 85/20/0016                  |
- (73) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 85/05/0017 and 0019 to 0024 (7 photos) by Musson Chris R (1985-Mar-05). Location: HER AP Storage SJ2931/BM&BN&BP&BQ&BR&BS&BT
- |                               |                             |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| CPAT Film Ref                 | 85/05/0017                  |
| CPAT Film Ref                 | 85/05/0019                  |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref | SJ2931/BM&BN&BP&BQ&BR&BS&BT |
| CPAT Film Ref                 | 85/05/0020                  |
| CPAT Film Ref                 | 85/05/0021                  |
| CPAT Film Ref                 | 85/05/0022                  |
| CPAT Film Ref                 | 85/05/0023                  |
| CPAT Film Ref                 | 85/05/0024                  |
- (74) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 85/MB/0029 to 0030 (2 photos) (Black and White) by Musson Chris R (1985-Mar-12). Location: HER AP Storage SJ2931/BU&BV
- |                               |              |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| CPAT Film Ref                 | 85/MB/0029   |
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref | SJ2931/BU&BV |
| CPAT Film Ref                 | 85/MB/0030   |
- (75) TEXT: MPP Evaluation File by Horton Wendy B (1990/ 1991), Large Multivallate Hillforts. Location: SMR
- (76) Scheduled Monument notification: Scheduling Papers (Revised Scheduling, 08/12/1997) by English Heritage (1997). Location: SMR SAM Files
- |                                |                  |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| EH Scheduling Section File Ref | MPP23/ AA92514/1 |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
- (77) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 02/MB/2003 to 2005 (3 photos) (Black and White) by Musson Chris R (2002-Jul-21). Location: HER AP Storage SJ2931/DG&DH&DI
- |                               |                 |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| SMR Oblique AP Collection Ref | SJ2931/DG&DH&DI |
| CPAT Film Ref                 | 02/MB/2003      |
| CPAT Film Ref                 | 02/MB/2004      |
| CPAT Film Ref                 | 02/MB/2005      |
- (78) Monograph: Shropshire An Archaeological Guide by Watson Michael D (2002), p30-31. Location: not given
- (79) Teachers pack: Old Oswestry, an Iron Age hillfort: Teaching Resources by English Heritage (2009?). Location: SMR library
- (80) Management report: Old Oswestry Hillfort conservation plan by Reid Malcolm L & Marriot J (2010). Location: ESA white
- (81) Watching brief report: A watching brief at Old Oswestry hillfort, Shropshire (SCCAS Rep) by Hannaford Hugh R (2007). Location: ESA white



(82) Oblique aerial photograph: SA0909\_29 to SA0909\_39 (11 photos) Flight: 09\_SA\_09 (Colour) by Shropshire Council (2009-Apr-26). Location: SC Network and CD Storage

SC Digital AP Ref	SA0909_29
SC Digital AP Ref	SA0909_30
SC Digital AP Ref	SA0909_31
SC Digital AP Ref	SA0909_32
SC Digital AP Ref	SA0909_33
SC Digital AP Ref	SA0909_34
SC Digital AP Ref	SA0909_35
SC Digital AP Ref	SA0909_36
SC Digital AP Ref	SA0909_37
SC Digital AP Ref	SA0909_38
SC Digital AP Ref	SA0909_39

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- (83) Oblique aerial photograph: SA0907\_158 to SA0907\_184 and SA0907\_186 to SA0907\_206 (48 photos)  
Flight: 09\_SA\_07 (Colour) by Shropshire Council (2009-Mar-29). Location: SC Network and CD Storage
- |                   |            |
|-------------------|------------|
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_158 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_159 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_160 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_161 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_162 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_163 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_164 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_165 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_166 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_167 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_168 |
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| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_170 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_171 |
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| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_173 |
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| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_175 |
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| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_177 |
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| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_180 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_181 |
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| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_183 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_184 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_186 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_187 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_188 |
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| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_190 |
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| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_192 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_193 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_194 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_195 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_196 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_197 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_198 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_199 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_200 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_201 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_202 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_203 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_204 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_205 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_206 |
- (84) Oblique aerial photograph: SA0907\_157 (1 photo) Flight: 09\_SA\_07 (Colour) by Shropshire Council  
(2009-Mar-29). Location: SC Network and CD Storage
- |                   |            |
|-------------------|------------|
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA0907_157 |
|-------------------|------------|

- (85) Oblique aerial photograph: SA1001\_049 to SA1001\_072 (24 photos) Flight: 10\_SA\_01 (Colour) by Shropshire Council (2010-Jan-7). Location: SC Network and CD Storage
- |                   |            |
|-------------------|------------|
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA1001_049 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA1001_050 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA1001_051 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA1001_052 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA1001_053 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA1001_054 |
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| SC Digital AP Ref | SA1001_068 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA1001_069 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA1001_070 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA1001_071 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA1001_072 |
- (86) Field survey report: Old Oswestry, Selattyn and Gobowen, Shropshire; analysis of earthworks: archaeological survey report (English Heritage Rep) by Smith N (2010). Location: ESA white
- (87) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 92/MC20/0003 to 0004 and 006 to 0007 and 0009 to 0010 and 0012 to 0013 (8 photos) (Colour) by Musson Chris R (1992-Jul-19). Location: Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust
- |               |              |
|---------------|--------------|
| CPAT Film Ref | 92/MC20/0001 |
| CPAT Film Ref | 92/MC20/0003 |
| CPAT Film Ref | 92/MC20/0004 |
| CPAT Film Ref | 92/MC20/0006 |
| CPAT Film Ref | 92/MC20/0007 |
| CPAT Film Ref | 92/MC20/0009 |
| CPAT Film Ref | 92/MC20/0010 |
| CPAT Film Ref | 92/MC20/0012 |
| CPAT Film Ref | 92/MC20/0013 |
- (88) Archaeological fieldwork report: Assessment of the archaeological and conservation status of major later prehistoric enclosures in Herefordshire and Shropshire by Dorling P & Wigley A (2012), pp.31-32; 211. Location: ESA white
- (89) Oblique aerial photograph: SA1501-107 to SA1501-112 (6 photos) Flight: 15\_SA\_01 (Colour) by Shropshire Council (2015-Jul-22). Location: SC Network and CD Storage
- |                   |            |
|-------------------|------------|
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA1501_107 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA1501_108 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA1501_109 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA1501_110 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA1501_111 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA1501_112 |
- (90) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 90/MC6/0006 and 0008 to 0009 (3 Photos) (Colour) by Musson Chris R (1990-Jul-11). Location: Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust
- (91) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 92/MC2/0012 to 0013 and 0015 (3 Photos) (Colour) by Musson Chris R (1992-May-03). Location: Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust

- (92) Oblique aerial photograph: CPAT 96/C/1266 to 96/C/1267 (2 Photos) (Colour) by Musson Chris R (1996-Jul-20). Location: Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust
- (93) Oblique aerial photograph: Digital 'contact sheet' of aerial photographs of Old Oswestry by RCAHMW, 2007 (Colour) by Driver Toby (2007). Location: P:\...\HER Contributions

**Location****National Grid Reference**

Centred SJ 2956 3108 (512m by 1370m) SJ23SE Area

**Administrative Areas**

Civil Parish Selattyn and Gobowen, Oswestry, Shropshire

**Address/Historic Names**

Caer Ogyrfan

Yr Hen Ddinas

**Designations, Statuses and Scorings****Associated Legal Designations**

Guardianship Monument - The Old Oswestry	The Old Oswestry	Active	DSA8861
Scheduled Monument - 1014899	Old Oswestry hillfort, and two adjacent sections of Wat's Dyke	Active	DSA4358
Scheduled Monument - Salop 103	Old Oswestry	Revoked	DSA8459

**Other Statuses and Cross-References**

Sites & Monuments Record - 00351	Active
SHINE Candidate (No)	Active

**Ratings and Scorings**

Condition	Good	10/04/1986	1986 field observation by English Heritage
MPP Total Score	45		

**Land Use****Associated Historic Landscape Character Records**

HSA2027	Fieldsapes - Small irregular fields (Type Code: F-40)
HSA2028	Unimproved Land - Other unimproved ground (Type Code: UL-52) Other unimproved ground

**Other Land Classes**

Landuse	Undisturbed grassland
Landuse	Undisturbed grassland

**Related Monuments**

02749	Find Spot before 1964 of Neolithic axe at Old Oswestry hillfort.	General X-Ref*
02750	Find Spot in 1974 of Neolithic stone axe at Old Oswestry.	General X-Ref*

**Associated Finds**

FSA185	VESSEL (Early Iron Age to Late Iron Age - 800 BC to 42 AD)	POTTERY
FSA586	TILE (Roman - 43 AD to 410 AD)	CLAY
FSA587	VESSEL (Early Iron Age to Late Iron Age - 800 BC to 42 AD)	POTTERY

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***Associated Events/Activities***

ESA361	Undated field observation by English Heritage (Event - Survey)
ESA359	1939-1940 excavations by W J Varley at Old Oswestry Hillfort (Event - Intervention)
ESA362	1967 field observation by the Ordnance Survey (Event - Survey)
ESA360	1974 geophysical survey (Event - Survey)
ESA363	1979 field observation by the Ordnance Survey (Event - Survey)
ESA364	1981 field observation by Shropshire County Council (Event - Survey)
ESA365	1986 field observation by English Heritage (Event - Survey)
ESA6136	2007 WB at Old Oswestry Hillfort, Shropshire, by SCCAS (Event - Intervention)
ESA6586	2008 earthwork survey of Old Oswestry Hillfort by English Heritage (Event - Survey)
ESA6486	2010 Management survey at Old Oswestry Hillfort by Malcolm Reid and Jenny Marriot (Event - Survey)
ESA6904	2011-12 DBA and walkover survey of hillforts in Shropshire by Shropshire Council and Herefordshire Council (Event - Survey)

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***Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded***

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**SMR Number** 06535

**Site Name** Saw Mill, Oswestry

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<b>SMR Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Record Type</b>
06535 - MSA3164	Saw Mill, Oswestry	Monument

A Saw Mill is marked on an OS map of 1926.

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***Monument Types and Dates***

SAW MILL (Early 20th century (pre-war) to 21st century - 1900 AD to 2099 AD)

Evidence BUILDING?

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***Description and Sources***

**Description**

Open space <1>

Saw Mill <2>

Building, use not indicated. Unclear from map whether historic building(s) have survived <3>

**Sources**

- (01) Map: OS County Series 12.14, 1901 (OS County Series) by Ordnance Survey (1901). Location: Shropshire Archives
  - (02) Map: OS County Series 12.14, 1926 (OS County Series) by Ordnance Survey (1926). Location: Shropshire Archives
  - (03) Map: OS SJ23SE, 1979 (OS National Grid Series) by Ordnance Survey (1979). Location: SMR
- 

***Location***

**National Grid Reference**

SJ 2982 3030 (point) SJ23SE Point

**Administrative Areas**

Civil Parish Oswestry, Oswestry, Shropshire

**Address/Historic Names - None recorded**

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***Designations, Statuses and Scorings***

**Associated Legal Designations - None recorded**

**Other Statuses and Cross-References**

SHINE Candidate (Possible)	Active
Sites & Monuments Record - 06535	Active

**Ratings and Scorings - None recorded**

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***Land Use***

**Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded**

**Other Land Classes - None recorded**

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***Related Monuments - None Recorded***

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***Finds - None recorded***

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***Associated Events/Activities - None recorded***

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***Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded***

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SMR Number	Site Name	Record Type
05704 - MSA12547	Railway yard, Oswestry	Monument

The Shrewsbury, Oswestry and Chester Junction Railway was completed in 1848. The railway station and yard is extensive and includes a number of historic buildings: the station building (PRN13103); goods shed (PRN17599); signal box (PRN18695) and signal post (PRN17588). The Cambrian Works (PRN18687) are located at E end of yard.

