PN 2114

birmingham archaeology

TESCO, STOURPORT-ON-SEVERN

JANUARY 2011

Archaeological Evaluation

UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

PN 2114

TESCO, STOURPORT-ON-SEVERN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION 2010

Project No. 2114

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TESCO, STOURPORT-ON-SEVERN

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION 2010

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SUMMARY

Birmingham Archaeology was commissioned in September 2010 by the Santon Group, acting on behalf of Tesco plc (with advice from J L Hearn) to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of a proposed supermarket development at Stourport-On-Severn, Worcestershire (centred on NGR SO 81347113). Birmingham Archaeology undertook an evaluation of the site between 20th and 30th September 2010. The evaluation followed a desk-based assessment which identified a number of areas of potential for buried archaeological deposits within the development site boundary.

The evaluation involved the excavation of nine trenches in order to assess the archaeological potential of those areas within the site where the proposed development could affect buried archaeological deposits. The three trenches located towards the northern edge of the site aimed to provide evidence of occupation of the village of Mitton dating to the medieval or early post-medieval period. Two trenches were located close to the River Stour to assess the potential for waterlogged alluvial flood deposits and possible palaeochannels. Most of the remainder of the trenches were sited within, or close to the footprint of the former carpet factory, in order to test the survival of buried structures.

The trenches positioned in the northern part of the site did not provide any evidence of activity dating to the medieval or early post-medieval periods. The trenches located closest to the River Stour indicated that the area had been reduced in level, and later built-up during the post-medieval period; no evidence of waterlogged remains or palaeochannels was found. The trenches located towards the southern end of the site, notably Trench 9, identified the buried remains of the carpet factory. No significant archaeological features or deposits were identified by trenching.

Tesco, Stourport-On-Severn

Archaeological Evaluation, September 2010

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1.1. Birmingham Archaeology was commissioned by The Santon Group, acting on behalf of Tesco plc (with advice from J L Hearn*)* to undertake a programme of trial trenching ahead of a supermarket development at Stourport-On-Severn (Planning Application Numbers 10/0229/RESE and 08/1053/EIA).

1.1.2. This report outlines the results of a field evaluation carried out between the 20th and 30th of September 2010, and has been prepared in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations (IfA 1999).

1.1.3. An archaeological desk-based assessment (Paul 2006) identified a number of areas of archaeological potential within the overall development zone.

1.1.4. The evaluation conformed to a brief produced by Worcestershire County Council (Worcestershire CC 2009), and a Written Scheme of Investigation (Birmingham Archaeology 2010, reproduced as Appendix 1 to this report) which was approved by the Local Planning Authority prior to implementation in accordance with guidelines laid down in Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (DoE 1990).

2. LOCATION AND GEOLOGY

2.1.1. The site is located in Stourport-On-Severn, and is centred on NGR SO 8134/7113 (Fig. 1). It is bounded by Mitton Street and Stour Lane to the north, the River Stour to the east and Severn Road to the west (Fig. 2).

2.1.2. The drift geology of the area is alluvium over upper mottled sandstone (Bunter Sandstone) which outcrops in the northern part of the site (British Geological Survey 1960). The sandstone was not exposed during the evaluation, the natural subsoil deposits consisted of clay silt, and mixed sand and gravel of glacial origin.

2.1.3. At the time of the evaluation the site comprised the overgrown remains of the former carpet factory buildings which had been mostly demolished to ground level, leaving some areas of concrete slab intact.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1.1. The completed archaeological desk-based assessment (Paul 2006) identified a number of areas of archaeological potential within the proposed development site.

3.1.2. Although there is no present evidence for prehistoric activity within the site the assessment highlighted the potential of the areas adjoining the River Soar to contain alluvial flood deposits and possible paleochannels.

3.1.3. No evidence of Roman or Saxon activity was recorded within the study area.

3.1.4. The northern part of the development site may be located within the village of Mitton, now represented by a single standing timber-framed building in Mitton Street, just to the north of the site. Much of the development site could have comprised meadowland into the post-medieval period.

3.1.5. The study area changed little from the Sheriff map dated 1802 to the Tithe map of 1845. The area to the west of the development site was transformed by the construction of the Canal basin and associated structures.

3.1.6. A carpet factory, one of the first steam-powered carpet works was built in 1850. The 1884 First Edition Ordnance Survey map shows fields surrounding the factory.

3.1.7. The factory was enlarged in the early 20th century.

3.1.8. During the Second World War it was converted for use as an Admiralty Storage Depot.

3.1.9. Further buildings were added to the complex after the war.

3.1.10. The Worcestershire Historic Environment Record was re-searched on 19 September 2010 to identify any heritage assets within the site or its immediate environs recorded since the compilation of the desk-based assessment (itself recorded as WSM 38292). The following new records were identified as a result of this search:

- A survey by Stourport Civic Society of walls associated with Cheapside Passage between Mart Lane and Severn Road (WSM 37106 and WSM 37111), and of walls to the Old Gas Works, Cheapside (WSM 37107 and WSM 37112).
- The site of the Anchor Public House, recorded on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map (WSM 36957).
- The site of Stourbank House, Severn Road, occupied as a prisoner of war camp (1914-1918), and requisitioned by the War Office in 1942.
- The site of the stables to the White Lion Inn, Lion Hill, used as an Air Warden's Post from 1939 to 1945.

4. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

4.1.1. The principal aim of the evaluation was to determine the character, state of preservation and the potential significance of any buried remains.

4.1.2. More specific aims were to:

- to provide details of the extent, character and survival of the village of Mitton
- to obtain possible palaeoenvironmental evidence associated with the River Stour
- to acquire information relating to 19th century structures associated with the earliest builds of the carpet factory
- to identify any impacts upon archaeological remains by the development and enable proposals to be formulated for any further stage of possible archaeological work (If appropriate).

5. METHODOLOGY

5.1.1. Health and safety of the archaeological staff and the general public was of the uppermost consideration throughout all stages of the project. Service plans were obtained before work started and the areas for trenching were scanned with a Catscan.

5.1.2. A total of nine trenches were excavated across the site measuring between 10 and 50m in length and 2m in width, totalling 400m² which provided a 4% sample of the total development area (Fig. 2), excluding areas where the development will involve raising the existing ground level. Trenches were dug to a width of 4m where the deposits overlying natural subsoil measured more than 1.2m in depth, necessitating stepping of the trench edges.