### Monument Types and Dates

RAILWAY STATION (Post Medieval - 1540 AD to 1901 AD)

Evidence DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

### Description and Sources

#### Description

The Shrewsbury, Oswestry and Chester Junction Railway was completed in 1848 <1>

CMHTS Comment:- The railway station and yard is extensive and includes a number of historic buildings: the station building (SA13103); goods shed (SA17599); signal box (SA18695) and signal post (SA17588). The Cambrian Works (SA18687) are located at E end of yard. <2>

The layout of the station and yard is shown on the OS map 1875. <3>

CMHTS Report. <4>

A 2002 walkover survey noted that most of the track was gone (though one line and some sidings remained) and much of the area (including the station area) untended and overgrown. Some of the remaining lines were occupied by rolling stock belonging to the Cambrian Railway Society <5>

Remains of a carriage shed [PRN 20702] and a loading wharf [PRN 20703] were uncovered in an excavation by BUFAU in 2006. <6>

A heritage statement of the former Cambrian Railways railway sheds at Oswestry was prepared in 2007. The statement included desk-based assessment of the significance of a number of buildings, 4 bays of the locomotive workshops of the former railway works (PRN 18687) and an associated sheetroom and gasworks of similar date. A description of the historic fabric of the buildings, and photographs undertaken during a site visit are included. <7>

A further heritage statement of the former Cambrian Railways railway sheds at Oswestry was prepared in 2008. As in <7>, the statement includes a desk-based assessment of the buildings in the ownership of Richard Burbidge Limited. <8>

In association with proposals for the former Cambrian Railways railway sheds, a site visit was undertaken by Peter Booth, Conservation Officer at Oswestry Borough Council and Henry Thomas for the Cambrian Railways Trust. Correspondance includes some historic photographs of the railway sheds. <9>

#### Sources

- (01) Monograph: Oswestry with an Account of its Old Houses, Shops, etc, and Some of their Occupants by Watkin I (1920), p332. Location: not given
- (02) Record form: CMHTS SMR Records Shropshire: Oswestry (Central Marches Historic Towns Survey record form) by Dalwood Hal (1993/ 1996), Oswestry 5704. Location: SMR Library
- (03) Map: OS County Series 19.13,14, 1901 (OS County Series) by Ordnance Survey (1901). Location: SMR
- (04) Historic landscape survey report: Archaeological Assessment of Oswestry, Shropshire (CMHTS) (Hereford & Worcester CAS Rep) by Dalwood Hal et al (1996). Location: not given
- (05) Deskbased survey report: Oswestry Railway Lands - an archaeological desk based assessment (BUFAU Rep) by Hislop Malcolm (2002). Location: ESA white
- (06) Archaeological fieldwork report: Former railway lands, Oswald Road, Oswestry: Archaeological Evaluation (BUFAU Rep) by Krawiec K (2006). Location: ESA white
- (07) Field survey report: Assessment of the heritage importance of the Richard Burbidge Ltd owned elements of the Cambrian Railway complex by Taylor Young (2007). Location: ESA white
- (08) Deskbased survey report: Heritage statement, Richard Burbidge site, Oswestry by Taylor Young (2008). Location: ESA white (ESA6804)
- (09) Correspondence: Correspondance concerning Burbidge Site, Oswestry (re: railway buildings) (Peter Booth) by Cambrian Railways Trust (2009). Location: ESA white (ESA 6804)

**Location****National Grid Reference**

Centred SJ 2944 2987 (10m by 10m)

SJ22NE

Area

**Administrative Areas**

Civil Parish Oswestry, Oswestry, Shropshire

**Address/Historic Names - None recorded****Designations, Statuses and Scorings****Associated Legal Designations**

Conservation Area

Oswestry

Active

DSA8450

**Other Statuses and Cross-References**

Sites &amp; Monuments Record - 05704

Active

SHINE Candidate (Possible)

Active

**Ratings and Scorings - None recorded****Land Use****Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded****Other Land Classes - None recorded****Related Monuments**

13103	Former headquarters of the Cambrian Railway and station, OSWALD ROAD, Oswestry	Contemporary Complex* (P/C)
17588	Signal Post apx 150m to S of former Oswestry Station, OSWALD ROAD	Contemporary Complex* (P/C)
17599	Goods shed about 70m SW of Station, Oswald Road, Oswestry	Contemporary Complex* (P/C)
18687	Former Railway Works (Cambrian Works)	Contemporary Complex* (P/C)
18695	Signal Box apx 80m S of Former Oswestry Station, Oswald Road	Contemporary Complex* (P/C)
20702	Carriage Shed 60m NE of former Station, Oswestry	Contemporary Complex* (P/C)
20703	Loading Wharf 60m E of former station, Oswestry	Contemporary Complex* (P/C)

 **Finds - None recorded****Associated Events/Activities**

ESA5930	2002 Assessment of the former Cambrian Railway lands at Oswestry Station by BUFAU (Event - Survey)
ESA6066	2006 Evaluation of former railway lands, Oswald Road, Oswestry by BUFAU (Event - Intervention)
ESA6701	2007 heritage assessment and site visit of the former Cambrian Railway Works, Oswestry by Taylor Young (Event - Interpretation)
ESA6804	2008 heritage assessment of the Richard Burbidge Site, Oswestry by Taylor Young (Event - Interpretation)

**Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded**



SMR Number	Site Name	Record Type
05779 - MSA12622	Shrewsbury, Oswestry & Chester Junction Railway	Monument

The Shrewsbury, Oswestry and Chester Junction Railway was completed in 1848.

### Monument Types and Dates

RAILWAY (Mid 19th century to 20th century (post-war) - 1845 AD to 1966 AD)

Evidence	DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE
Evidence	EARTHWORK

### Description and Sources

#### Description

The Shrewsbury, Oswestry and Chester Junction Railway was completed in 1848 <1>

OS map 1875 shows embankment for railway line N of Oswestry railway station (cf SA5704) <2>

CMHTS Record Sheet <3>

CMHTS Report <4>

In 1845 the Shrewsbury Oswestry and Chester Junction Railway was formed with the intention of constructing a line from the Shrewsbury to Chester railway at Gobowen, through Oswestry to Llanymynech. The line was only completed as far as Oswestry, in December 1848, by which time the company had been amalgamated with the North Wales Mineral Railway to form the Shrewsbury and Chester Railway, itself later absorbed into the Great Western Railway in 1854 <5>

In 1845 the Shrewsbury, Oswestry & Chester Railway (which a year later merged with the North Wales Mineral Railway to become the Shrewsbury & Chester Railway, or SCR) was authorised by Parliament to construct not only a railway from Shrewsbury to Chester [see PRN 08444], but also a branch line leaving it at Gobowen. The original scheme was intended to link up at Crickheath with the proposed Shropshire Union of Railways & Canals (SURC) line from Crewe to Newtown. However, the SURC line did not materialise [see PRNs 05520 and 08462 for the only lines actually built by the SURC]. Consequently the SCR branch was shortened, and terminated at Oswestry. It opened in late 1848, shortly after the opening of the main Shrewsbury-Chester line. ->

-> The line operated until 1966, shortly after all Oswestry's other rail links had been severed by Beeching. <6>

A desk based assessment of the Vyrnwy Pipeline, carried out in 2010, assessed that the proposed works could have an impact upon a section of the railway. A watching brief over the route as it crossed this area was recommended. <7>

#### Sources

- (01) Monograph: Oswestry with an Account of its Old Houses, Shops, etc, and Some of their Occupants by Watkin I (1920), p332. Location: not given
- (02) Map: OS County Series 19.13,14, 1901 (OS County Series) by Ordnance Survey (1901). Location: SMR
- (03) Record form: CMHTS SMR Records Shropshire: Oswestry (Central Marches Historic Towns Survey record form) by Dalwood Hal (1993/ 1996), Oswestry 5779. Location: SMR Library
- (04) Historic landscape survey report: Archaeological Assessment of Oswestry, Shropshire (CMHTS) (Hereford & Worcester CAS Rep) by Dalwood Hal et al (1996). Location: not given
- (05) Archaeological fieldwork report: Llanymynech Heritage Area: archaeological survey (CPAT Rep) by Jones N W (2004), p7. Location: ESA white
- (06) Monograph: Railways of Shropshire by Morriss Richard K (1991), p14. Location: not given
- (07) Deskbased survey report: Vyrnwy pipeline, Oswestry to Penley: rapid desk-based research and walkover survey (Oxford Archaeol North Rep) by Bullock V (2012), Site 26. Location: ESA white

#### Location

##### National Grid Reference

Centred SJ 3007 3154 (10m by 10m)

SJ33SW

Area

##### Administrative Areas

**SMR Number** 05779

**Site Name** Shrewsbury, Oswestry & Chester Junction Railway

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Civil Parish Oswestry, Oswestry, Shropshire  
Civil Parish Selattyn and Gobowen, Oswestry, Shropshire  
Civil Parish Whittington, Oswestry, Shropshire

**Address/Historic Names - None recorded**

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***Designations, Statuses and Scorings***

**Associated Legal Designations - None recorded**

**Other Statuses and Cross-References**

SHINE Candidate (Possible) Active  
Sites & Monuments Record - 05779 Active

**Ratings and Scorings - None recorded**

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***Land Use***

**Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded**

**Other Land Classes - None recorded**

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***Related Monuments***

08444	Shrewsbury & Chester Railway	Contemporary Complex* (P/C)
20393	Shrewsbury, Oswestry & Chester Junction Railway Station, Oswestry	Contemporary Complex* (P/C)

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***Finds - None recorded***

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***Associated Events/Activities***

ESA6097 2006 DBA on land at Oldport Farm, Oswestry by Castlring Archaeology (Event - Interpretation)  
ESA6742 2010 DBA and walkover assessment along proposed Vyrnwy pipeline (Oswestry to Penley) by  
Oxford Archaeology North (Event - Intervention)

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***Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded***

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**SMR Number** 05785

**Site Name** Medieval street system, Oswestry

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<b>SMR Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Record Type</b>
05785 - MSA12628	Medieval street system, Oswestry	Monument

Medieval street system of Oswestry.

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### **Monument Types and Dates**

ROAD (Medieval - 1066 AD to 1540 AD)

Evidence	CONJECTURAL EVIDENCE
Evidence	DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

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### **Description and Sources**

#### **Description**

Streets documented in 1393 are Bader Street (Beatrice Street), Ballium (Bailey Street), Lege Strette (Leg Street), Wyllya Strete (Willow Street), Midel Street (north part of Church Street) and Chirton (Church Street, south of the walls). <1>

CMHTS Comment:- Medieval streets defined, together with minor lanes, based on J Wood's 1833 map [<3>] and other cartographic sources. However post medieval street system was different (cf PRN 05844). <2>

Woods 1833 map. <3>

CMHTS Report. <4>

A desk based assessment of the Vyrnwy Pipeline, carried out in 2010, assessed that fabric associated with the medieval street system could be affected by the proposed works, as the pipeline route passed through here. A watching brief over the route as it crossed this area was recommended. <5>

#### **Sources**

- (01) Monograph: The Lordship of Oswestry, 1393-1607 by Slack W J (1951), p143-52. Location: not given
- (02) Record form: CMHTS SMR Records Shropshire: Oswestry (Central Marches Historic Towns Survey record form) by Dalwood Hal (1993/ 1996), Oswestry 5785. Location: SMR Library
- (03) Map: Plan of Oswestry from Actual Survey by Wood J (1833). Location: not given
- (04) Historic landscape survey report: Archaeological Assessment of Oswestry, Shropshire (CMHTS) (Hereford & Worcester CAS Rep) by Dalwood Hal et al (1996). Location: not given
- (05) Deskbased survey report: Vyrnwy pipeline, Oswestry to Penley: rapid desk-based research and walkover survey (Oxford Archaeol North Rep) by Bullock V (2012), Site 27. Location: ESA white

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### **Location**

#### **National Grid Reference**

Centred SJ 2894 2970 (10m by 10m) SJ22NE Area

#### **Administrative Areas**

Civil Parish Oswestry, Oswestry, Shropshire

#### **Address/Historic Names - None recorded**

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### **Designations, Statuses and Scorings**

#### **Associated Legal Designations**

Conservation Area	Oswestry	Active	DSA8450
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#### **Other Statuses and Cross-References**

SHINE Candidate (No)	Active
Sites & Monuments Record - 05785	Active

#### **Ratings and Scorings - None recorded**

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**SMR Number** 05785

**Site Name** Medieval street system, Oswestry

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***Land Use***

**Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded**

**Other Land Classes - None recorded**

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***Related Monuments - None Recorded***

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***Finds - None recorded***

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***Associated Events/Activities***

ESA6742      2010 DBA and walkover assessment along proposed Vyrnwy pipeline (Oswestry to Penley) by  
Oxford Archaeology North (Event - Intervention)

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***Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded***

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**SMR Number** 05844

**Site Name** Post medieval street system, Oswestry

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<b>SMR Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Record Type</b>
05844 - MSA12658	Post medieval street system, Oswestry	Monument

Post medieval street system of Oswestry

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**Monument Types and Dates**

ROAD (Post Medieval - 1540 AD to 1901 AD)

Evidence DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

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**Description and Sources**

**Description**

A new road was constructed in 1771, which is now Salop Road (from Middleton Road to junction Victoria Road and A4083). Former road between two points was more sinuous. Turnpike Act of 1769 required widening and repairing of main roads through Oswestry: Willow Street and Oakhurst Road. Turnpike Act 1788 led to widening of Leg Street. Street names documented included Stryt yr Aber 1682 (Lower Brook Street), Street y felyn 1631 (Church Street), Midle Street or Crosse Strete (north part of modern Church Street). Leg Street documented in early C14, sometimes called Blackgate Street <1>

Leland stated most important streets were Cross Street, Bailey Street and Newgate Street (ie Church Street) <2>

CMHTS Comment:- Post medieval street system was based on medieval street system (PRN 05785) <3>

CMHTS Report <4>

**Sources**

- (01) Monograph: Oswestry with an Account of its Old Houses, Shops, etc, and Some of their Occupants by Watkin I (1920), p21,98,117,154,236-9. Location: not given
- (02) Monograph: John Leland's Itinerary: travels in Tudor England by Chandler J (1993), p395. Location: not given
- (03) Record form: CMHTS SMR Records Shropshire: Oswestry (Central Marches Historic Towns Survey record form) by Dalwood Hal (1993/ 1996), Oswestry 5844. Location: SMR Library
- (04) Historic landscape survey report: Archaeological Assessment of Oswestry, Shropshire (CMHTS) (Hereford & Worcester CAS Rep) by Dalwood Hal et al (1996). Location: not given

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**Location**

**National Grid Reference**

Centred SJ 2894 2970 (10m by 10m) SJ22NE Area

**Administrative Areas**

Civil Parish Oswestry, Oswestry, Shropshire

**Address/Historic Names - None recorded**

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**Designations, Statuses and Scorings**

**Associated Legal Designations**

Conservation Area	Oswestry	Active	DSA8450
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**Other Statuses and Cross-References**

SHINE Candidate (No)	Active
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Sites & Monuments Record - 05844	Active
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**Ratings and Scorings - None recorded**

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**Land Use**

**Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded**

**Other Land Classes - None recorded**

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**SMR Number** 05844

**Site Name** Post medieval street system, Oswestry

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***Related Monuments - None Recorded***

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***Finds - None recorded***

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***Associated Events/Activities - None recorded***

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***Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded***

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SMR Number	Site Name	Record Type
05892 - MSA12992	Oswestry, Ellesmere & Whitchurch Railway (Cambrian)	Monument

The Oswestry, Ellesmere & Whitchurch Railway was authorised in 1861 to construct a line linking the lines of mid Wales with the LNWR system at Whitchurch. Work started in 1862, and the line opened from Whitchurch to Ellesmere in 1863 and to Oswestry in 1864. It closed in 1965.