5.1.3. Trenches were located as widely as possible in order to identify below-ground archaeological features and deposits. Trench 6 was re-located in order to avoid a number of services which were identified immediately prior to excavation. The trial-trenches were surveyed-in using an EDM total station and located on the Ordnance Survey National Grid.

5.1.4. All topsoil and modern overburden was removed using a JCB mechanical excavator with a toothless ditching bucket, under direct archaeological supervision, down to the top of the uppermost archaeological horizon or the subsoil, whichever was first encountered. Subsequent cleaning and excavation was by hand. A representative sample of archaeological features and deposits were manually sample excavated. This was done to sufficiently define their character and to obtain suitable dating evidence using the following strategy:

- 50% pits/post-holes
- Ditches, 25% by length
- Complex features such as kilns or burials would not be fully excavated (investigation limited to cleaning and recording)

5.1.5. All stratigraphic sequences were recorded, even where no archaeology was present. Features were planned at a scale of 1:20 or 1:50, and sections drawn of all cut features and significant vertical stratigraphy at the same scale. A comprehensive written record was maintained using a continuous numbered context system on *pro-forma* cards. Written records and scale plans were supplemented by photographs using black and white monochrome, colour slide and digital photography.

5.1.6. Recovered finds were cleaned, marked and remedial conservation work undertaken as necessary. Treatment of all finds conformed to guidance contained within the Birmingham Archaeology Fieldwork Manual and *First Aid for Finds* (Watkinson and Neal 1998).

5.1.7. The full site archive includes all artefactual remains recovered from the site. The site archive will be prepared according to guidelines set down in Appendix 3 of the Management of Archaeology Projects (English Heritage, 1991), the Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-Term Storage (UKIC 1990) and Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological collections (Museum and Art Galleries Commission 1992). The paper archive will be deposited with the appropriate repository subject to permission from the landowner.

6. RESULTS

6.1. Introduction

6.1.1. The trenches are described individually in numerical order. A representative selection of trench plans and sections are illustrated.

6.2. Trench 1 (Fig. 3)

6.2.1. Trench 1 measured 10m in length and 2m in width and was orientated approximately east-west. The natural orange sand subsoil (103) was recorded at 19.60m AOD. It had been overlain by mid brown silty clay subsoil (102) which measured 0.70m in depth. The subsoil was sealed by a modern levelling layer (101) containing building rubble and plastic and extending to a depth of 0.95m. This layer was overlain by a dark brown layer of topsoil (100) which measured 0.35m in depth. The natural subsoil (103) had been cut by a modern east-west aligned drain at the southern end of the trench. No features of archaeological, or possible archaeological interest were identified in this trench.

6.3. Trench 2 (not illustrated)

6.3.1. Trench 2 measured 10m in length and 2m in width and was aligned north-south. The natural subsoil consisted of mixed sand and gravel (204) and sloped downwards towards the south end of the trench at 19.17m AOD (rising to a level of 19.62m AOD at the north end of the trench). The natural subsoil was sealed by a layer of mid-brown silty clay subsoil (203) which measured 0.50m in depth. In turn this was overlain by two modern levelling layers (202 and 201) comprised of brick rubble and plastic, each layer being approximately 0.55m in depth. Layer 201 was cut by a drain (205). Layer 201 was sealed by a layer of topsoil (200) measuring 0.40m in depth. No features of archaeological, or possible archaeological interest were identified in this trench.

6.4. Trench 3 (not illustrated, Plate 1)

6.4.1. Trench 3 measured 10m in length and 2m in width and was orientated approximately east-west. The natural orange sand and gravel subsoil (303) was recorded at 19.35m AOD. It was overlain by mid-brown silty clay subsoil (302), measuring 0.60m in depth and was sealed by grey-brown silt clay levelling layer (301). This layer contained ash and building rubble and was 0.70m in depth. It had been cut along the entire southern edge of the trench by a modern drain (304) which was contemporary with a second drain (305) which ran north-south across the trench. Layer 301 was sealed by 0.40m of topsoil (300). No features of archaeological, or possible archaeological interest were recorded in this trench.

6.5. Trench 4 (Fig. 3)

6.5.1. Trench 4 measured 20m in length and 2m in width and was aligned northeast-southwest. The natural subsoil consisted of orange sand and gravel (405) and sloped downwards towards the northeast end of the trench at 19.61m AOD (rising to a level of 19.79m AOD at the southwest end). It was overlain by a layer of light grey-brown sandy silt subsoil (404) which measured 1.00m in depth and was sealed by a layer of dark brown sandy silt (403) measuring 0.50m in depth. The layer had been cut by modern concrete base (407, not illustrated) and a series of

modern drains (406, not illustrated) which were aligned northwest-southeast. Layer 403 and the drains were overlain by a reddish orange silty sand levelling layer (402) which measured 0.50m in depth and was sealed by 0.30m of rubble hardcore (401). This layer of hardcore was sealed by a tarmac surface (400). No features of archaeological, or possible archaeological interest were identified in this trench.

6.6. Trench 5 (Fig. 3, Plate 2)

6.6.1. Trench 5 measured 35m in length and 2m in width and was orientated northwest-southeast. The natural orange sand and gravel subsoil (505) was recorded at 19.20m AOD. It was overlain by light brown sandy silt subsoil (504) which was in turn was sealed by a layer of dark brown silty clay (503) measuring 0.40m in depth. This silty clay layer was sealed by a mixed rubble levelling layer (502) which measured 0.50m in depth and was sealed by a concrete hardstanding (501) and a layer of tarmac (500). No features of archaeological, or possible archaeological interest were recorded in this trench.

6.7. Trench 6 (Fig. 3)

6.7.1. Trench 6 measured 25m in length and 2m in width and was aligned east-west. The trench was bisected by a live service, and for this reason it was dug as two separate lengths. The natural was a red and grey silty clay (603). It was sealed by a layer of reddish sand subsoil (604). This subsoil was overlain by a layer of dark grey silty clay (602) which measured 0.25m in depth. This layer in turn had been sealed by a mixed rubble deposit (601) which provided the foundation for the current concrete hardstanding (600). No features of archaeological, or possible archaeological interest were recorded in this trench.

6.8 Trench 7 (Fig. 4, Plate 3)

6.7.2. Trench 7 measured 50m in length and 2m in width and was orientated northwest-southeast. The natural reddish orange sand and gravel subsoil (704) was recorded at 19.30m AOD. It was overlain by a layer of grey-brown silty clay subsoil (703) which measured 0.60m in depth. Towards the southeastern end of the trench the subsoil had been cut by a brick wall (705) which may have dated to the 20th century and ran northeast-southwest across the trench. Evidence of another brick wall of similar date was recorded towards the centre of the trench where a two course wide brick wall (706, not illustrated) ran parallel with the edge of the trench and another brick wall (707) possibly representing the same structure ran northwest-southeast. Two possible tree boles (708 and 709, not illustrated) measuring 1.50m and 0.70m respectively in diameter, and 0.15m in depth were tested to the northwest of wall 707. Features 708-709 and the brick walls were overlain by a dark grey layer of building rubble and ash (702) measuring 0.50m in depth. Above was a layer of rubble and hardcore (701). This acted as a levelling layer for the modern concrete surface (700), recorded along part of the length of the trench. No features of archaeological, or possible archaeological interest were uncovered in this trench.

6.9 Trench 8 (Fig. 4)

6.9.1 Trench 8 measured 10m in length and 2m in width and was aligned approximately north-south. The natural reddish orange sand and gravel subsoil (803) was recorded at a level of 19.61m AOD. It had been overlain by a layer of grey-brown

silty clay subsoil (802) which measured 1.0m in depth. At the southern end of the trench the subsoil was cut by a brick wall (804, not illustrated) which was orientated northwest-southeast. The wall was two courses wide and apparently dated to the 20th century. A concrete base (805) had truncated the subsoil towards the centre of the trench. Layer 802, and features 804 and 805 had been overlain by a thin levelling layer (801) comprised of building rubble, sealed by the modern concrete hardstanding (800). No features of archaeological, or possible archaeological interest were recorded in this trench.

6.10 Trench 9 (Fig. 5)

6.10.1 Trench 9 measured 30m in length and 2m in width and was orientated approximately north-south. The natural reddish orange sand and gravel subsoil (904) was recorded at 19.26m AOD. The natural subsoil was overlain by brown silty clay subsoil (903) which was 1.05m in depth. The subsoil had been cut along the entire length of the trench by a series of brick and concrete building foundations (905-915) with a number of metal girders, drains and cable ducts which were aligned northwest-southeast and northeast-southwest. The walls were aligned northeast-southwest (905, 909/910, 911 (part), 912, 915 (part), and southeast-northwest (911 (part), 915 (part)), the predominant alignments of the Carpet Factory buildings. The dimensions of the bricks, the presence of brick within the concrete and the associated girders and drains suggest a 20th century date for the structural remains and the associated levelling layers (902 and 901). The latter layer provided the formation level for the recent concrete hardstanding (900).

7. THE FINDS

7.1 Pottery (spot dating by Emma Collins)

7.1.1. Finds were recovered from two contexts only during the trenching. Layer 503 (Trench 5) contained pottery of 17th century date. Layer 903 (Trench 9) contained creamware pottery dated 1740-1820.

8. DISCUSSION

8.1.1. Trenches 1-3, located towards the northern edge of the site aimed to provide information relating to the village of Mitton. However no evidence relating to possible occupation of the area during the late medieval or early post-medieval period was forthcoming.

8.1.2. Trenches 4 and 5 were situated close to the River Stour with a view to providing palaeoenvironmental information. It was evident from the results that the area had been reduced and levelled during the late post-medieval period. No evidence of paleochannels or waterlogged deposits was discovered. The 17th century pottery recovered from Trench 5 may have derived from a manuring scatter.

8.1.3. The majority of the trenches (numbered 4-9) were apparently situated in an area of former meadowland during the medieval and post-medieval periods. The silt deposits in Trenches 4 and 5 may indicate episodes of flooding.

8.1.4. Trenches 7-9 in the south of the site uncovered evidence of the Carpet Factory (Fig. 6), which at the time of the trenching had been demolished to ground level. In Trench 7 wall 707 probably corresponded with the southeastern wall of a smaller

factory building shown on the 1903 OS map. Wall 705 in the same trench probably corresponded with the northwestern outer wall of the main factory build recorded on both the 1884 and 1903 OS maps. Trench 9 was mainly located within the interior of the main build of the factory, as shown on maps dated 1884 and 1903. The majority of the walls recorded in Trench 9 relate to internal sub-divisions of the main build of the factory. A pillar base (906) was also recorded. The southeastern end of the trench was located within a southeastern extension to the main build. In addition to internal walls evidence of carpet factory drains and a duct (912), was also recorded. It was not possible to identify evidence of rebuilding within Trench 9.

9. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The project was commissioned by the Santon Group on behalf of Tesco (with advice from G. L. Hearn). Thanks are due to Mike Glyde, who monitored the project on behalf of Worcestershire County Council. Work on site was undertaken by Bob Burrows, Mark Charles and Paul Collins. Bob Burrows produced the written report which was illustrated by Nigel Dodds, and edited by Alex Jones who also managed the project for Birmingham Archaeology.