### Monument Types and Dates

RAILWAY (Mid 19th century to 20th century (post-war) - 1863 AD to 1965 AD)

Evidence DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

### Description and Sources

#### Description

The Oswestry, Ellesmere and Whitchurch Branch of the Cambrian Railway shown on map. <1>

The railway later known as the London and North Western Railway reached Whitchurch in 1858 as a single line from Crewe to Shrewsbury. The line was an immediate success as it gave access to S Wales from the NW and the track was doubled in 1862. The Tattenhall Junction line was opened in 1872. <2>

CMHTS Comment:- 1858 line not in study area. The main Crewe to Shrewsbury line is still operating but this branch, to Oswestry, and that to the north of the town to Tattenhall Junction (out of study area) are now dismantled. <3>

CMHTS Report. <4>

The Oswestry, Ellesmere & Whitchurch Railway was authorised in 1861 to construct a line linking the lines of mid Wales (via the Oswestry & Newtown Railway [PRN 05778]) with the LNWR system at Whitchurch. Work started in 1862, with George Owen as engineer and Thomas Savin as contractor (as on several lines in the Oswestry area). There was opposition from landowners along the route which forced the company to divert the line across Fenns Moss and Whixall Moss, thereby creating considerable engineering difficulties: the track had to be floated on a raft over the peat. The line opened from Whitchurch to Ellesmere in 1863 and to Oswestry in 1864. By this time the company had become part of the new Cambrian Railways company (an association of smaller railway companies which came together to protect their interests from the might of the Great Western Railway and the London & North Western Railway). ->

-> The line continued to operate until condemned as unprofitable by Beeching. It closed in 1965. <5>

A desk based assessment of the Vyrnwy Pipeline, carried out in 2010, assessed that the proposed works could have an impact upon this site, with the pipeline route crossing sections of the railway. A watching brief over the route as it crossed the railway was recommended. The following features were identified during a walkover survey:->

-> Site 88: An embankment surviving to a height of at least 3m and approximately 5-6m wide at SJ 33267 32550.

Site 89: A low stone drain portal extending beneath Site 88 that survives to a height of 0.7m. The western end of the drain is encased by a four course high cement mortared stone wall at SJ 33269 32572.

Site: 100: Railway embankment measuring up to 4m high between SJ 38579 36918 (north), SJ 38486 36703 (south). Photographed (Plates 3, 4 and 7). <6>

#### Sources

- (01) Map: OS County Series 07.04, 1880 (OS County Series) by Ordnance Survey (1880). Location: Shropshire Archives
- (02) Monograph: Whitchurch Remembered by Anon (1980). Location: not given
- (03) Record form: CMHTS SMR Records Shropshire: Whitchurch (Central Marches Historic Towns Survey record form) by Buteux Victoria (1993/ 1996), Whitchurch 5892. Location: SMR Library
- (04) Historic landscape survey report: Archaeological Assessment of Whitchurch, Shropshire (CMHTS) (Hereford & Worcester CAS Rep) by Buteux Victoria et al (1996). Location: SMR Library
- (05) Monograph: Railways of Shropshire by Morriss Richard K (1991), p31-32,57. Location: not given
- (06) Deskbased survey report: Vymwy pipeline, Oswestry to Penley: rapid desk-based research and walkover survey (Oxford Archaeol North Rep) by Bullock V (2012), Sites 35, 88, 89, 100. Location: ESA white

**Location****National Grid Reference**

Centred SJ 5438 4073 (10m by 10m) SJ54SW Area

**Administrative Areas**

Civil Parish Whitchurch Urban, North Shropshire, Shropshire

**Address/Historic Names - None recorded****Designations, Statuses and Scorings****Associated Legal Designations**

Conservation Area	Whittington	Active	DSA9175
SHINE	Below ground section of Oswestry, Ellesmere & Whitchurch Railway (Cambrian)	Active	DSA11722

**Other Statuses and Cross-References**

Sites & Monuments Record - 05892	Active
SHINE Candidate (Yes)	Active

**Ratings and Scorings - None recorded****Land Use****Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded****Other Land Classes - None recorded****Related Monuments**

05233	Railway line, GWR, within Ellesmere	Functional Association (P/C)
08459	Ellesmere to Wrexham Branch (Cambrian)	Contemporary Complex* (P/C)
30706	No 10W Railway Bridge (demolished)	Functional Association (P/C)
30734	Ballast pit, Whittington, Shropshire	General X-Ref*

**Finds - None recorded****Associated Events/Activities**

ESA6097	2006 DBA on land at Oldport Farm, Oswestry by Castlring Archaeology (Event - Interpretation)
ESA6742	2010 DBA and walkover assessment along proposed Vyrnwy pipeline (Oswestry to Penley) by Oxford Archaeology North (Event - Intervention)
ESA7056	2012 DBA and walkover survey at Whittington Road Substation, Oswestry by CPAT (Event - Survey)

**Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded**



**SMR Number** 00282

**Site Name** Find of a Spindle whor lin 1932 S of Old Oswestry

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<b>SMR Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Record Type</b>
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00282 - MSA13275	Find of a Spindle whor lin 1932 S of Old Oswestry	Find Spot
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A Spindlewhorl was found in a sand pit here in 1932.

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### ***Monument Types and Dates***

FINDSPOT (Unknown date)

Evidence	FIND
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### ***Description and Sources***

#### **Description**

Spindlewhorl found in sand pit 1932. (LF Chitty). <1a>

#### **Sources**

- (00) Card index: Site and Monuments Record (SMR) cards (SMR record cards) by Shropshire County Council SMR, SMR Card for PRN SA 00282. Location: SMR Card Drawers
  - (01) Card index: Ordnance Survey Record Card SJ23SE8 (Ordnance Survey record cards) by Ordnance Survey (1950). Location: SMR OSRC Card Drawers
  - (01a) Map annotation: Map annotation by OS Correspondent by Hobbs J L. Location: NMR?
- 

### ***Location***

#### **National Grid Reference**

Centred SJ 2964 3062 (10m by 10m) SJ23SE Point

#### **Administrative Areas**

Civil Parish Selattyn and Gobowen, Oswestry, Shropshire

**Address/Historic Names - None recorded**

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### ***Designations, Statuses and Scorings***

**Associated Legal Designations - None recorded**

#### **Other Statuses and Cross-References**

SHINE Candidate (Unlikely)	Active
Sites & Monuments Record - 00282	Active

**Ratings and Scorings - None recorded**

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### ***Land Use***

**Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded**

**Other Land Classes - None recorded**

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**Related Monuments - None Recorded**

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### ***Associated Finds***

FSA705 SPINDLE WHORL (1)

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**Associated Events/Activities - None recorded**

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**Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded**

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**SMR Number** 21050

**Site Name** Milestone on B5069 North of Oldport

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<b>SMR Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Record Type</b>
21050 - MSA23604	Milestone on B5069 North of Oldport	Building

An early 19th century milestone with a metal plate. Superscription " HOLY-/ HEAD / 88-M / SALOP / 18M-6F. "

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### ***Monument Types and Dates***

MILESTONE (Early 19th century - 1800 AD to 1837 AD)

Evidence	EXTANT STRUCTURE
Main Building	STONE
Material	

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### ***Description and Sources***

#### **Description**

Milestone (M.S.) depicted here on the 1st edition County Series 1:10560 Map. <1>

In source [<2>], the identical looking, to PRN 19137, is described thus:

Milestone. Early C19. On Thomas Telford's Holyhead Road. Painted sandstone with slightly recessed cast-iron plate. <1>

Found and photographed on the 5th of December 1995 in the Milestone Survey (ESA5818) . Comments made: "Stone in good condition. Plate needs painting." <3>

Found and photographed on the 30th of July 2008 in the Milestone Society's 2005 to 2008 Survey (ESA6253) Superscription " HOLY-/ HEAD / 88-M / SALOP / 18M-6F. " <4>

Found and photographed on the 27th June 2010 in the Milestone Society's 2009 to 2013 Survey (ESA6999) <5>

#### **Sources**

- (01) Map: OS County Series 1:10560 (6 inch) maps (1st edition) - digital dataset (OS County Series) by Ordnance Survey (c1872-1897). Location: Corporate GIS
  - (02) List of Buildings: 19th List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest by Department of the Environment (DoE) (1987-Sep-02), p62. Location: SMR
  - (03) Field recording form: SCC Milestone Survey record forms (SCC Milestone Survey record forms) by Shropshire County Council (1995-1997), Div1/A6 with photograph. Location: SMR
  - (04) Project archive: The Milestone Society (Shropshire) Survey of Mileposts 2005 to 2008 (Milestone Society 2005 to 2008 Survey) by Reade AT (2005 -2008), O6/HH088. Location: H Drive
  - (05) Project archive: The Milestone Society (Shropshire) Survey of Mileposts 2009 to 2013 (Milestone Society 2009 to 2013 Survey) by Haynes J B (2009 -2013), HH088. Location: P Drive
- 

### ***Location***

#### **National Grid Reference**

SJ 2999 3101 (point) SJ23SE Point

#### **Administrative Areas**

Civil Parish Oswestry, Oswestry, Shropshire

#### **Address/Historic Names - None recorded**

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### ***Designations, Statuses and Scorings***

#### **Associated Legal Designations - None recorded**

#### **Other Statuses and Cross-References**

SHINE Candidate (Unlikely)	Active
Sites & Monuments Record - 21050	Active
Milestone Society ID Number - HH088	Active
Milestones Survey - Div1/A6	Active

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**Ratings and Scorings - None recorded**

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***Land Use***

**Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded**

**Other Land Classes - None recorded**

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***Related Monuments - None Recorded***

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***Finds - None recorded***

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***Associated Events/Activities - None recorded***

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***Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded***

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SMR Number	Site Name	Record Type
21491 - MSA24232	Vyrnwy Aqueduct	Monument

A 68 miles long aqueduct opened in 1891, taking water from Lake Vyrnwy to Liverpool.