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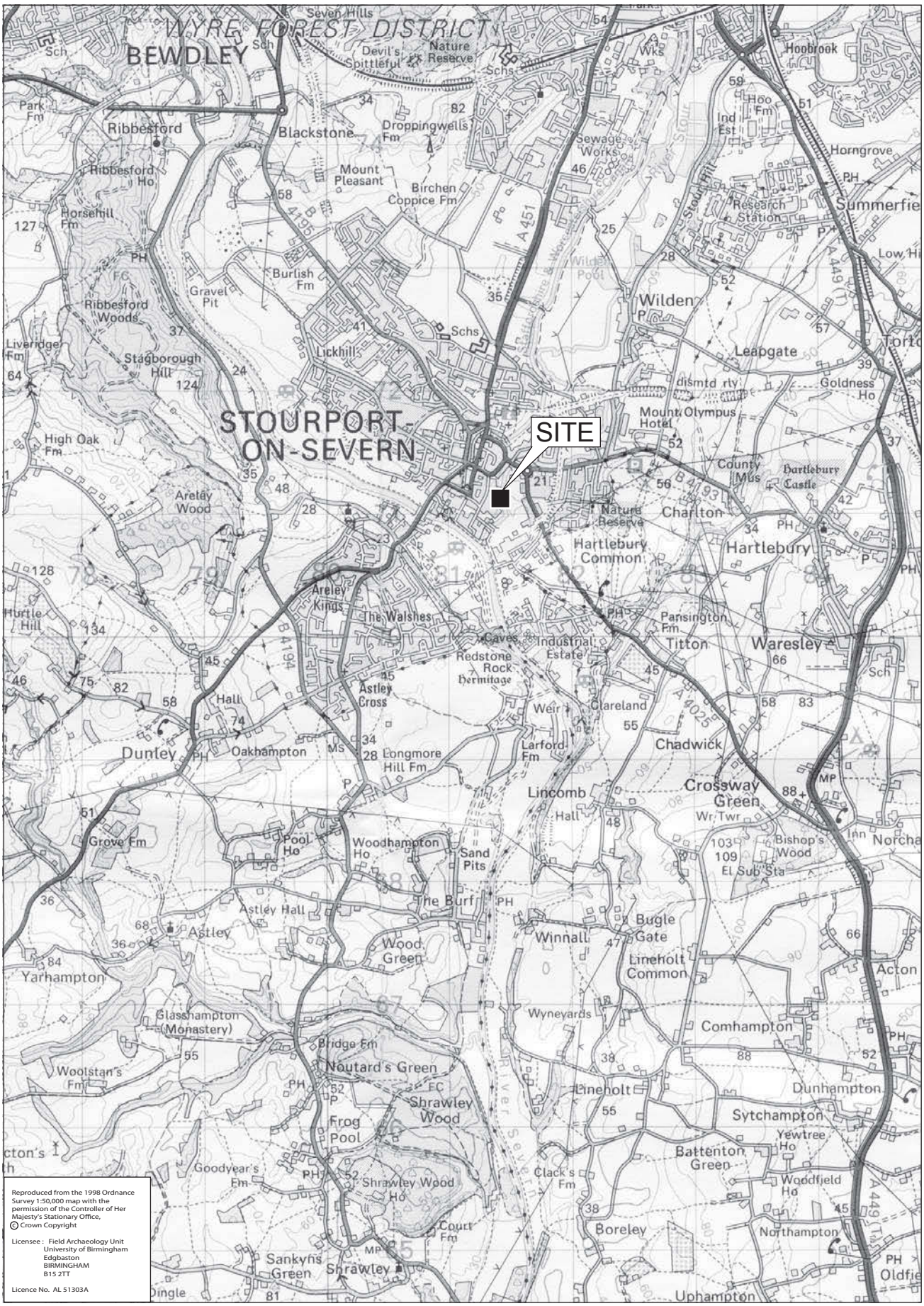

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Figure 1: Site Location

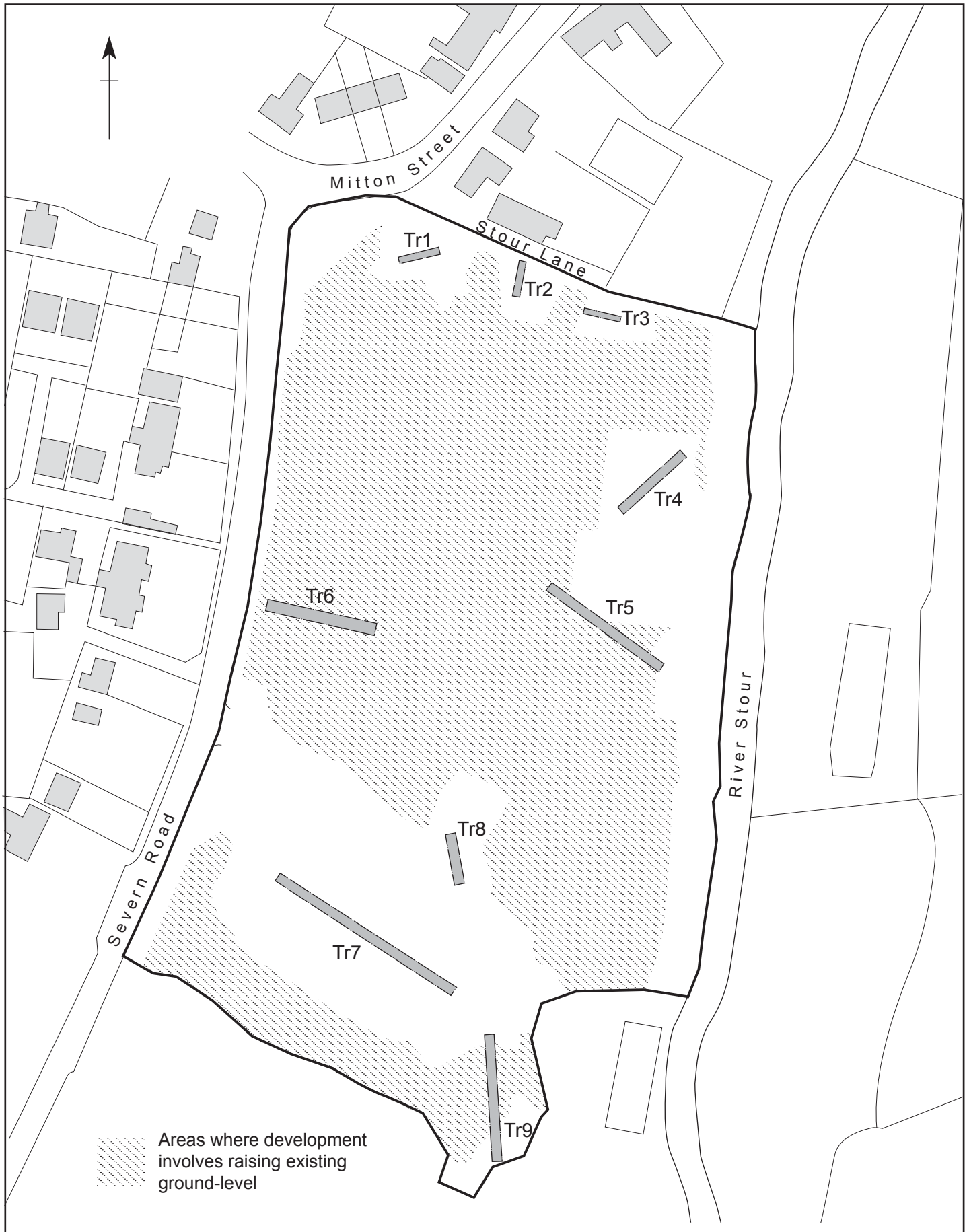

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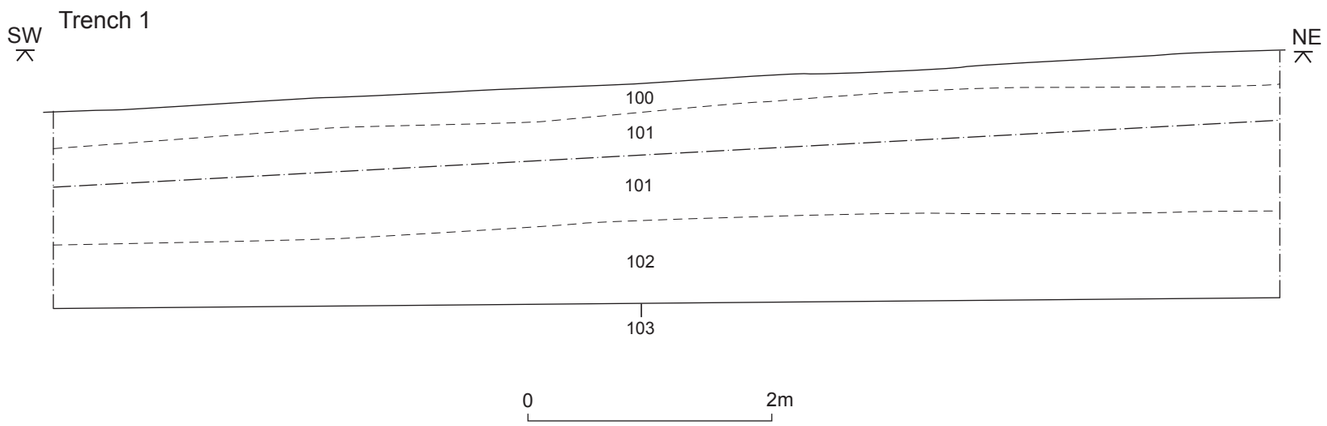
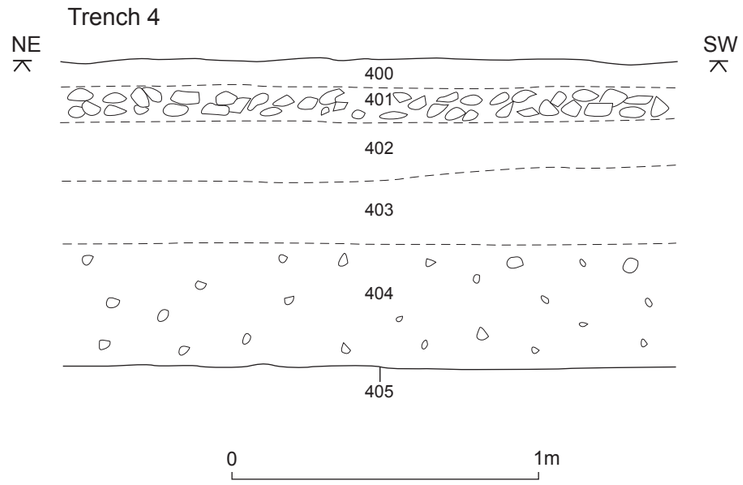
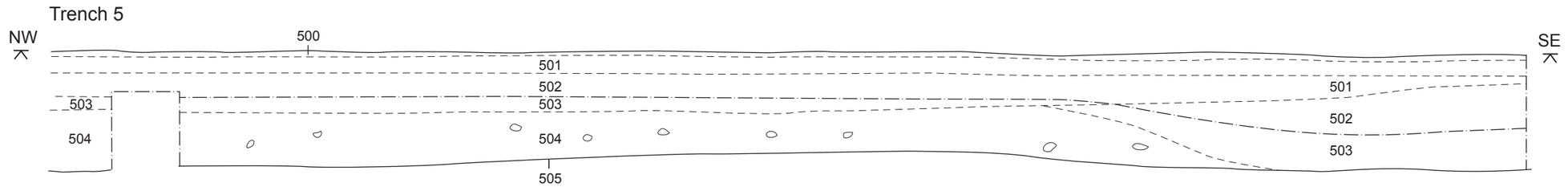
Figure 2: Trench location







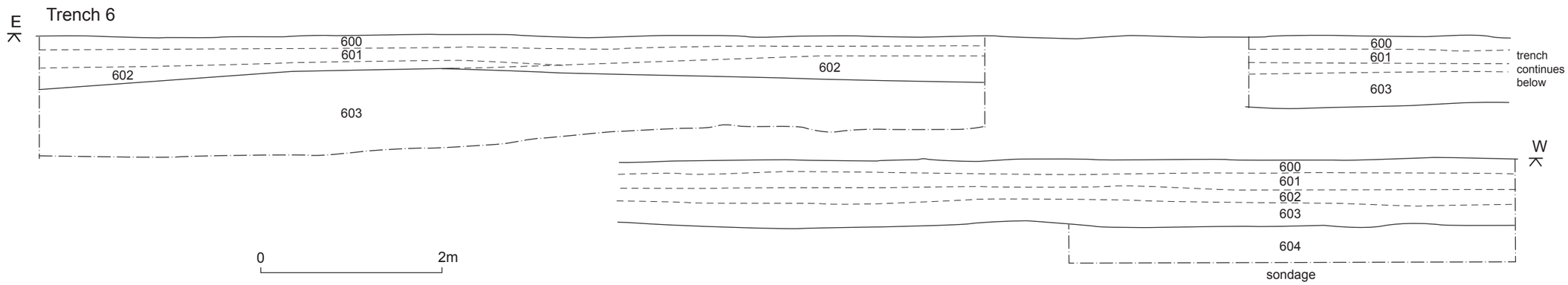


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Figure 3: Trench sections 1, 4, 5 and 6