### Monument Types and Dates

AQUEDUCT (Late 19th century to 20th century (inter-war) - 1880 AD to 1938 AD)

Evidence	ARCHITECTURAL COMPONENT
Evidence	DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

### Description and Sources

#### Description

Illustrated on the Liverpool Corporation Waterworks map of 1880 as the intended route of the aqueduct, and the line of it is plotted on both Ordnance Survey maps of 1902 and 1929. Sivewright [1] describes the aqueduct as being 68 miles long, and comprising three, 42 inch diameter pipes. The route follows the Dee/Severn watershed, and maintains high ground until reaching the basins of the Mersey and Weaver. Work began on the dam and aqueduct in 1881, and water from Lake Vyrnwy first reached Liverpool in 1891. The third pipe was laid between 1926 and 1938 (ibid). By the Ordnance Survey of 1959 there is no depiction of the aqueduct, and assessment of available aerial photography shows no obvious ground disturbance. Modern water pipe inspection hatches marked 'L.C.W.W. (Liverpool Corporation Water Works) and Vyrnwy' are located along the route of the aqueduct. [2]

In September 2009 an archaeological watching brief was carried out during topsoil stripping activities along the route of the proposed pipeline easement laid between Ellesmere and Whittington, Shropshire. Rapid research had highlight the presence of earthwork remains relating to Old Marton Hall, and the Grade 2\* listed Old Hall (PRN 12223). The watching brief targeted the easement in the proximity of the two sites. The topsoil stripping was shallow and did not expose natural geology, and therefore, no archaeological features or deposits were observed. The area adjacent to Old Marton Hall appears to have been heavily disturbed during the construction of the Vyrnwy Aqueduct. No further work is recommended. [3]

A desk based assessment of the Vyrnwy Pipeline, carried out in 2010, identified that the proposed route follows the course of the Vyrnwy Aqueduct. A watching brief over the route as it crossed this area was recommended. [4]

#### Sources

- (01) Deskbased survey report: Proposed pipeline, Vyrnwy LDTM, Old Marton, Shropshire: rapid desk based research & walkover survey (Oxford Archaeol North Rep) by Clapperton K & Maron D (2009), p16. Location: Digital ESA white
- (01a) Monograph: Civil Engineering Heritage by Sivewright W J (1986), p32-34. Location: Not held by SMR
- (02) Watching brief report: Vyrnwy Pipeline, Old Marton, Shropshire: archaeological watching brief - supplementary report (Oxford Archaeol North Rep) by Clapperton K (2010), p16. Location: ESA white
- (03) Deskbased survey report: Vyrnwy pipeline, Oswestry to Penley: rapid desk-based research and walkover survey (Oxford Archaeol North Rep) by Bullock V (2012), Site 44. Location: ESA white

### Location

#### National Grid Reference

Centred SJ 3171 3441 (21990m by 11623m) SJ33SW Line

#### Administrative Areas

Civil Parish	Ellesmere Rural, North Shropshire, Shropshire
Civil Parish	Oswestry Rural, Oswestry, Shropshire
Civil Parish	Oswestry, Oswestry, Shropshire
Civil Parish	Whittington, Oswestry, Shropshire

**Address/Historic Names - None recorded**

### Designations, Statuses and Scorings

**Associated Legal Designations - None recorded**

SMR Number 21491

Site Name Vyrnwy Aqueduct

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**Other Statuses and Cross-References**

Sites & Monuments Record - 21491

Active

**Ratings and Scorings - None recorded**

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**Land Use**

**Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded**

**Other Land Classes - None recorded**

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**Related Monuments**

31087	Llanforda Waterworks, Oswestry	Functional Association (P/P)
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**Finds - None recorded**

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**Associated Events/Activities**

ESA6376	2009 DBA & walkover survey along proposed pipeline, Old Marton by Oxford Archaeology North (Event - Survey)
ESA6391	2009 WB along proposed Vyrnwy pipeline, Old Marton by Oxford Archaeology North (Event - Intervention)
ESA6742	2010 DBA and walkover assessment along proposed Vyrnwy pipeline (Oswestry to Penley) by Oxford Archaeology North (Event - Intervention)

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**Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded**

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**SMR Number** 21710

**Site Name** Pit near Oldport Farm, Oswestry

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<b>SMR Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Record Type</b>
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21710 - MSA24454	Pit near Oldport Farm, Oswestry	Monument
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Excavated pit forming a shallow sub-oval cut.

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***Monument Types and Dates***

PIT (Post Medieval - 1540 AD to 1901 AD)

Evidence EXCAVATED FEATURE

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***Description and Sources***

**Description**

Excavated pit (Trench 14: feature 13) forming a shallow sub-oval cut, probably truncated by modern ploughing. The feature measured 0.92m in length and was 0.22m deep and was filled by a dark greyish-brown friable clay-silt. This feature contained modern abraded ceramic building material suggestive of a post-medieval date or later date.<1>

**Sources**

(02) Excavation report: Land at Oldport Farm, Oswestry, Shropshire: archaeological evaluation (Oxford Archaeol North Rep) by Raynor C (2009). Location: ESA white (ESA6425)

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***Location***

**National Grid Reference**

SJ 3029 3083 (point) SJ33SW Point

**Administrative Areas**

Civil Parish Oswestry, Oswestry, Shropshire

**Address/Historic Names - None recorded**

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***Designations, Statuses and Scorings***

**Associated Legal Designations - None recorded**

**Other Statuses and Cross-References**

Sites & Monuments Record - 21710 Active

**Ratings and Scorings - None recorded**

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***Land Use***

**Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded**

**Other Land Classes - None recorded**

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***Related Monuments - None Recorded***

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***Finds - None recorded***

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***Associated Events/Activities***

ESA6425 2009 trial trenches on land at Oldport Farm, Oswestry by Oxford Archaeology North (Event - Intervention)

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***Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded***

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**SMR Number** 21711

**Site Name** Pit near Oldport Farm, Oswestry

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<b>SMR Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Record Type</b>
21711 - MSA24455	Pit near Oldport Farm, Oswestry	Monument

Excavated pit forming a shallow concave feature.

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***Monument Types and Dates***

PIT (Post Medieval - 1540 AD to 1901 AD)

Evidence EXCAVATED FEATURE

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***Description and Sources***

**Description**

Excavated pit (Trench 15: feature 24) forming a shallow concave feature that had been truncated by modern ploughing, measuring 0.75m in diameter and containing a single homogeneous fill; a light brownish-grey friable silty-clay containing iron nails and glass fragments of a possible eighteenth century date. <1>

**Sources**

(02) Excavation report: Land at Oldport Farm, Oswestry, Shropshire: archaeological evaluation (Oxford Archaeol North Rep) by Raynor C (2009). Location: ESA white (ESA6425)

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***Location***

**National Grid Reference**

SJ 3033 3070 (point) SJ33SW Point

**Administrative Areas**

Civil Parish Oswestry, Oswestry, Shropshire

**Address/Historic Names - None recorded**

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***Designations, Statuses and Scorings***

**Associated Legal Designations - None recorded**

**Other Statuses and Cross-References**

Sites & Monuments Record - 21711 Active

**Ratings and Scorings - None recorded**

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***Land Use***

**Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded**

**Other Land Classes - None recorded**

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***Related Monuments - None Recorded***

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***Finds - None recorded***

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***Associated Events/Activities***

ESA6425 2009 trial trenches on land at Oldport Farm, Oswestry by Oxford Archaeology North (Event - Intervention)

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***Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded***

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**SMR Number** 21712

**Site Name** Ditch near Oldport Farm, Oswestry

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<b>SMR Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Record Type</b>
21712 - MSA24457	Ditch near Oldport Farm, Oswestry	Monument

Excavated ditch likely to be of post-medieval date but its function was not ascertained.

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**Monument Types and Dates**

DITCH (Post Medieval - 1540 AD to 1901 AD)  
Evidence EXCAVATED FEATURE

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**Description and Sources**

**Description**

Excavated ditch (Trench 24: feature 27) likely to be of post-medieval date but its function was not ascertained. It was located across the centre of the trench, measuring 0.4m wide, and extending beyond the limit of excavations. It was orientated north-west/south-east. Initially, two 0.4m wide slots were excavated through the feature to its full depth of 0.28m. Both sondages were found to contain single heterogeneous fills and a very limited number of pottery sherds dating to the late eighteenth or nineteenth century. Following the full excavation of the linear feature it was found the eastern edge of the feature had a vertical-sided straight linear edge, but the western side appeared to have been subject to animal disturbance, and was uneven and irregular. <1>

**Sources**

(02) Excavation report: Land at Oldport Farm, Oswestry, Shropshire: archaeological evaluation (Oxford Archaeol North Rep) by Raynor C (2009). Location: ESA white (ESA6425)

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**Location**

**National Grid Reference**

Centred SJ 3019 3074 (6m by 17m) SJ33SW Area

**Administrative Areas**

Civil Parish Oswestry, Oswestry, Shropshire

**Address/Historic Names - None recorded**

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**Designations, Statuses and Scorings**

**Associated Legal Designations - None recorded**

**Other Statuses and Cross-References**

Sites & Monuments Record - 21712 Active

**Ratings and Scorings - None recorded**

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**Land Use**

**Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded**

**Other Land Classes - None recorded**

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**Related Monuments - None Recorded**

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**Finds - None recorded**

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**Associated Events/Activities**

ESA6425 2009 trial trenches on land at Oldport Farm, Oswestry by Oxford Archaeology North (Event - Intervention)

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**Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded**

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SMR Number	Site Name	Record Type
21713 - MSA24458	Military training camp at Park Hall, Oswestry	Monument

In spring 1915 a military camp was constructed to train the troops at Park Hall.

### **Monument Types and Dates**

MILITARY HOSPITAL (First World War - 1914 AD to 1918 AD)

TRAINING CAMP (First World War to 20th century (post-war) - 1914 AD to 1968 AD)

Evidence DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

Evidence EXCAVATED FEATURE

### **Description and Sources**

#### **Description**

During the First World War the owner of the Park Hall estate, Major Wynne Corrie, gave Park Hall over to the military as their local headquarters, and in spring 1915 a military camp was constructed to train the troops. This spilled out onto the Oldport Farm site, with the area to the east of Old Oswestry Hillfort being used for excavating trenches and setting off explosives. Following the death of Major Wynne Corrie the estate was conveyed to the War Office in 1920. The training camp was used once again from the Second World War up until 1968, after which it was used for training Junior Leaders until late 1975. <1>

GIS polygon shows approximate extent of camp. Firing range not included on GIS but mortar craters (PRN 21714 & 21715) provide an indication of the minimum possible extent. <2>

At the outbreak of the First World War, Park Hall was handed over to the military for local headquarters and an army camp was constructed in the grounds in 1915. The hall itself was destroyed by fire on Boxing Day 1918 but the camp continued to be used for many years until its final closure in 1975. Much of the land reverted to farmland though the sports facilities of the camp were retained, and are still used today. ->

-> A watching brief was carried out during topsoil removal along the line of a wayleave to accommodate a new underground powerline and adjacent haul road adjacent to the A5 Oswestry Bypass, as it passed through the site of the camp. This identified a number of features relating to the Army Camp located on the outskirts of the town, including a small sandstone building and a number of trackways. The top soil strip also revealed large areas of rubble which are likely to have occurred as a result of the demolition of the Park Hall Army Camp and the subsequent construction of the A5 Oswestry Bypass. <3>

Following the end of the Great War, the now ruined Hall and its surrounding military establishment began to fall more and more into disrepair. The camp hospital, however, was still in use, and the Baschurch Convalescent and Surgical Home, set up by Agnes Hunt, moved here in February 1921. It then became known as the Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital. Since that time it has become world renowned for its pioneering work in the treatment of all forms of physical disablement. ->

-> The land became the property of Oswestry Borough Council. One of the main uses of the land in the 1930's was for motorcycle racing, and it became quite a well-known circuit, with Isle of Man TT riders competing on occasions. In May 1939 the land was earmarked once more for military use, with the expectation of four battalions being on site by the following July. As a result, construction crews moved in and within a very short time, the camp began to take on the shape that it was to retain for many years. ->

-> To assist the movement of troops, a small station, the Park Hall Halt had been built in the early 1920's. This was now reopened and was in regular use throughout the war. By mid-July 1939, the new batch of 2,500 Royal Artillery Militiamen was installed, learning basic skills and gunnery instruction. This was the start of a 30-year Royal Artillery association with Park Hall. ->

-> The camp continued to be used for training for many years to follow. The Royal Artillery were joined by the Infantry Junior Leaders until the Artillery left in 1968. The Junior Leaders continued at the Camp until its closure in December of 1975. Eventually, a lot of the land reverted to farmland, and light industry started on the site of the old encampment. The sports facilities of the camp were excellent, so the grounds and pitches were retained, and are still used to this day as a vital part of the local sports environment. Park Hall Farm became a visitor attraction in 1998. It is now home to the Museum of the Welsh Guards, continuing the link with the military started so long ago in 1915. <4>

The hall and its grounds were given for military use by its then owner, Major Wynne Corrie. The hall became a headquarters for military training. Due to the large number of troops stationed within the grounds of Park Hall, a decision was made to expand the camp westwards onto land belonging to Oldport Farm. The area between the outer eastern ramparts of Old Oswestry hillfort and the Park Hall camp was utilised for trench warfare training and the setting off of mortars (see PRNs 21714, 21715). The camp was constructed during the winter of 1914/15 during which over 900 labourers were employed. By July 1915, the camp was opened to its first 4,000 troop recruits. From July 2015, the camp was in constant use until 1918. During the latter part of WWI it was also the site of a military hospital, housing up to 866 beds. ->

-> Park Hall Training Camp was reactivated for military use in July 1939, three months before the outbreak of World War 11. The site was divided into Birch, Butler, Milne and Wingate Lines, with barrack huts located near Park Hall Rugby Club (NGR SJ 304 310), over the former Park Hall site (NGR SJ 310 315) and the officers barrack at Park Crescent (NGR SJ 310 317). Initially, the camp was the home to 2,500 Royal Artillery recruits and No 1 Plotting Officers' School. After 1945 Park Hall was used by the Canadian regiments and later by the Royal Artillery and as a training centre for Infantry Junior Leaders. The camp finally closed down in 1975 and much of the surviving buildings became part of an industrial estate, a family visitor centre and museum of the Welsh Guards. ->

Research by Dr. Nash identified three areas of practice trenches associated with the camp - see PRNs 31097, 31654, 31655. <5>

Evidence for practice trenches associated with the camp were recorded in geophysical survey at Oldport Farm, to the immediate west of the mapped area of the camp (see PRN 31654). Anomalies representing frontline and communication trenches were recorded and a redoubt. <6>

An article on the development of the camp (downloaded from the Shropshire Routes to Roots website which is now inaccessible). Held in DRF. <7>