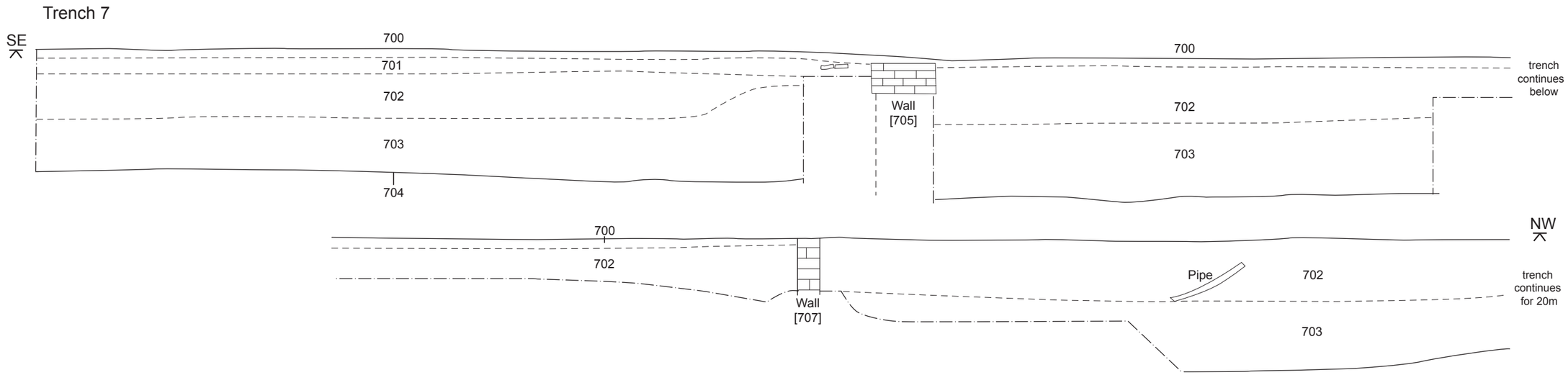

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Figure 4: Trenches 7 and 8 sections

Trench 9

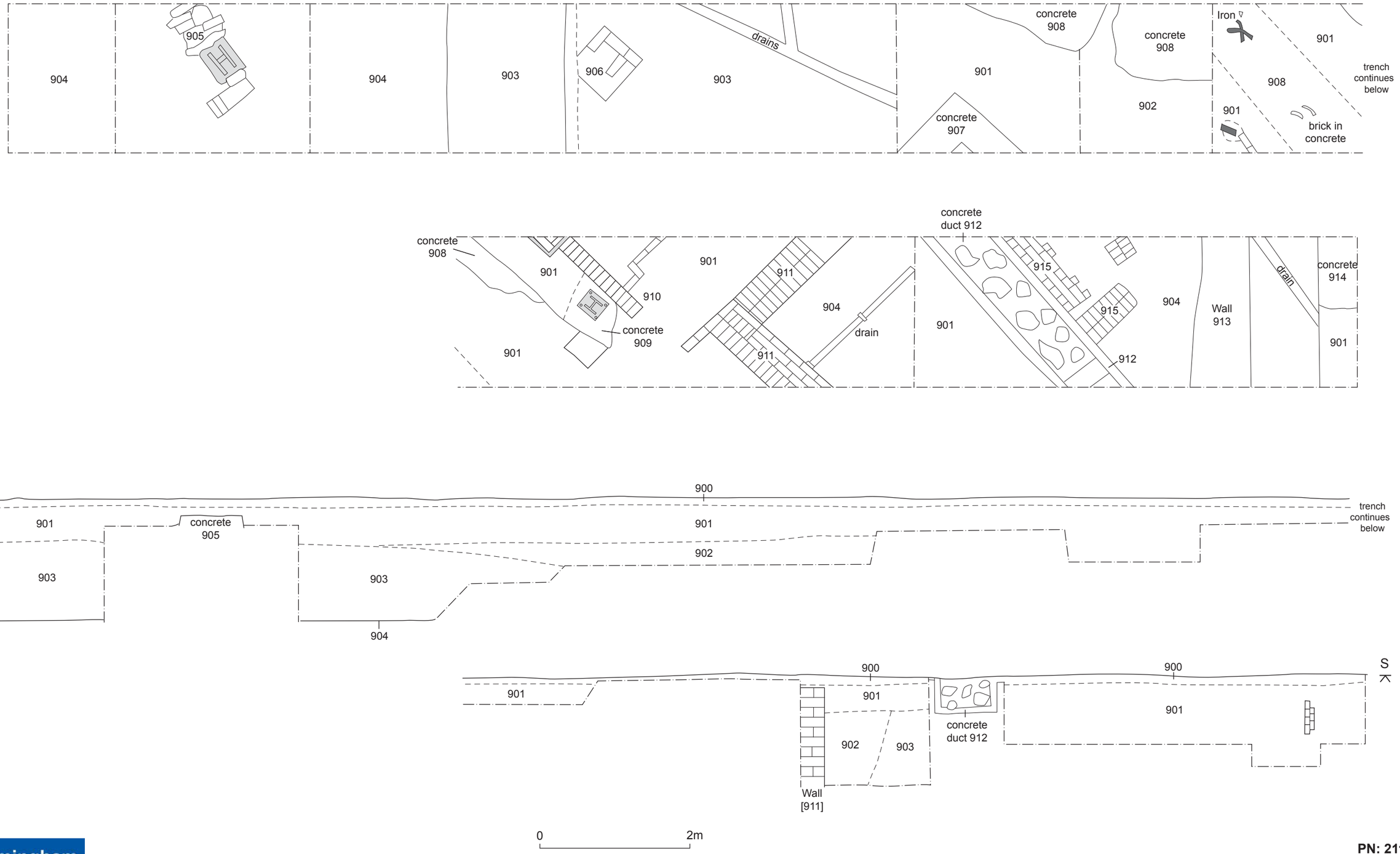

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Figure 5: Trench 9 plan and section

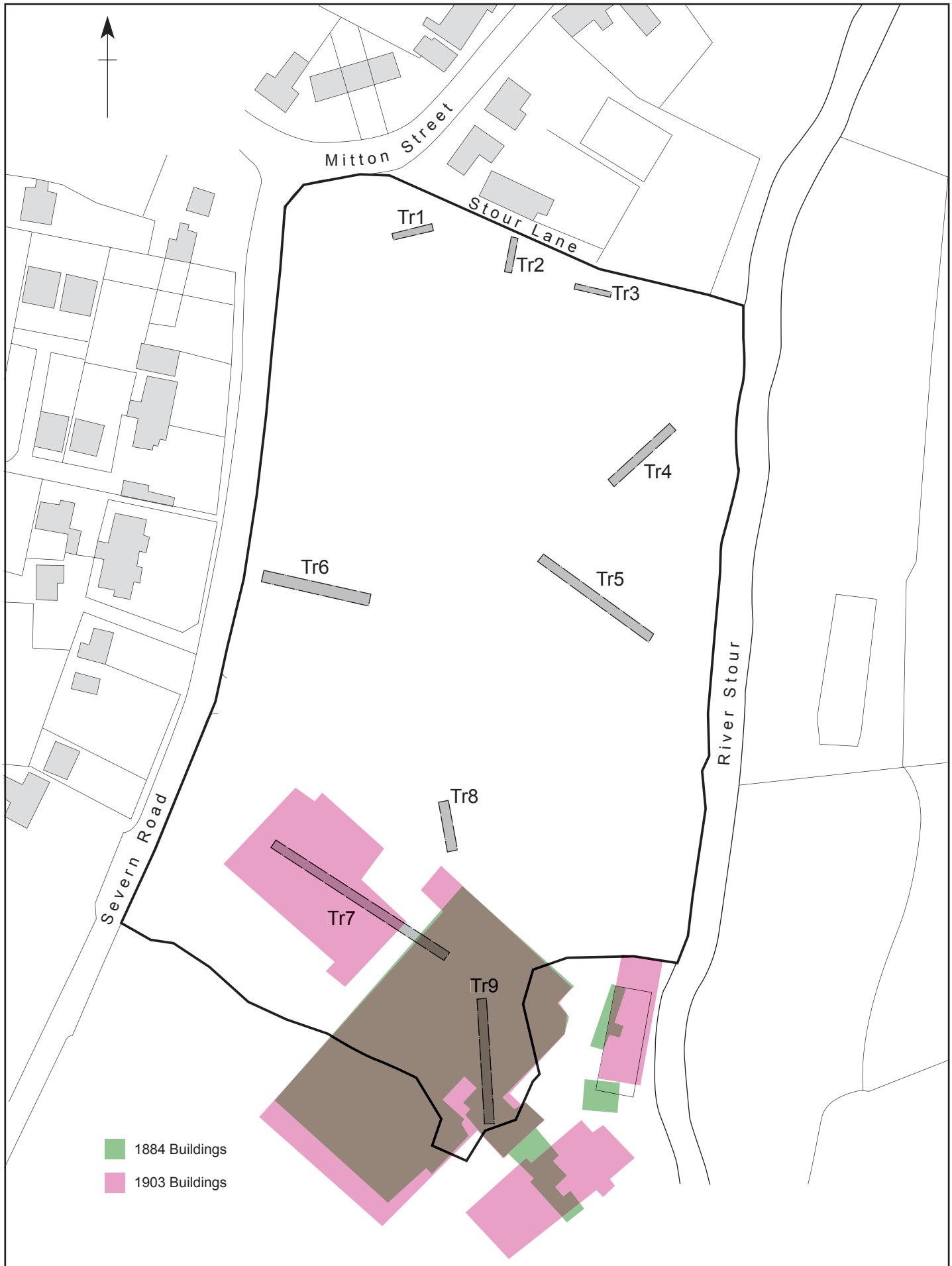

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Figure 6: Trench location with buildings on early os maps

Trench 3

Trench 5

Trench 7

Trench 9

Appendix 1

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION
ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND TRIAL-TRENCHING
Revised 10/09/2010.
TESCO, STOURPORT-ON-SEVERN, WORCESTERSHIRE
(NGR SO 81347113)
(WCC BRIEF dated 18/12/2009, ref: WSM19727)
(BA SITE REFERENCE PN 2114)
(Fieldwork reference WSM 4251, allocated 10/09/2010)

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1 INTRODUCTION

This document describes the programme of work required to undertake archaeological trial trenching at the above site. It forms a written scheme of investigation for the work.
The applicant is Santon Group Developments Ltd. c/o Agent GL Hearn, 20 Soho Square, London W1D 3QW. The planning consultants are Advice You can Build On (Pinnacle) and the groundwork contractors are Bowmer and Kirkland PLC.

The planning application reference numbers are: 10/0229/RESE and 08/1053/EIA.

A brief for archaeological observation and recording was prepared by the Historic Environment Planning Officer, Worcestershire County Council (Worcestershire CC 2009, ref: WSM19727).
Any further variation in the scope of work would be agreed with the client and the Historic Environment Planning Officer, Worcestershire CC, before implementation.

A planning application has been submitted to Wyre Forest DC (ref WG/09/0588) for a proposed supermarket development. As the proposed development area may contain significant archaeological remains archaeological trial-trenching was recommended by the County Historic Environment Planning Officer, on behalf of Wyre Forest DC. This is in accordance with government advice contained with PPG16 and local planning policy.

The brief specified a requirement for trial-trenching.

This document is solely concerned with the area of the proposed Tesco development.

Should further archaeological work (mitigation) be required a separate written scheme of investigation would be prepared to scope this, later stage of work (if required).

2 SITE DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

The site is centred on SO 81347113. The site formerly comprised the Carpets of Worth site.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

An archaeological desk-based assessment has been completed. This identified a number of areas of archaeological potential within the overall development area.

Although there is no present evidence for prehistoric activity within the study area the assessment highlighted the potential of the areas adjoining the River Soar to contain alluvial flood deposits and possible paleochannels.

No evidence of Roman or Saxon activity was recorded within the study area.

The northern part of the development site is located within the village of Mitton, represented by a single standing timber-framed building in Mitton Street, just to the north of the site. Much of the development site could have comprised meadowland into the post-medieval period.

The study area changed little from the Sheriff map dated 1802 to the Tithe map of 1845. The area to the west of the development site was transformed by the construction of the canal basin and associated structures.

A carpet factory, one of the first steam-powered carpet works was built in 1850. The 1884 First Edition Ordnance Survey map shows fields surrounding the factory.

The factory was enlarged in the early 20th century.

During the Second World War it was converted for use as an Admiralty Storage Depot.

Further buildings were added to the complex after the war.

All factory buildings on the site have now been demolished to slab level.

4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The principle aim of the project is to identify any archaeological remains in advance of development, and provide details of their extent, quality, location, extent and significance.

In particular it is intended to provide details of the extent, character and survival of the village of Mitton, possible palaeoenvironmental evidence associated with the River Stour, and details of 19th century structures associated with the earliest builds of the carpet factory.

Trial-trenching will permit identification of any impacts upon archaeological remains by the development, and enable proposals to be formulated for any further stage of archaeological work (if necessary).

5 METHODOLOGY

Health and safety of the archaeological staff and the general public is the uppermost consideration throughout all stages of this project. Service plans will be obtained from all utilities before works start on site, and the area for excavation will be scanned with a Catscan or similar device. All services will be assumed live unless proven otherwise.

As a first stage the Worcestershire CC Information and Records Officer will be consulted in order to obtain a unique reference number, which will be used for all project records/finds. The number allocated to this project is WSM 42451.