### Sources

- (01) Excavation report: Land at Oldport Farm, Oswestry, Shropshire: archaeological evaluation (Oxford Archaeol North Rep) by Raynor C (2009). Location: ESA white (ESA6425)
- (02) SMR comment: Comments by SMR compiler in SMR database by Baxter Charlotte. Location: SMR database
- (03) Watching brief report: Legacy to Oswestry 132kV Powerline: archaeological watching brief (CPAT Rep) by Watson S (2015). Location: Digital ESA white
- (04) Webpage: Discovering Shropshire's History (Thematic material) (<http://www.discovershropshire.org.uk/>) by Shropshire Council, <http://www.shropshirehistory.org.uk/html/search/verb/GetRecord/theme:20070823100125>. Location: Online
- (05) Report: Report on the practice trenching systems at Park Hall, Oswestry, Shropshire (additional information) by Nash G Dr (2015). Location: SMR DRF for PRN 21713
- (06) Geophysical survey report: Geophysical survey report: Land at Oldport Farm, Oswestry, Shropshire (Geophysical Surveys of Bradford Rep) by Geophysical Surveys of Bradford (2007), Area E. Location: ESA white
- (07) TEXT: Park Hall Camp (article from Shropshire Routes to Roots) by Shropshire Archives (2006). Location: SMR DRF for PRN 21713

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### Location

#### National Grid Reference

Centred SJ 3046 3107 (795m by 656m) SJ33SW Area

#### Administrative Areas

Civil Parish Oswestry, Oswestry, Shropshire

#### Address/Historic Names - None recorded

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### Designations, Statuses and Scorings

#### Associated Legal Designations - None recorded

#### Other Statuses and Cross-References

Sites & Monuments Record - 21713 Active

#### Ratings and Scorings - None recorded

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### Land Use

#### Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded

#### Other Land Classes - None recorded

**Related Monuments**

00869	Site of Park Hall	Geographical (P/C)
31654	Practice trenches associated with Park Hall camp, Oldport Farm, Oswestry	Functional Association (P/C)
31655	Practice trenches associated with Park Hall camp, S of Drenwydd Coppice, Oswestry	Functional Association (P/C)
31834	Site of German POW Cemetery, Park Hall	Functional Association (P/C)
21714	Mortar crater Near Oldport Farm, Oswestry	Contemporary Complex* (P/P)
21715	Mortar crater Near Oldport Farm, Oswestry	Contemporary Complex* (P/P)

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**Finds - None recorded**

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**Associated Events/Activities**

ESA6122	2007 geophysical survey of land north of Oswestry straddling the A5 by GSB Prospection (Event - Survey)
ESA6425	2009 trial trenches on land at Oldport Farm, Oswestry by Oxford Archaeology North (Event - Intervention)
ESA7412	2015 WB on Legacy to Oswestry 132kV Powerline by CPAT (Event - Intervention)

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**Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded**

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**SMR Number** 21714

**Site Name** Mortar crater Near Oldport Farm, Oswestry

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<b>SMR Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Record Type</b>
21714 - MSA24459	Mortar crater Near Oldport Farm, Oswestry	Monument

Mortar crater associated with a WWII training camp.

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***Monument Types and Dates***

BOMB CRATER (Second World War - 1939 AD to 1945 AD)

Evidence EXCAVATED FEATURE

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***Description and Sources***

**Description**

Mortar crater associated with a WWII training camp; not fully excavated. Fragments of ballistics and other unknown metal objects were partially excavated (Trench 15: feature 22). <1>

**Sources**

(01) Excavation report: Land at Oldport Farm, Oswestry, Shropshire: archaeological evaluation (Oxford Archaeol North Rep) by Raynor C (2009). Location: ESA white (ESA6425)

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***Location***

**National Grid Reference**

SJ 3033 3070 (point) SJ33SW Point

**Administrative Areas**

Civil Parish Oswestry, Oswestry, Shropshire

**Address/Historic Names - None recorded**

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***Designations, Statuses and Scorings***

**Associated Legal Designations - None recorded**

**Other Statuses and Cross-References**

Sites & Monuments Record - 21714 Active

**Ratings and Scorings - None recorded**

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***Land Use***

**Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded**

**Other Land Classes - None recorded**

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***Related Monuments***

21713 Military training camp at Park Hall, Oswestry Contemporary Complex\* (P/P)

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***Finds - None recorded***

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***Associated Events/Activities***

ESA6425 2009 trial trenches on land at Oldport Farm, Oswestry by Oxford Archaeology North (Event - Intervention)

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***Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded***

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**SMR Number** 21715

**Site Name** Mortar crater Near Oldport Farm, Oswestry

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<b>SMR Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Record Type</b>
21715 - MSA24460	Mortar crater Near Oldport Farm, Oswestry	Monument

Mortar crater associated with the training camp in World War II.

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***Monument Types and Dates***

BOMB CRATER (Second World War - 1939 AD to 1945 AD)

Evidence EXCAVATED FEATURE

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***Description and Sources***

**Description**

Mortar crater associated with the training camp in World War II; not fully excavated. The pit contained a heterogeneous fill throughout, and appeared to be a mixture of the mid-dark brown silty clay topsoil, and redeposited orange-yellow granular sandy natural. The southern end of the feature appears to have been truncated, probably as a result of ploughing to a depth of approximately 0.35m in this area. Metal fragments were observed that appeared to be from a large mortar or shell casing. It was concluded, based on the shape of the pit and the number of metal objects present, that this feature was most likely to represent a crater, created as a result of mortar detonation and associated with the military training activities on the site, (Trench 24: feature 29).<1>

**Sources**

(01) Excavation report: Land at Oldport Farm, Oswestry, Shropshire: archaeological evaluation (Oxford Archaeol North Rep) by Raynor C (2009). Location: ESA white (ESA6425)

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***Location***

**National Grid Reference**

SJ 3018 3074 (point) SJ33SW Point

**Administrative Areas**

Civil Parish Oswestry, Oswestry, Shropshire

**Address/Historic Names - None recorded**

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***Designations, Statuses and Scorings***

**Associated Legal Designations - None recorded**

**Other Statuses and Cross-References**

Sites & Monuments Record - 21715 Active

**Ratings and Scorings - None recorded**

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***Land Use***

**Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded**

**Other Land Classes - None recorded**

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***Related Monuments***

21713 Military training camp at Park Hall, Oswestry Contemporary Complex\* (P/P)

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***Finds - None recorded***

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***Associated Events/Activities***

ESA6425 2009 trial trenches on land at Oldport Farm, Oswestry by Oxford Archaeology North (Event - Intervention)

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***Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded***

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SMR Number	Site Name	Record Type
26499 - MSA28879	The Oldport, or Oldport Farm	Monument

The Oldport, a farmstead first identified and classified by the Historic Farmsteads Characterisation Project, 2008 – 2010, (ESA6427), largely from the digital version of the c.1900 OS large scale mapping. The buildings of the farmstead were assessed in 2015, but were deemed not to have sufficient special interest for statutory designation.

### Monument Types and Dates

FARMSTEAD (Early 19th century to Unknown - 1800 AD?)

Evidence DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

### Description and Sources

#### Description

Regular Courtyard with multiple yards. Additional Plan Details: None. Date Evidence from Farmhouse: 19th Century. Date Evidence from Working Building(s): None.

Position of Farmhouse: Attached to agricultural range. Farmstead Location: Isolated. Survival: Partial Loss - less than 50% change. Confidence: High.

Other Notes: Large modern sheds on the site of the historic farmstead are either obscuring the historic buildings or may have destroyed them. Farmhouse attached but positioned away from any of the yard areas. <1>

The buildings of the farmstead, including the farmhouse (PRN 31446) and T-shaped barn (PRN31447) were assessed for possible Listing in May 2015. The Assessment report noted that the farm was depicted on a map in Thomas Pennant's "Tour in Wales" of 1778. This showed a farmhouse in its present position and a T-shaped barn to its north with ranges of shippens to the east and west.

Between 1874 and 1901 further ranges of shippens were added to either side of the barn and extending to the east. The farmhouse appeared to be very largely of 19th century date. The barn was thought to be of 17th century date at its southern end, although its ground floor walls were rebuilt in the 18th or 19th centuries. At some time before the 1778 Pennant map the barn was extended to the north to form a threshing barn. Neither of the buildings was considered to have sufficient special interest to be recommended for statutory designation.

The other agricultural buildings on the site are a mixture of late-C18, C19 and C20 dates and were added in a piecemeal way as needed. They do not reflect advanced planning, the use of up-to-date farming technology or architectural distinction in their design or grouping. <2>

#### Sources

- (01) Geospatial data: Historic Farmstead Characterisation Dataset by Baxter Charlotte (2010). Location: Digital
- (02) Advisory designation documentation: Oldport Farm- Initial Assessment Report - Rejection recommended by Historic England (Designation) (2015-May-07). Location: DRF for PRN 26499

### Location

#### National Grid Reference

Centred SJ 2987 3077 (10m by 10m) SJ23SE Point

#### Administrative Areas

Civil Parish Oswestry, Oswestry, Shropshire

#### Address/Historic Names - None recorded

### Designations, Statuses and Scorings

#### Associated Legal Designations - None recorded

#### Other Statuses and Cross-References

Sites & Monuments Record - 26499 Active

#### Ratings and Scorings - None recorded

### Land Use

#### Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded

**SMR Number** 26499

**Site Name** The Oldport, or Oldport Farm

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**Other Land Classes - None recorded**

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***Related Monuments***

31446	Farmhouse at Oldport Farm	Functional Association (P/C)
31447	T-shaped barn at Oldport Farm	Functional Association (P/C)

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***Finds - None recorded***

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***Associated Events/Activities***

ESA6427	2008/2010 Historic farmsteads characterisation project by Shropshire Council, HET (Event - Survey)
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***Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded***

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**SMR Number** 30738

**Site Name** Air ventilation shafts, Whittington Road, Oswestry

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<b>SMR Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Record Type</b>
30738 - MSA33549	Air ventilation shafts, Whittington Road, Oswestry	Monument

An air ventilation shaft is shown on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map.

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### **Monument Types and Dates**

VENTILATION SHAFT (19th century - 1800 AD to 1899 AD)

Evidence DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

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### **Description and Sources**

#### **Description**

An air ventilation shaft is shown on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map. Possibly associated with the construction of the Vyrnwy Aqueduct, although the aqueduct did not open until 1891. A desk based assessment of the Vyrnwy Pipeline, carried out in 2010, assessed that the proposed works could have an impact upon this site. A watching brief over the route as it crossed this area was recommended.<1><2>

Air valve shown on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map. <3>

#### **Sources**

- (01) Map: OS County Series 1:10560 (6 inch) maps (1st edition) - digital dataset (OS County Series) by Ordnance Survey (c1872-1897). Location: Corporate GIS
  - (02) Deskbased survey report: Vyrnwy pipeline, Oswestry to Penley: rapid desk-based research and walkover survey (Oxford Archaeol North Rep) by Bullock V (2012), Site 56. Location: ESA white
  - (03) Map: OS County Series 1:2500 maps (2nd edition) - digital dataset (OS County Series) by Ordnance Survey (c1899-1903). Location: Corporate GIS
- 

### **Location**

#### **National Grid Reference**

SJ 30347 30647 (point) SJ33SW Point

#### **Administrative Areas**

Civil Parish Oswestry, Oswestry, Shropshire

**Address/Historic Names - None recorded**

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### **Designations, Statuses and Scorings**

**Associated Legal Designations - None recorded**

#### **Other Statuses and Cross-References**

Sites & Monuments Record - 30738 Active

**Ratings and Scorings - None recorded**

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### **Land Use**

**Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded**

**Other Land Classes - None recorded**

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**Related Monuments - None Recorded**

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**Finds - None recorded**

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### **Associated Events/Activities**

ESA6742 2010 DBA and walkover assessment along proposed Vyrnwy pipeline (Oswestry to Penley) by Oxford Archaeology North (Event - Intervention)

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**SMR Number** 30738

**Site Name** Air ventilation shafts, Whittington Road, Oswestry

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***Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded***

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**SMR Number** 30739

**Site Name** Gravel pit, Llwyn Road, Oswestry, Shropshire

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<b>SMR Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Record Type</b>
30739 - MSA33550	Gravel pit, Llwyn Road, Oswestry, Shropshire	Monument

A gravel pit on Llwyn Road as identified from the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map.

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### **Monument Types and Dates**

GRAVEL PIT (Post Medieval - 1540 AD to 1901 AD)

Evidence DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

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### **Description and Sources**

#### **Description**

A gravel pit on Llwyn Road as identified from the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map. It was identified during a desk based assessment of the Vyrnwy Pipeline, carried out in 2010. This area is crossed by the line of Wat's Dyke, heading in a northwards direction (PRN 01001). <1><2>

Identified as Old Gravel pit on 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map. <3>

#### **Sources**

- (01) Map: OS County Series 1:10560 (6 inch) maps (1st edition) - digital dataset (OS County Series) by Ordnance Survey (c1872-1897). Location: Corporate GIS
  - (02) Deskbased survey report: Vyrnwy pipeline, Oswestry to Penley: rapid desk-based research and walkover survey (Oxford Archaeol North Rep) by Bullock V (2012), Site 55. Location: ESA white
  - (03) Map: OS County Series 1:2500 maps (2nd edition) - digital dataset (OS County Series) by Ordnance Survey (c1899-1903). Location: Corporate GIS
- 

### **Location**

#### **National Grid Reference**

Centred SJ 29401 30553 (113m by 123m) SJ23SE Area

#### **Administrative Areas**

Civil Parish Whittington, Oswestry, Shropshire

**Address/Historic Names - None recorded**

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### **Designations, Statuses and Scorings**

**Associated Legal Designations - None recorded**

#### **Other Statuses and Cross-References**

Sites & Monuments Record - 30739 Active

**Ratings and Scorings - None recorded**

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### **Land Use**

**Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded**

**Other Land Classes - None recorded**

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**Related Monuments - None Recorded**

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**Finds - None recorded**

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### **Associated Events/Activities**

ESA6742 2010 DBA and walkover assessment along proposed Vyrnwy pipeline (Oswestry to Penley) by Oxford Archaeology North (Event - Intervention)

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**Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded**

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**SMR Number** 30739

**Site Name** Gravel pit, Llwyn Road, Oswestry, Shropshire

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**SMR Number** 30742

**Site Name** Former Lane, Oswestry, Shropshire

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<b>SMR Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Record Type</b>
30742 - MSA33553	Former Lane, Oswestry, Shropshire	Monument

A former lane to the NW of New Park and Bridge Row, Oswestry, as identified from the Oswestry Parish Tithe Map of 1838.

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### **Monument Types and Dates**

TRACKWAY (19th century - 1800 AD? to 1899 AD?)

Evidence DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

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### **Description and Sources**

#### **Description**

A former lane to the NW of New Park and Bridge Row, Oswestry, as identified from the Oswestry Parish Tithe Map of 1838. It was identified during a desk based assessment of the Vyrnwy Pipeline, carried out in 2010. <1><2>

Not marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey. <3>

#### **Sources**

- (01) Map: Tithe Award Map for Oswestry (Aston, Hisland and Wootton Township) (Tithe Maps) by Anon (1838). Location: SMR
  - (02) Deskbased survey report: Vyrnwy pipeline, Oswestry to Penley: rapid desk-based research and walkover survey (Oxford Archaeol North Rep) by Bullock V (2012), Site 65. Location: ESA white
  - (03) Map: OS County Series 1:10560 (6 inch) maps (1st edition) - digital dataset (OS County Series) by Ordnance Survey (c1872-1897). Location: Corporate GIS
- 

### **Location**

#### **National Grid Reference**

Centred SJ 29763 30465 (87m by 89m) SJ23SE Area

#### **Administrative Areas**

Civil Parish Oswestry, Oswestry, Shropshire

**Address/Historic Names - None recorded**

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### **Designations, Statuses and Scorings**

**Associated Legal Designations - None recorded**

#### **Other Statuses and Cross-References**

Sites & Monuments Record - 30742 Active

**Ratings and Scorings - None recorded**

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### **Land Use**

**Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded**

**Other Land Classes - None recorded**

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**Related Monuments - None Recorded**

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**Finds - None recorded**

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### **Associated Events/Activities**

ESA6742 2010 DBA and walkover assessment along proposed Vyrnwy pipeline (Oswestry to Penley) by Oxford Archaeology North (Event - Intervention)

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**Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded**

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**SMR Number** 30747

**Site Name** Old Brick Works, Oswestry, Shropshire

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<b>SMR Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Record Type</b>
30747 - MSA33558	Old Brick Works, Oswestry, Shropshire	Monument

The site of an old brick works, marked on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey mapping, together with a chimney.

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### **Monument Types and Dates**

BRICKWORKS (19th century - 1800 AD to 1899 AD)

Evidence DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

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### **Description and Sources**

#### **Description**

The site of an old brick works, marked on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey mapping, together with a chimney. It was identified during a desk based assessment of the Vyrnwy Pipeline, carried out in 2010.<1><2>

Not shown on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map. <3>

#### **Sources**

- (01) Map: OS County Series 1:2500 maps (2nd edition) - digital dataset (OS County Series) by Ordnance Survey (c1899-1903). Location: Corporate GIS
  - (02) Deskbased survey report: Vyrnwy pipeline, Oswestry to Penley: rapid desk-based research and walkover survey (Oxford Archaeol North Rep) by Bullock V (2012), Site 70. Location: ESA white
  - (03) Map: OS County Series 1:10560 (6 inch) maps (1st edition) - digital dataset (OS County Series) by Ordnance Survey (c1872-1897). Location: Corporate GIS
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### **Location**

#### **National Grid Reference**

Centred SJ 30186 30338 (140m by 90m) SJ33SW Area

#### **Administrative Areas**

Civil Parish Oswestry, Oswestry, Shropshire

**Address/Historic Names - None recorded**

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### **Designations, Statuses and Scorings**

**Associated Legal Designations - None recorded**

#### **Other Statuses and Cross-References**

Sites & Monuments Record - 30747 Active

**Ratings and Scorings - None recorded**

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### **Land Use**

**Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded**

**Other Land Classes - None recorded**

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**Related Monuments - None Recorded**

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**Finds - None recorded**

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### **Associated Events/Activities**

ESA6742 2010 DBA and walkover assessment along proposed Vyrnwy pipeline (Oswestry to Penley) by Oxford Archaeology North (Event - Intervention)

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**Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded**

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**SMR Number** 31097

**Site Name** Earthworks of WWI training trenches, interior of Old Oswestry Hillfort

<b>SMR Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Record Type</b>
31097 - MSA33916	Earthworks of WWI training trenches, interior of Old Oswestry Hillfort	Monument

An unusually complete system of World War I military training trenches was recorded through aerial photography and detailed earthwork survey, in the interior of Old Oswestry Hillfort.

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### **Monument Types and Dates**

PRACTICE TRENCH (First World War - 1914 AD to 1918 AD)

Evidence	DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE
Evidence	EARTHWORK

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### **Description and Sources**

#### **Description**

An unusually complete system of World War I military training trenches was recorded through aerial photography and detailed earthwork survey, in the interior of Old Oswestry Hillfort. ->

-> Much of the interior of the hillfort contains training trenches dug during the First World War. Although filled in, these survive as low earthworks. Three main trenches lying parallel with each other cross the hillfort's interior on a north-north-west to south-south-east alignment. The easternmost trench, (27), now no more than 0.2m deep, is crenelated in plan. A sub rectangular arrangement of trenches, (29), lies at its northern end and from this a further trench leads to a well-defined oval earthwork platform (30). Slight earthworks of a further trench (31), leading in the direction of two small hollows and a bank surmounted by a mound, are visible as a scarp. Further trenches zig-zag in the direction of the next major parallel trench (32). At the southern end of trench (27), a further trench, (33), zig-zags in the direction of a large, water-logged, sub-square scoop (34), cutting c.2m deep into the slope of the hill. A spread bank, (35), c0.2m high, runs at right angles from the southern end of trench (27) leading towards further fragmentary trenches. A straight trench (23), lies parallel with the central part of (27), 4m to the east.->

->The next major trench line (32), crosses the hillfort's interior 120m to the west of (27). It runs northwards from the inner rampart bank and fades out after approximately c.40m, where a building once stood. The plan of this trench is less obvious than that of trench (27), though the clearest portion at the southern end is crenellated. The remains of a third major trench cuffing off the southern tip of the hillfort's interior lie c.90m to the west. This trench is delimited by low earthworks, (36). At the time of the survey it was only possible to see fragments of this trench, but its wider extent is clear from recent aerial photographs. ->

-> The trench system is laid out as those used on the Western Front during the First World War, with parallel lines connected by 'communications trenches'. Zig-zags and crenellations confined blast impact from shells to small sections of trench and prevented 'enfilading' (a volley of gunfire along the entire length of the trench) if the enemy gained access, coils of barbed wire were laid ahead of the Front Line. Soldiers rotated between duties on the Front Line and duties in the Support Trenches. Communications Trenches connected the two lines. These were used to bring supplies to the Front Line and to evacuate casualties. Dead ends were designed to trap enemy soldiers. ->

-> Other features in the vicinity were interpreted as possible bomb craters. ->

-> The centre of the hillfort was ploughed as part of the war effort, at the outbreak of the Second World War. Aerial photographs taken prior to this ploughing (reproduced in report), clearly indicate the extent of this military trench system. <1>

Trench system clearly visible in aerial photography taken during AP survey in 2009-2010. <2><3>

Mapped by the Marches Upland Mapping Project (MUMP), carried out by RCHME in 1993-1994, as MU.94.9 Units 1-3. <4><5>

A conservation plan was prepared for Old Oswestry in 2010, funded by English Heritage. The trench system in the interior of the hillfort is described as part of component 1. A programme of investigation of the First World War remains on the site was recommended. <6>

Dr. Nash identifies the three crenelated trench lines that lie parallel with each other, accompanied by a series of low platforms, probably former observation posts. He suggests that this trenching dates to 1915-1916. The complexity of the trench system more than likely mirrors sections of the early trench system on the Western Front. The distinct crenelated trenching found within the confines of the hillfort and on land belonging to Oldport Farm was designed in such a way to restrict the potential damage from exploding shells as well as to prevent enfilading, should an enemy force gain access to the trenching. <7>

#### **Sources**

(01) Field survey report: Old Oswestry, Selattyn and Gobowen, Shropshire; analysis of earthworks:



**SMR Number** 31097

**Site Name** Earthworks of WWI training trenches, interior of Old  
Oswestry Hillfort

archaeological survey report (English Heritage Rep) by Smith N (2010). Location: ESA white

(02)

Oblique aerial photograph: SA0907\_158 to SA0907\_184 and SA0907\_186 to SA0907\_206 (48 photos)  
Flight: 09\_SA\_07 (Colour) by Shropshire Council (2009-Mar-29). Location: SC Network and CD Storage

SC Digital AP Ref	SA0907_158
SC Digital AP Ref	SA0907_159
SC Digital AP Ref	SA0907_160
SC Digital AP Ref	SA0907_161
SC Digital AP Ref	SA0907_162
SC Digital AP Ref	SA0907_163
SC Digital AP Ref	SA0907_164
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SC Digital AP Ref	SA0907_200
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SC Digital AP Ref	SA0907_203
SC Digital AP Ref	SA0907_204
SC Digital AP Ref	SA0907_205
SC Digital AP Ref	SA0907_206

**SMR Number** 31097

**Site Name** Earthworks of WWI training trenches, interior of Old Oswestry Hillfort

- (03) Oblique aerial photograph: SA1001\_049 to SA1001\_072 (24 photos) Flight: 10\_SA\_01 (Colour) by Shropshire Council (2010-Jan-7). Location: SC Network and CD Storage
- |                   |            |
|-------------------|------------|
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA1001_049 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA1001_050 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA1001_051 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA1001_052 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA1001_053 |
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| SC Digital AP Ref | SA1001_069 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA1001_070 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA1001_071 |
| SC Digital AP Ref | SA1001_072 |
- (04) Database file: Marches Uplands Mapping Project (MUMP) MORPH records (2006 version) (Marches Uplands Survey) by National Monuments Record (NMR) (1993/ 1994), MU.94.9 Units 1-3. Location: SMR
- (05) Field survey report: The Marches Uplands Mapping Project: a report for the National Mapping Programme (English Heritage Rep) by Stoertz C (2004), pp.53-54. Location: SMR Library (MUMP Box)
- (06) Management report: Old Oswestry Hillfort conservation plan by Reid Malcolm L & Marriot J (2010). Location: ESA white
- (07) Report: Report on the practice trenching systems at Park Hall, Oswestry, Shropshire (additional information) by Nash G Dr (2015), Area A. Location: SMR DRF for PRN 21713

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**Location**

**National Grid Reference**

Centred SJ 29588 31024 (207m by 215m) SJ23SE Area

**Administrative Areas**

Civil Parish Selattyn and Gobowen, Oswestry, Shropshire

**Address/Historic Names - None recorded**

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**Designations, Statuses and Scorings**

**Associated Legal Designations - None recorded**

**Other Statuses and Cross-References**

Sites & Monuments Record - 31097 Active

**Ratings and Scorings - None recorded**

**SMR Number** 31097

**Site Name** Earthworks of WWI training trenches, interior of Old  
Oswestry Hillfort

***Land Use***

**Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded**

**Other Land Classes - None recorded**

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***Related Monuments - None Recorded***

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***Finds - None recorded***

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***Associated Events/Activities***

ESA4714 Marches Uplands Mapping Project 1993-1994 by RCHME (Event - Survey)

ESA6586 2008 earthwork survey of Old Oswestry Hillfort by English Heritage (Event - Survey)

ESA6486 2010 Management survey at Old Oswestry Hillfort by Malcolm Reid and Jenny Marriot (Event - Survey)

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***Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded***

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**SMR Number** 31373

**Site Name** 19th-20th century pit, SW of Park Hall

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<b>SMR Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Record Type</b>
31373 - MSA34188	19th-20th century pit, SW of Park Hall	Monument

A small isolated pit containing 19th and 20th century pottery was identified during a watching brief on topsoil stripping for the wayleave and associated haul road for a new powerline.

---

**Monument Types and Dates**

PIT (Early 19th century to 20th century (post-war) - 1800 AD to 1999 AD)

Evidence EXCAVATED FEATURE

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**Description and Sources**

**Description**

A small isolated pit containing 19th and 20th century was identified during a watching brief on topsoil stripping for the wayleave and associated haul road for a new powerline. ->

-> At SJ 30278 30921 an irregularly shaped pit was partially exposed along the western edge of the wayleave measuring 1.1m wide by 1.4m long and 0.18m deep. A quarter section was excavated through the pit, which was filled by a brown silty clay containing occasional blue and white sherds of china of 19th or 20th-century date. <1>

**Sources**

(01) Watching brief report: Legacy to Oswestry 132kV Powerline: archaeological watching brief (CPAT Rep) by Watson S (2015). Location: Digital ESA white

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**Location**

**National Grid Reference**

SJ 30278 30921 (point) SJ33SW Point

**Administrative Areas**

Civil Parish Oswestry, Oswestry, Shropshire

**Address/Historic Names - None recorded**

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**Designations, Statuses and Scorings**

**Associated Legal Designations - None recorded**

**Other Statuses and Cross-References**

Sites & Monuments Record - 31373 Active

**Ratings and Scorings - None recorded**

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**Land Use**

**Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded**

**Other Land Classes - None recorded**

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**Related Monuments - None Recorded**

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**Associated Finds**

FSA2079 SHERD (Small quantity) (Early 19th century to 20th century (post-war) - 1800 AD to 1999 AD) POTTERY

---

**Associated Events/Activities**

ESA7412 2015 WB on Legacy to Oswestry 132kV Powerline by CPAT (Event - Intervention)

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**Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded**

SMR Number	Site Name	Record Type
31446 - MSA34249	Farmhouse at Oldport Farm	Building

The farmhouse appears to be very largely of C19 date, although including some older material which was either incorporated from the earlier farmhouse on the site depicted on a map of 1778, or else brought from elsewhere.

### **Monument Types and Dates**

FARMHOUSE (19th century - 1800 AD to 1899 AD)

Evidence EXTANT BUILDING

### **Description and Sources**

#### **Description**

The buildings at Oldport Farm (PRN26499) were assessed for statutory designation in May 2015.

The Farmhouse is of two storeys and has red brick walling, covered with pebble dashed render to its south and east elevations, and a slate roof.

Exterior: the eastern, entrance front has five bays near-symmetrically disposed with a central doorway which has a flat roofed porch supported by posts to the centre and four-pane sash windows to both floors. Above this are shallow gables with applied timber close studding. The left hand gable is wider and rises higher than that to its right. The southern front has two Venetian windows at ground floor level, with painted stone surrounds. Above these are two four-pane sashes to the first floor with a gable, as before, to the left. The west front has four uneven bays with a C20 conservatory at ground floor level. The north front has a lengthy outshut to its lower body with catslide roof that masks most of this flank. There are two small first floor windows and C20 brickwork, windows and a door to the outshut wall.

Interior: there are large chamfered beams to the ceiling of one ground floor room which are supported by beams with mortice and peg holes which have no structural purpose in their present positions and both beams and supports appear to have been salvaged from elsewhere and reused here. Two fire surrounds also appear to have re-used moulded stonework to the flanks of their openings.

The older material in the farmhouse, which consists of re-used timbers to the ceiling and walls of one ground floor room and two fire surrounds which have older, moulded flanks, appear to be inclusions which were either incorporated from the earlier farmhouse on the site, shown in the block plan

of 1778 in the map in Pennant's "Tour in Wales" or else brought from elsewhere. As such they have interest, but are not an intrinsic part of the fabric or necessarily indicative of its original form. Other than this the building has an attractive symmetrical entrance front and two Venetian windows to one flank, which are an unusual feature, but overall the building lacks sufficient architectural distinction or historic interest. <1>

#### **Sources**

(01) Advisory designation documentation: Oldport Farm- Initial Assessment Report - Rejection recommended by Historic England (Designation) (2015-May-07). Location: DRF for PRN 26499

### **Location**

#### **National Grid Reference**

SJ 29880 30745 (point) SJ23SE Point

#### **Administrative Areas**

Civil Parish Oswestry, Oswestry, Shropshire

#### **Address/Historic Names - None recorded**

### **Designations, Statuses and Scorings**

#### **Associated Legal Designations - None recorded**

#### **Other Statuses and Cross-References**

Sites & Monuments Record - 31446 Active

#### **Ratings and Scorings - None recorded**

### **Land Use**

#### **Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded**

**SMR Number** 31446

**Site Name** Farmhouse at Oldport Farm

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**Other Land Classes - None recorded**

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***Related Monuments***

26499	The Oldport, or Oldport Farm	Functional Association (P/C)
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***Finds - None recorded***

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***Associated Events/Activities - None recorded***

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***Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded***

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SMR Number	Site Name	Record Type
31447 - MSA34250	T-shaped barn at Oldport Farm	Building

The barn appears to be of C17 date at its southern end. This timber-framed building had its ground floor walls rebuilt in brick at sometime in the C18 or early C19. It was extended to the north to form a threshing barn with brick walls at some time prior to 1778.

### Monument Types and Dates

BARN (17th century to Early 19th century - 1600 AD to 1837 AD)

Evidence EXTANT BUILDING

### Description and Sources

#### Description

The buildings at Oldport Farm (PRN26499) were assessed for statutory designation in May 2015.

The Barn has C17 small framing to its southern end, whose ridge runs E-W with colourwashed brick infill and brick walling to the ground floor. The northern end of this range runs N-S and has red brick walling laid in English bond. The whole building has a Welsh slate roof and is of one and two storeys.

Exterior: the south-eastern gable end has small framing at first floor level with angle braces and a truss with angle struts.

Walling at ground floor level has been renewed in the C18 or C19 with colourwashed brick and has a wide, basket-arched doorway at right of centre. Both flanks of the northern threshing barn have later-C19 outhouses attached to their sides. A pair of threshing doors is now recessed on the

western side. Original exterior walling of the barn has diamond-pattern breathers and there is a lower entrance, with a basket-arched head to the right of the threshing doors.

Interior: there is a partition wall to the upper floor of the C17 portion, which also has small framing and brick infill and angle braces. The roof timbers have been replaced in the C20 or C21. The threshing barn has original roof trusses with a king post and angle struts.

Assessment: C17 BARN: the earlier barn range has small framed walling to its upper floor, which is evident on the eastern gable end and internally in a partition wall, but it has been considerably altered by the rebuilding of the ground floor walling in brick at some time in the C18 or C19. The roof has also been reconstructed in the C20 or C21 using new timbers and the western gable end wall has been rebuilt in brick.

In considering timber-framed buildings for listing the whole of the building is considered in order to establish the proportion of intact survival of the original structure. In this case, although small framing survives to the first floor, one gable end and an internal wall and truss, the ground floor has been rebuilt in brick in the C18 or C19 and the roof has C20 timbers. In these circumstances the degree and extent of alteration to the original structure is too great and the building cannot be considered to have the necessary degree of intactness or special interest.

THE C18 THRESHING BARN: this has retained its western threshing doors, but those on the eastern flank have been lost. The flanks of the building have been considerably masked by the addition of later, lean-to agricultural buildings, including shippens and a machine shed. <1>

#### Sources

(01) Advisory designation documentation: Oldport Farm- Initial Assessment Report - Rejection recommended by Historic England (Designation) (2015-May-07). Location: DRF for PRN 26499

### Location

#### National Grid Reference

SJ 29876 30764 (point)

SJ23SE

Point

#### Administrative Areas

Civil Parish

Oswestry, Oswestry, Shropshire

#### Address/Historic Names - None recorded

### Designations, Statuses and Scorings

#### Associated Legal Designations - None recorded

#### Other Statuses and Cross-References

Sites & Monuments Record - 31447

Active

**SMR Number** 31447

**Site Name** T-shaped barn at Oldport Farm

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**Ratings and Scorings - None recorded**

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***Land Use***

**Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded**

**Other Land Classes - None recorded**

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***Related Monuments***

26499	The Oldport, or Oldport Farm	Functional Association (P/C)
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***Finds - None recorded***

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***Associated Events/Activities - None recorded***

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***Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded***

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**SMR Number** 31654

**Site Name** Practice trenches associated with Park Hall camp, Oldport Farm, Oswestry

<b>SMR Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Record Type</b>
31654 - MSA34462	Practice trenches associated with Park Hall camp, Oldport Farm, Oswestry	Monument

Practice trenches associated with Park Hall camp (PRN 21713), Oldport Farm, Oswestry. Front line, communication trenches and a redoubt were recorded during geophysical survey in 2007.

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### **Monument Types and Dates**

PRACTICE TRENCH (First World War - 1914 AD to 1918 AD)

Evidence SUB SURFACE DEPOSIT

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### **Description and Sources**

#### **Description**

Evidence for practice trenches associated with the camp were recorded in geophysical survey at Oldport Farm, to the immediate west of the mapped area of Park Hall camp. Anomalies representing frontline and communication trenches were recorded and a redoubt. Other anomalies may be related to the trench system, such as an access track and other pits, but their form is not clear and they may relate to agricultural practices or be of geological origins. <1>

The evaluation carried out across this area in 2009 identified a number of mortar pits related to military practice in this area. [See PRN 21714 and 21715] <2>

Dr. Nash concludes that this area of trenching was probably extensive, possessing forward crenulated lines, retreat trenching and secondary defensive/offensive lines. These trenches are backfilled in aerial photography of 1946. <3>

In 2015 the site was subject to an application for scheduling. Historic England rejected the proposal at the initial assessment stage because the trenches had been infilled and survival was assessed to be poor, there was no evidence for the trenches having been associated with Wilfred Owen who was only briefly stationed at Park Hall Camp, and Park Hall Camp and its associated practice trenching is only one example of the many training camps hastily opened across the country in the early days of the war. <4>

#### **Sources**

- (01) Geophysical survey report: Geophysical survey report: Land at Oldport Farm, Oswestry, Shropshire (Geophysical Surveys of Bradford Rep) by Geophysical Surveys of Bradford (2007), Area E. Location: ESA white
- (02) Excavation report: Land at Oldport Farm, Oswestry, Shropshire: archaeological evaluation (Oxford Archaeol North Rep) by Raynor C (2009). Location: ESA white (ESA6425)
- (03) Report: Report on the practice trenching systems at Park Hall, Oswestry, Shropshire (additional information) by Nash G Dr (2015), Area B. Location: SMR DRF for PRN 21713
- (04) Advisory designation documentation: Practice Trenching on land east of Old Oswestry Hillfort - Reject at Initial Assessment Report by Historic England (Designation) (2015-Oct-07). Location: SMR DRF for PRN 31654

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### **Location**

#### **National Grid Reference**

Centred SJ 30188 30711 (131m by 169m) SJ33SW Area

#### **Administrative Areas**

Civil Parish Oswestry, Oswestry, Shropshire

**Address/Historic Names - None recorded**

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### **Designations, Statuses and Scorings**

**Associated Legal Designations - None recorded**

#### **Other Statuses and Cross-References**

Sites & Monuments Record - 31654 Active

**SMR Number** 31654

**Site Name** Practice trenches associated with Park Hall camp, Oldport Farm, Oswestry

**Ratings and Scorings - None recorded**

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***Land Use***

**Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded**

**Other Land Classes - None recorded**

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***Related Monuments***

21713 Military training camp at Park Hall, Oswestry Functional Association (P/C)

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***Finds - None recorded***

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***Associated Events/Activities - None recorded***

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***Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded***

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# *Archaeology Wales*

## **Appendix II**

### **Specification**

**Specification for a Desk-Based Assessment  
and Visual Impact Analysis**

**for a storage unit at the site of**

**Traditional Products Ltd, Whittington Road,  
Oswestry, Shropshire**

**Prepared for:  
Traditional Products Limited**

**3<sup>rd</sup> August 2016**

## **NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY**

This Specification details the proposal for a Desk-Based Assessment and Visual Impact Analysis for a retrospective planning application (Shropshire Council Ref: 16/02139/FUL) for a storage unit at an industrial site off Whittington Road, Oswestry, Shropshire. This document has been prepared by Archaeology Wales Ltd for Traditional Products Ltd.

### **1. Introduction**

The retrospective planning application relates to a storage unit located on the premises of Traditional Products Ltd, Whittington Road, Oswestry, Shropshire, SY11 1HZ (henceforth – the site). The local planning authority is Shropshire Council, and the planning reference is 16/02139/FUL.

The storage unit is approximately 30.30m long, 16.20m broad and 7.10m high, with a triple pitch roof and a light brown coloured external cladding material. Information relating to the development has been supplied by Advance Building Designs Ltd, Top Floor, 9 Broad Street, Newtown, Powys, SY16 2LU.

Shropshire Council Archaeology Service - Historic Environment Team (SC-HET) have requested that an assessment and visual impact analysis is undertaken to determine the significance of any heritage assets affected by the development.

This Specification has been prepared by Adrian Hadley of Archaeology Wales Ltd (henceforth - AW) at the request of Traditional Products Ltd. This document provides information on the methodology that will be employed by AW during an archaeological assessment of the site.

### **2. Planning Policies**

- National Planning Policy Framework, Department for Communities and Local Government (March 2012)

### **3. Standards**

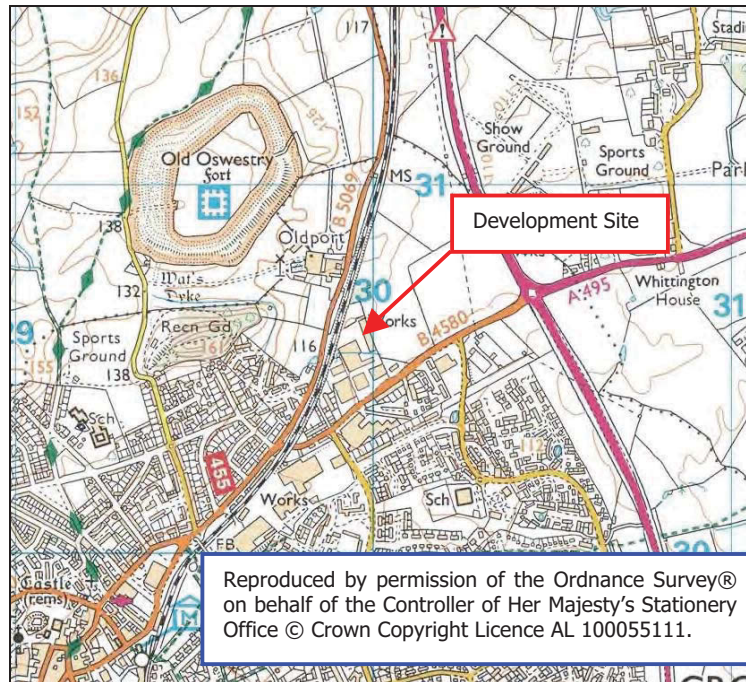
The project will adhere to and comply with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct (2014), the Regulations for Professional Conduct (2015) and the Standard and Guidance for Commissioning Work or Providing Consultancy Advice on Archaeology and the Historic Environment (2014). In addition, all relevant Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standards and Guidance will be adhered to, including the Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment (2014).

### **3. Topography and Geology**

The building is located on an established industrial estate at the premises of Tradition Products Ltd, situated along the northern side of Whittington Road on the outskirts of Oswestry. The site contains a number of other large industrial buildings. This building has been erected close to a disused railway line that marks the north-western boundary of the site. There are agricultural enclosures to the northeast of the development.

The development is located approximately 1km to the northeast of the historic settlement core of Oswestry. The site is about 350m southeast of Old Oswestry Hillfort, which is recorded by Historic England as a Scheduled Ancient Monument (HE: 1014899).

The development site is at an approximate altitude of 115m OD, centred at NGR 329945 330610 (SJ 2995 3061).



**Figure 1: Location Map**

The regional geology as mapped by the British Geological Survey (at 1:50,000 scale) indicates that the development is situated on bedrock deposits of mudstone, siltstone, sandstone and conglomerate of the Salop Formation. The superficial geology consists of glacial till (sands, clays and gravels).

#### **4. Specific Objectives of the Work**

The primary objective will be to assess the impact of the development on the historic environment by means of a detailed desk-based assessment and site visit. The aim will be to make full and effective use of existing information in establishing the archaeological significance of the site, to elucidate the presence or absence of archaeological deposits, its character, distribution, extent, condition and relative significance.

The work will include a comprehensive assessment of the regional context of the archaeological resource and will aim to highlight any relevant research issues within national and regional research frameworks.

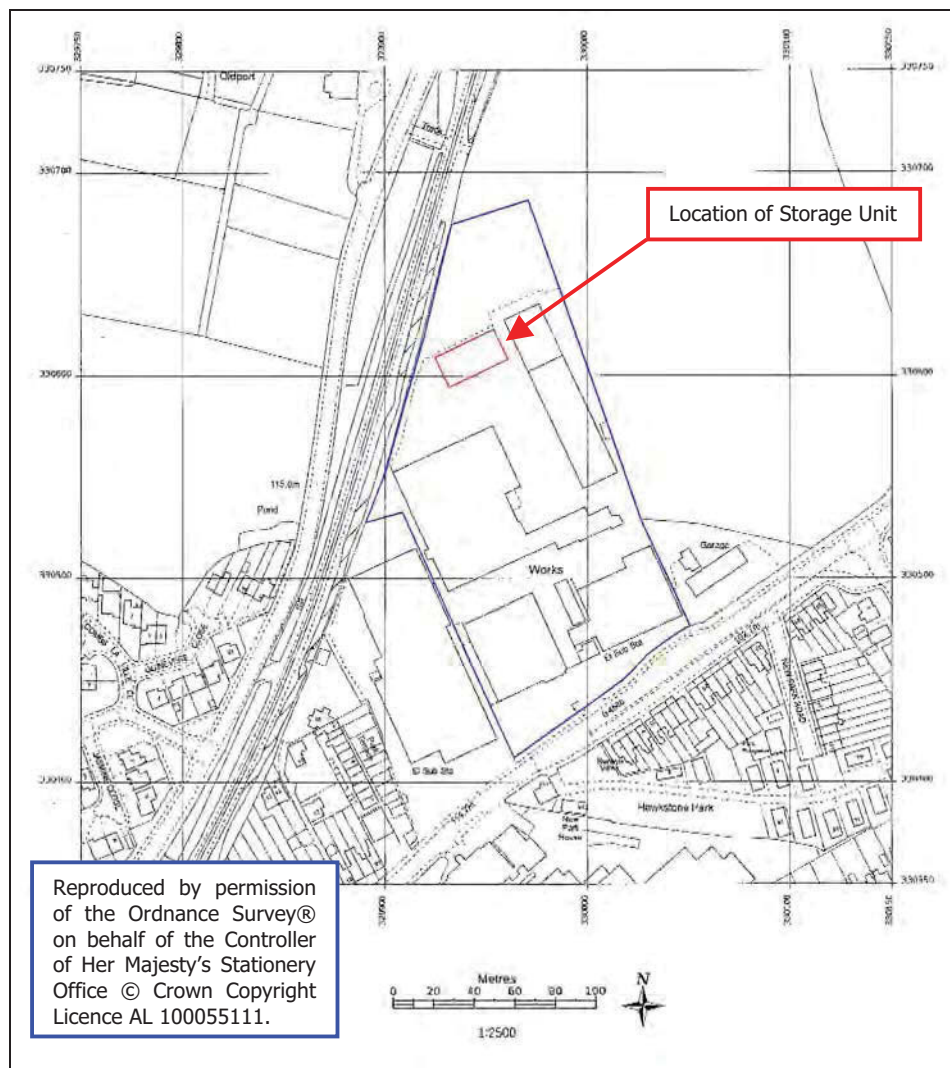
The work will result in a report that will provide information of sufficient detail to allow informed planning decisions to be made which can safeguard the archaeological resource.

## 5. The Proposed Scheme of Work

The aim of the work will be to establish and make available information about the potential archaeological resource within and surrounding the development site.

The work will include the following elements:

- A desk-based and visual impact assessment
- A site visit
- The production of an illustrated report
- Deposition of the site archive



**Figure 2: The Application Site**

## 6. Methodology

### Analysis of Databases and Historic Sources

The assessment will examine all readily available sources. The research assessment will consider the nature, extent and degree of survival of archaeological sites, structures, deposits and landscapes within the development area. The study will assess the physical impact of the scheme

on known and potential archaeological remains within the footprint of the development. The study will comprise:

- An assessment of those designated assets within 1km of the development site included on the National Heritage List for England, held by Historic England. This will encompass World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens and Historic Interest Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest. The impact of the development will also be assessed on Conservation Areas and Registered Battlefields.
- The collation and assessment of all relevant information within 500m of the development site from the Shropshire Historic Environment Record (HER). These records encompass archaeological sites, monuments and finds, details of previous fieldwork and historic landscape characterisation maps.
- Collation and assessment of all relevant information within 500m of the development site from the National Record of the Historic Environment (NRHE) held by Historic England.
- An assessment of all available excavation reports and archives (including unpublished reports) affecting the site and its setting. These notably include the grey-literature reports held by the Archaeology Data Service.
- An assessment of online records held by the Portable Antiquities Scheme. These relate to stray finds reported within the assessment area that have not been incorporated into the Shropshire HER.
- An analysis of available cartographic evidence. These include tithe and enclosure maps, estate plans and the Ordnance Survey County Editions.
- A review of the aerial photographs of the development site held by Shropshire Archives.
- Geological and geotechnical information available from the British Geological Survey website.

### Site Survey

A walkover survey will be undertaken of the proposed development area. The objectives of the site survey are:

- To assess the present condition of the known heritage assets identified through the research assessment;
- To identify further features of cultural heritage interest not discovered during the research assessment;
- To assess the proposed development area for its potential to contain buried archaeological remains;
- To assess the visual impact of the scheme upon significant heritage assets in the surrounding landscape: views will be assessed from the heritage asset towards the development site (and *vice versa*).



Previously unrecorded assets will be recorded using photography and located on a plan of the site. Photographs will be taken with a high-resolution digital camera (greater than ten mega pixels). Digital images will be stored in TIFF format. Written records will be made as appropriate.

### Visual Impact Analysis

The methodology will consider the Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) in order to define the area from which the development may potentially be visible by reference to surrounding topography. The impact on heritage assets will be assessed in accordance with 'The Setting of Heritage Assets' (Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning: 3, Historic England, 2015).

### Reporting

The assessment report will include the following:

- A non-technical summary;
- The aims and objectives of the assessment;
- The methodology employed during the assessment;
- Analysis of topography and geology;
- Descriptions of the known heritage assets reported within the study area;
- Analysis of previous archaeological investigations within the study area;
- An assessment of the local, regional and national importance of the heritage assets identified within the study area;
- Assessment of the potential archaeological resource within the development site;
- Assessment of the primary and secondary historic sources for the development area;
- Cartographic analysis;
- Analysis of aerial photographs;
- The results of the site visit;
- An assessment of the impact of the development on the potential archaeological resource;
- General conclusions;
- Bibliography and references;
- Appendices containing location maps, a plan of the proposed development, distribution maps of designated heritage assets and archaeological sites recorded within the study area, a gazetteer of heritage assets, old maps and photographs/pictures as well as photographs taken during the site visit.

### Report Dissemination

The results of the assessment will be submitted to SC-HET and Traditional Products Ltd and/or their agents.

### Archive Deposition

The digital archive will be submitted to the Shropshire Historic Environment Record. Until the archive has been deposited, the paper and electronic archive material will be security-copied and stored in an appropriate and secure environment.

The site archive will include, as appropriate:

- Copies of the final report / publication and summary / interim reports
- Surveys
- The digital photographic archive (in TIFF format)
- All relevant digital data

Although there may be a period during which client confidentiality should be maintained, AW will aim to deposit a copy of the report and the project archive in an appropriate repository not later than six months after completion of the work.

## **7. Confidentiality and Copyright**

AW shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports, tender documents or other project documents under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act (1988)*. All legal rights shall be reserved, except that an exclusive licence shall be provided to the BBNPA and the client (and their agent/s) for the use of such documents in all matters relating to the project.

It is understood that the publication report will become a public document once the report is made available for public consultation through the Historic Environment Record.

## **8. Monitoring**

SC-HET will monitor the work to ensure compliance with planning requirements. Any subsequent variations to the methodology shall be agreed by SC-HET before they are implemented.

## **9. Resources and Timetable**

### Staff

The project will be undertaken by suitably qualified AW staff. Overall management of the project will be undertaken by Mark Houlston.

### Equipment

The project will use existing AW equipment.

### Timetable of Archaeological Works

The work is scheduled to commence during August 2016.

### Insurance

AW holds Public Liability Insurance through Aviva Insurance Ltd, with a £5,000,000 Limit of Indemnity (expires 05/12/16), Employers Liability Insurance through Aviva Insurance Ltd, with a £10,000,000 Limit of Indemnity (expires 05/12/16) and Professional Indemnity Insurance through Hiscox Insurance Company Ltd, with a £1,000,000 Limit of Indemnity (expires 05/12/16).

### Arbitration

In the event of any dispute arising out of this Agreement (including those considered as such by only one of the parties) either party may forthwith give to the other notice in writing of such a dispute or difference and the same shall be and is hereby referred for decision in accordance with the Rules of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators' Arbitration scheme for the Institute for Archaeologists applying at the date of this Agreement.

### Health and Safety

All members of staff will adhere to the requirements of the *Health & Safety at Work Act*, 1974, and the Health and Safety Policy Statement of AW.

# *Archaeology Wales*

## **Appendix III**

### **Archive Cover Sheet**

## ARCHIVE COVER SHEET

**Traditional Products Ltd, Whittington Road, Oswestry, Shropshire**

Site Name:	Whittington Road
Site Code:	WRO/16/DBA
PRN:	-
SAM:	HE List No. 1014899 (Old Oswestry Hillfort)
Listed Building:	-
Other Ref No:	-
NGR:	329945, 330610
Site Type:	Industrial / Brownfield
Project Type:	Desk-Based Assessment
Project Manager:	Mark Houliston
Project Dates:	August 2016
Categories Present:	None
Location of Original Archive:	AW
Location of Duplicate Archives:	Shropshire Council HER
Number of Finds Boxes:	-
Location of Finds:	AW
Museum Reference:	-
Copyright:	AW
Restrictions to Access:	None

# Archaeology Wales

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