The desk-based assessment will not require re-writing. The Worcestershire HER will be consulted to check if any new information has been added to the HER since the desk-based assessment was prepared.

A total length of 200m of trenches will be excavated, each measuring 2m by 50m or 25m by 2m (amounting to 4% of the area of the site proposed for development affected by groundworks). This comprises the areas where the development will involve a reduction in level. The specific location of the trenches will be agreed with the Planning Archaeologist prior to commencement.

The first stage of trial-trenching would comprise the mechanical excavation of surface deposits within each trench, working under continuous archaeological control. The machine to be used will be a using a 360 excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket. Sufficient hand-cleaning will be undertaken to enable base-planning of the surfaces, features and deposits exposed by machining.
Hand-excavation will comprise the following:

50% pits/post-holes.
Ditches, 25% by length.
Complex features such as kilns or burials may not be fully excavated (investigation limited to cleaning and recording).

Throughout the excavation features and deposits will be recorded by means of pre-printed pro-formas. Sections will be drawn at scale 1:10 or 1:20, as appropriate, and plans will be drawn at 1:20 or 1:50, as required. The site grid will be related to the national grid. The drawn and written record will be supplemented by black and white (35mm) and digital photography.

Datable features will be sampled objectively for the recovery of plant and other environmental remains.

Datable features will be bulk sampled for industrial residues.

All finds which may constitute 'treasure' under the Treasure Act, 1997 will be removed to a safe place and reported to the local Coroner.

All written and drawn records will cross-checked before the trenches are backfilled.

An on site monitoring meeting will be held during the trenching.

All finds will be cleaned, marked and bagged and remedial conservation work will be undertaken

The archaeological brief does not specify the requirement for any contingencies.

6 STAFFING

The project will be managed and directed for Birmingham Archaeology by Alex Jones. The fieldwork team will comprise a Project Officer assisted by three site assistants.
Specialist staff will be, where appropriate:

Post-Roman pottery	Stephanie Rátkai	Freelance
Clay tobacco pipe	Dr David Higgins	Freelance
Small finds	Dr Roger White	Senior Lecturer and Assistant Director (Development), Institute of Archaeology and Antiquity, University of Birmingham
Iron, leather	Quita Mould	Freelance
Animal bone	Matilda Holmes	Freelance

Animal bone	Dr Ian Baxter	Freelance
Human bone	Malin Holst	York Osteoarchaeology
Geoarchaeology	Dr Andrew Howard	Lecturer in Archaeo-Geomorphology and Remote Sensing, University of Birmingham
Palynology	Dr Ben Gearey	Birmingham Archaeo-Environmental
Archaeobotany	Rosalind McKenna	Freelance

7 REPORT

After completion of the fieldwork the finds would be washed and marked, and the archive would be collated and checked for internal consistency. A project database would also be prepared.

An illustrated archive report will be prepared for inclusion within Worcestershire HER. The report will comprise:

- Summary
- Archaeological background
- Methodology
- A narrative description of the results and discussion of the evidence, set in their local, regional and national research context, supported by appropriate plans, sections and photographs
- Specialist assessments of the finds, industrial and environmental evidence

Following completion of the report it will be edited internally for consistency etc. Copies will then be circulated to the developer and Historic Environment Planning Officer, Worcestershire CC for comment.

Summary reports will be prepared for West Midlands Archaeology and an appropriate period journal (eg Post-Medieval Archaeology). An OASIS form will be submitted on project completion.

8 ARCHIVING

The full site archive will include all artefactual and/or ecofactual remains recovered from the site. Finds and the paper archive will be deposited with Potteries Museum and Art Gallery, subject to permission from the landowner.

Preparation and deposition of the site archive, from the excavation will be undertaken with reference to the guidelines provided by the receiving museum and to Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-Term Storage (Walker 1990) and Archaeological Archives: a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation (Brown 2007).

9 TIMETABLE

Machine excavation of trenches (4 days).
Hand-excavation and recording (Project Officer + 3 assistants, 5 days)
Final report, delivery within 1 month of fieldwork completion.

10 PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

All project staff will adhere to the Code of Conduct of the Institute of Field Archaeologists. The project will follow the requirements set down in the Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation (IFA 1999, as amended).

As part of the University of Birmingham, Birmingham Archaeology follows the financial rules and procedures laid down by the university, with monitoring by the Finance Office of the University.

11 HEALTH AND SAFETY

A detailed risk assessment will be prepared prior to the commencement of fieldwork.

All current health and safety legislation, regulations and guidance will be complied with. The excavation will conform to the Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992, Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999, and Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2007 and any other health and safety legislation were appropriate.

Work will be carried out in accordance with guidelines laid out in the Birmingham Archaeology Health and Safety Manual (revised 2008) and Health & Safety in Field Archaeology Manual (SCAUM 2007).

Birmingham Archaeology operates under the guidance of the Health and Safety Unit of the University of Birmingham.

12 INSURANCE

Birmingham Archaeology is covered by the University of Birmingham insurance policies, as follows:

12.1 Employer's liability insurance. Policy no. ELY108951496/034. QBE Insurance (Europe) Operations, minimum cover £5m.

12.2 Contractor's 'all risks'. Policy no. UM034/95 UM Association Ltd, limit £1m any one contract.

12.3 Employer's liability. Policy no. ELY108951496/034, UM Association Ltd, £50m in any one event in the aggregate.

12.4 Public and products liability. Policy no. UM034/95, UM Association Ltd, £50m in any one event and in the aggregate.

12.5 Professional indemnity. Policy no. UM034/95, UM Association Ltd, £10m any one claim, except pollution (£1m limit).

13 REFERENCES

Brown, D, 2007 Archaeological Archives. A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation. Archaeological Archives Forum and Institute of Field Archaeologists.
Department of the Environment 1990 Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning. HMSO: London.

Institute for Archaeologists 1999 Standard and guidance for archaeological evaluation, IfA.

Institute for Archaeologists 2001 Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials, IfA blue folder of policy, standards and guidance, IfA.

Museums and Galleries Commission. 1992 Standards in the museum care of archaeological collections. London: Museums and Galleries Commission.

Paul, S, 2007 Stourport on Severn, Environmental Statement, Cultural Heritage Chapter.

Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers (SCAUM), 2007 Health and Safety in Field Archaeology Manual.

Worcestershire CC 2009 Requirements for a programme of archaeological work at the former Carpets of Worth site, Severn Road, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcestershire.