



**BOURNE FARM,
ALDRIDGE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
WATCHING BRIEF**

PN 14-15

Project No. P14-15

[08/2016]

Bourne Farm, Aldridge

Chester Road

Aldridge,


West Midlands

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

By

William Mitchell

Project Archaeologist

	Name	Position
Edited by/ Reviewed by:	Kevin Colls	Project Manager
Approved by:	Signature:	
		
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for

Cameron Homes Limited

St Judes House

Chasetown

Staffs

WS7 3XQ

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Kevin Colls

Archaeological Project Manager

Centre of Archaeology

Faculty of Computing, Engineering and Science

Staffordshire University

R102, Science Centre

Leek Road,

Stoke-on-Trent

ST4 2DF

(+44) 01782 294037

Email: Kevin.colls@staffs.ac.uk

Web: www.staffs.ac.uk/archaeology

Bourne Farm, Aldridge

Archaeological Watching Brief, 08/2016

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SUMMARY

The Centre of Archaeology was commissioned by Cameron Homes Limited to undertake an archaeological watching brief in respect of a proposed housing development at Bourne Farm, Aldridge, Chester Road, West Midlands (NGR SP 07300 99997). The watching brief was undertaken on an intermittent basis throughout December 2015, and in February and August of 2016. The turf and topsoil was systematically stripped on a plot by plot basis down to the underlying subsoil under direct archaeological supervision throughout the initial groundworks process. The watching brief found that the site had remained in agricultural use throughout the entire period of its existence. Over the time it had been used for arable farming and more recently for stock and horse grazing.

There was no evidence of permanent human habitation on the site. No features of archaeological significance had survived. Very few residual finds were present on the site, however residual Mesolithic/Neolithic flint blades, 12th/13th century pottery and 17th-20th century pottery fragments were recovered confirming transitory human movement and the likelihood of local occupation in the vicinity of the site.

Modern plough marks and field boundaries were present across the majority of the site buried beneath the topsoil, although it had most recently been used for arable farming and as open paddocks for horses.

Bourne Farm, Aldridge

Archaeological Watching Brief, 08/2016

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Centre of Archaeology based at Staffordshire University was commissioned by Cameron Homes Limited undertake an archaeological watching brief during the residential housing development at Bourne Farm, Aldridge (hereinafter referred to as the site, Planning Application reference number 11/1033).
- 1.2 This report outlines the results of the watching brief carried out during December 2105 and February and August 2016 and has been prepared in accordance a Written Scheme of Investigation (Centre of Archaeology 2014) which was approved by the Local Planning Authority (Walsall Borough Council) prior to implementation in accordance with government guidelines contained within the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2012). The project conformed to standards and guidance issued by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (Cifa 2014).

2 LOCATION AND GEOLOGY

- 2.1 The site is located at Bourne Farm, Chester Road, Aldridge and is centred on NGR SP 07300 99997. The site is situated approximately 2km southeast of the centre of Aldridge in the West Midlands (Fig 1). The underlying geology consists of Sandstone and Conglomerate from the Kidderminster Formation (British Geological Survey online geology viewer).
- 2.2 The present character of the site consists of open paddocks for horses and an existing farm building that will be retained as part of the scheme. The site is bounded to the north by a railway line and to the west by Brandon Hill and quarry. Chester Road forms the east site boundary and to the south lies open fields, Bourne Pond and a pumping station.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The principal aim of the watching brief was to record any archaeological features, structures, deposits, or horizons exposed during intrusive groundworks across the site. Given the presence of a small number of known archaeological sites within 500m of the site boundary, an archaeological watching brief was deemed a suitable archaeological method. More specific aims were to excavate and record any archaeological remains that are identified during the course of the groundworks in the process of construction.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1 No specific archaeological evidence is known from the confines of the site boundary, although several examples of known historic and archaeological interest are recorded in the local area, some of which run alongside the boundary. Initial background research was included in an archaeological desk based assessment report by Enviroarm Limited in July 2011 (Report AR/BLQNR1.00/2011). This report was completed as a condition of planning permission for a new quarry access road for Brandon Hill Lane Quarry.
- 4.2 Twenty-three archaeological sites are recorded in the immediate vicinity of Bourne Farm on the Sites and Monuments Record. Details of some of these can be found in the above mentioned desk-based assessment report.
- 4.3 Included within the Historic Environment Record are a number of sites and features known from the documentary evidence. Among these are two medieval unmetalled trackways, one (Branton Hill Lane, SMRno 10307) which ran across the lower end of site to the east and the other (Daniels Lane, SMRno 10396) which ran along the north east of site. Both of these trackways originated as access paths to the open fields. Several 19th century buildings are recorded including Bourneville Pumping Station (SMRno 10324), Waterworks Cottages (SMRno 10399), Houses and Crofts (SMRno 10401, 10402, 13127) and a railway bridge (SMRno 10411). Bourne pool and dam (SMR no 13010, 13011) is located 260m to the south of the site this was created to provide power for a 15th century iron mill (SMRno 2637) which no longer exists, but was excavated in the late 1960's. A find spot of several clay vessels close to Bourne Pond (SMRno 2261) is recorded 260m south and a scattered Bronze age burnt mound (SMRno 4470) 500m to the southwest. The most significant local feature is the evidence of a trapezoidal triple ditched enclosure known as Loaches Bank (SMRno 2258, 2936, 13015) 500m to the south of site. It has eroded and has been ploughed significantly, but judging on its documented form it was most likely to be Iron Age in date. The existence of this enclosure is recorded in various 18th and 19th century documents but fieldwalking and evaluation trenches failed to find dating evidence. The final significant archaeological feature worth mentioning is the Mesolithic/ Neloithic flint scatter (SMR no 2603) recovered 450m to the southwest of site during excavation in 1955. This excavation recovered 1816 pieces of flint collected from the surface. No features were exposed. Several other sites and features are recorded of lesser significance to the site, these can be viewed in the HER information.
- 4.4 In 2014 prior to the development of the site, a copper alloy Roman Aesica brooch dating to between AD70 and AD100 was discovered by a metal detectorist. This was found approximately 15cm below the surface close to the southern boundary with Bourne Farm. The brooch was considered additionally important because it was a rare type and there are so few examples of Roman artefacts being recovered from the local area.

5 METHODOLOGY

- 5.1 Groundworks comprised the excavation of foundation trenches, drainage and service trenches and topsoil/turf stripping. This was monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist and complemented with the salvage recording of any archaeological deposits and features revealed during works. The proposed development area covered approximately 42,162 m² (4.2162 hectares; Fig 2) and was excavated in two phases (1 and 2). Adequate time was allowed for observation and recording of exposed archaeological features and stratigraphic sequences.
- 5.2 All stratigraphic sequences were recorded, even where no archaeology was present. Features were planned at a scale of 1:100, and sections were drawn of all cut features and significant vertical stratigraphy at a scale of 1:10. 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 digital photography. Recovered finds were cleaned, marked and remedial conservation work undertaken as necessary. Treatment of all finds conformed to guidance contained within the Centre of Archaeology Fieldwork Manual (2013) and First Aid for Finds (Watkinson and Neal 1998).
- 5.4 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 Walsall Borough Council subject to permission from the landowner.

6 RESULTS

- 6.1 Across the site there were large areas where no archaeological features were present and much of the ground remained undisturbed. The relatively few archaeological features which were identified related to modern agricultural use. Modern boundary ditches and walls and plough marks were present across the site. Associated pottery suggested that these originated in the late 19th to 20th centuries. Any evidence of earlier occupation or human presence in the area came from residual pottery which probably originated from being spread across the fields during ploughing.

Natural Geology

- 6.2 The natural ground encountered across the entire site was an orange gravelly- sand (003; Plate 1). In places, particularly over the phase 1 area, this was overlain by a mixed orangey-brown gravelly sand subsoil layer

(002). This was increased in the areas where there was incidental evidence of earlier ploughing. Both phase 1 and 2 sites were sealed by a mid-dark brown sandy-silt topsoil and turf (001). Excavation across the site confirmed that it had been used most recently for grazing and previously for arable farming although this was never intensive in nature.

Archaeological Features

- 6.3 Two features dating to the 19th century were identified. The first was a shallow sub-rectangular waste pit (004) (Plot 2) which was 2.4m in length by 1.1m and 0.4 in depth. It was filled with charcoal and coal pieces (005), this was a mixture of domestic and hearth waste. The pit was identified relatively close to the southern boundary of the modern farm complex and was most likely associated with the occupation here (Plate 2).
- 6.4 The second feature was identified towards the far southern edge of the phase 1 area (Plot 4). This feature was a circular pit (011) with steep edges and a flat base which was filled with a dark orange-red and mid dark brown silty-sand fired subsoil material (012). It was 1.6m in diameter and 0.3m in depth. It is likely that this was the location of a bonfire pit. 20th century ceramics dated this feature (Plate 3).
- 6.5 One length of field boundary wall (008) was identified in the phase 1 area (Plots 4 and 6). This former wall was over 3m in length and 0.3m in width and was constructed from yellowish- red rough-cut sandstone blocks. This wall represented the remains of a former boundary wall which predated a hedge which ran north to south across the field. An earthwork present in the field to the south of the site adjacent to plot 4, confirmed that this boundary wall continued for a considerable length (Plate 4).
- 6.6 Several field boundary and drainage ditches (006, 009) were identified (Plots 1 and 8), the majority of which ran east to west. These ditches were all shallow u-shaped linear ditches up to 0.4m in diameter. These had gradually silted up becoming filled with mid-brown sandy-silt and gravelly inclusions (007, 010; Plate 5).
- 6.7 The plough lines encountered across the site were all similar in nature. These were likely to have been created by modern ploughing methods as they were all very regular with relatively shallow, thin furrows. The plough furrows followed the slope of the hill across the site (Plate 6), these were identified within various plot numbers.
- 6.8 No archaeological features survived within the area of phase 2. Evidence of plough lines survived, and there were occasional residual finds recovered from the topsoil (Plate 7).

Finds

- 6.9 Three flint artefacts were recovered from the site. Each of these was from the phase 2 area of site and was recovered from the topsoil. The flints were not found in association with one another and were from different areas of the field. These flints were all small, each being under 50mm, they were composed of black flint and showed minimal signs of weathering. Two of these flints were blades, one of which was a microlith, the other of which tapered to a broken point at one end. The other flint was an irregularly shaped scraper. The presence of these flints confirm a human presence in the Mesolithic/ Neolithic (Plate 8).
- 6.10 A large Mesolithic/Neolithic flint scatter was recovered from the field adjacent to the south of the site in 1955. The scatter lay within the upper half of the pasture field upon the south facing slope above the stream. Nothing of interest was noted in the field. Several trial trenches were excavated where the greatest concentrations of flints existed. Small sterile depressions were identified directly above the natural. The site was excavated and 1816 pieces of flint collected from the surface including flakes, cores, implements including microliths, chisels and possible arrowhead (Gould, J T and Gathercole, P W. 1956. Flint Implements from near Bourne Pool, Aldridge. *Trans Birmingham Arch Soc* 74, 53-5).
- 6.11 The flints recovered from the Bourne Farm site are likely to have been associated with this wider assemblage, supplementing the known information for the area. Although no physical remains were encountered across both sites, the presence of flints within the topsoil on both sites is suggestive of a temporary encampment during the Mesolithic/ Neolithic period.

7 CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1 The extensive watching brief on the site failed to reveal any features of archaeological interest. This is unfortunate considering the close association with the Mesolithic site located to the south and the recovery of a Roman brooch within the site itself. The watching brief found that the site had remained in agricultural use throughout the entire period of its existence. Over the time field layout had changed but it had continuously been used for arable farming and more recently for stock and horse grazing.
- 7.2 There was no evidence of permanent human habitation on the site. No features of archaeological significance had survived. Very few residual finds were present on the site, however residual Mesolithic/Neolithic flint blades, 12th/13th century pottery and 17th-20th century pottery fragments were recovered confirming transitory human movement and the likelihood of local occupation in the vicinity of the site.
- 7.3 Modern plough marks and field boundaries were present across the majority of the site buried beneath the topsoil, although it had most recently been used for arable farming and as open paddocks for horses.

8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The project was commissioned by Cameron Homes Limited. Thanks are due to Emma MacDonald, Adam Routley and Pete Jones of Cameron Homes and the staff from Chasetown Civil Engineering for their co-operation and assistance throughout the project. Thanks are also due to Black Country Archaeologist Eleanor Ramsey who monitored the project on behalf of Walsall Council. The assessment was undertaken by William Mitchell who also produced the written report, and was edited Kevin Colls who also monitored the project for the Centre of Archaeology.

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PLATES



Plate 1: Construction foundation trenches showing extent of natural ground. Phase 1 area, Plot 1.



Plate 2: 19th century charcoal filled pit (004). Phase 1 area, Plot 2.



Plate 3: 19th century fire pit (011). Phase 1 area, Plot 4.



Plate 4: 19th century stone boundary wall foundation (008). Phase 1 area.



Plate 5: Example of one of the 19th century boundary ditches (009). Phase 1 area, Plot 8.



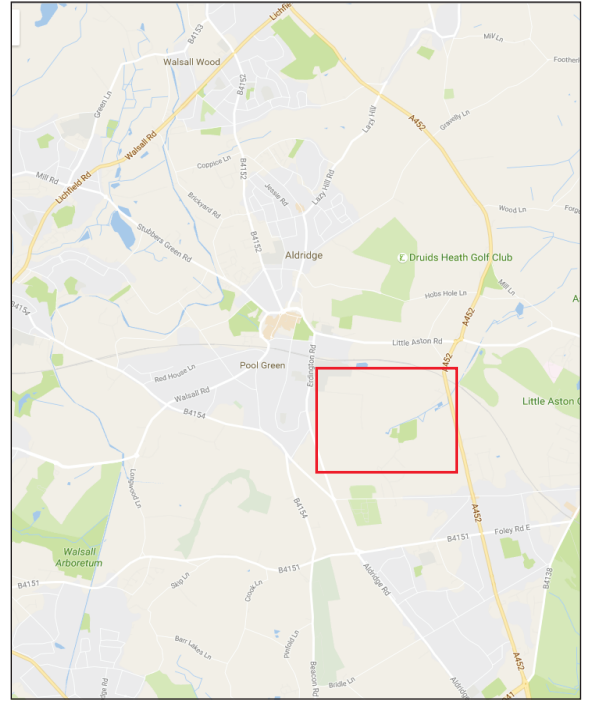
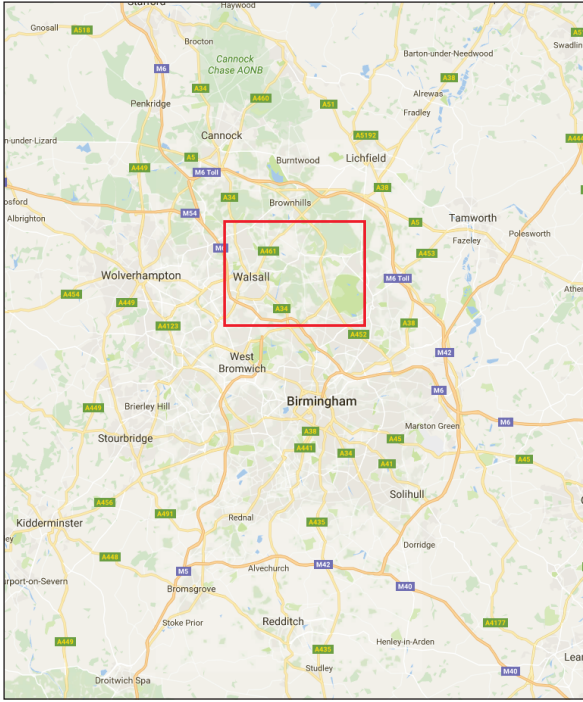
Plate 6: 19th -20th century plough lines. Phase 1/2 area, Plots 7-14.

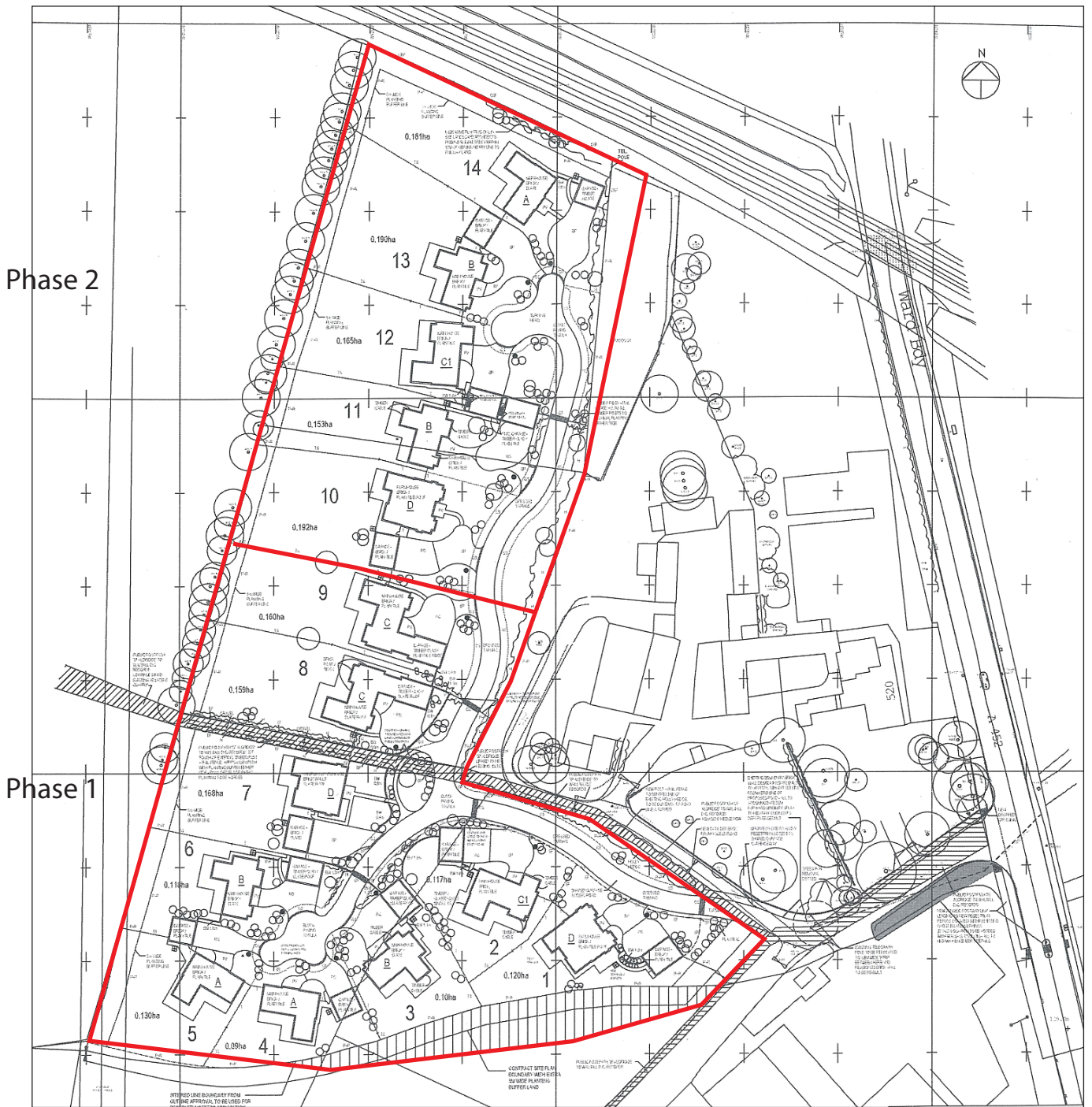


Plate 7: Phase 2 area, devoid of archaeological features, Plots 10-14.



Plate 8: Mesolithic/ Neolithic Flints recovered from phase 2 area.





**Land at Bourne Farm, Chester Road, Aldridge
Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief
Planning application no: 11/1033/TE (06/169/OL/E4), Walsall Council
NGR: SP 07300 99997
Archaeological Contractor: Centre of Archaeology, Staffordshire University
Archaeological Project Manager: Kevin Colls**

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This document describes the programme of work required to undertake an archaeological investigation at the above site. It forms the written scheme of investigation for the work, which is the requirement listed under Condition 13 of granted planning application (11/1033). This Condition states 'No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a WSI which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the local planning authority'.
- 1.2 The planning application (Planning application reference no. 11/1033) has been submitted to Walsall Council for the proposed residential development of land at Bourne Farm, Aldridge. As the proposed development site is of possible archaeological significance an archaeological watching brief is recommended. This is in accordance with government advice contained with NPPF (National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government 2012).

2 SITE DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

- 2.1 The site is located at Bourne Farm, off Chester Road, Aldridge and is centred on NGR SP 07300 99997. The site is situated approximately 2km southeast of the centre of Aldridge in the West Midlands.
- 2.2 The underlying geology consists of Sandstone and Conglomerate from the Kidderminster Formation (British Geological Survey online geology viewer).
- 2.3 The present character of the site consists of open paddocks for horses and an existing farm building that will be retained as part of the scheme. The site is bounded to the north by a railway line and to the west by Brandon Hill and quarry. Chester Road forms the east site boundary and to the south lies open fields, Bourne Pond and a pumping station.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1 No archaeological evidence is known from the confines of the proposed site boundary.
- 3.2 The proposed site boundary was included in an archaeological desk based assessment report by Enviroarm Limited in July 2011 (Report AR/BLQNR1.00/2011). This report was completed as a condition of planning permission for a new quarry access road for Brandon Hill Lane Quarry.
- 3.3 Only four archaeological sites are recorded in the vicinity of Bourne Farm on the Sites and Monuments Record (not within the proposed site boundary) and full details can be found in the

above mentioned desk-based assessment report. To summarize, these are: Loaches Bank enclosure identified by cropmarks (500m to the south), Mesolithic finds scatter (450m southwest), find spot of several clay vessels close to Bourne Pond (260m south) and a burnt mound (500m southwest).

4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 4.1 Given the presence of a small number of known archaeological sites within 500m of the site boundary, an archaeological watching brief is recommended. The principal aim of the archaeological watching brief is to excavate and record any archaeological remains that are identified during the course of the groundworks during construction.

5 METHODOLOGY

- 5.1 The proposed development area covers approximately 42,162 m² (4.2162 hectares). An appropriately skilled and qualified archaeologist will be on site to observe all provisional groundworks for the development, including the excavation of foundation trenches, drainage and service trenches and landscaping. Adequate time will be allowed for observation, excavation and recording to take place. Should no archaeological remains be identified during the first two weeks of the watching brief, a review meeting will take place with the archaeological contractor, the client and the archaeological advisor to Walsall Council to formulate an adequate strategy for the remainder of the construction process.
- 5.2 All stratigraphic sequences will be recorded, even where no archaeology is present. Features will be planned at a scale of 1:20 or 1:50, and sections drawn of all cut features and significant vertical stratigraphy at a scale of 1:10. A comprehensive written record will be maintained using a continuous numbered context system on *pro-forma* cards. Written records and scale plans will be supplemented by photographs using black and white monochrome, colour slide and digital photography.
- 5.3 Buried soils and sediment sequences will be inspected and recorded on site where appropriate. Examination of soil sediments conformed to guidelines set out in *Geoarchaeology: using earth sciences to understand the archaeological record* (English Heritage 2004).
- 5.4 Deposits will be sampled for retrieval and assessment of the preservation conditions and potential for analysis of biological remains. The environmental sampling policy follows the guidelines contained in the Centre of Archaeology Fieldwork Manual and *Environmental Archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation* (English Heritage 2002). Sampling strategies for wooden structures conformed to guidelines set out in *Waterlogged wood: Guidelines on the recording, sampling, conservation and curation of waterlogged wood*. (Brunning 1996).
- 5.5 Where suitable deposits existed they will be sampled for dendrochronological dating evidence in line with *Dendrochronology: guidelines on producing and interpreting dendrochronological data* (English Heritage 2004a).
- 5.6 Where there was evidence for industrial activity, samples will be taken to identify macroscopic technological residues in accordance with *Archaeometallurgy* (English Heritage 2001) and *Science for Historic Industries* (English Heritage 2006).

- 5.7 Recovered finds will be cleaned, marked and remedial conservation work undertaken as necessary. Treatment of all finds conforms to guidance contained within the Centre of Archaeology Fieldwork Manual and *First Aid for Finds* (Watkinson and Neal 1998).
- 5.8 Lifting of human skeletal remains will be kept to the minimum which is compatible with an adequate evaluation. Burials will be recorded in situ and subsequently lifted, washed, marked and packed to standards compatible with *Excavation and post-excavation treatment of cremated and inhumed human remains* (McKinley and Roberts 1993). Excavation of human remains conforms with advice provided in *Church Archaeology: its care and management* (Council for the Care of Churches 1999), *Human bones from Archaeological Sites* (English Heritage 2004) and in *Guidance for best practice for treatment of human remains excavated from Christian burial grounds in England* (English Heritage 2005).
- 5.9 The full site archive will include 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 STAFFING

- 6.1 The project will be managed and directed for the Centre of Archaeology by Kevin Colls MIFA and supervised in the field by a suitably qualified and experienced archaeological supervisor (details to be notified, prior to the commencement of the fieldwork). Specialist staff will be, where appropriate:

Prehistoric pottery	Dr Ann Woodward David Mullins	Freelance Specialist Freelance Specialist
Prehistoric flint	Barry Bishop	Freelance Specialist
Roman pottery	Jane Evans	Freelance pottery specialist
Roman pottery	Jane Timby	Freelance pottery specialist
Samian pottery	Felicity Wild	Freelance pottery specialist
Saxon, medieval and post-medieval pottery	Stephanie Rátkai	Honorary Research Associate and Finds Researcher, University of Birmingham
Medieval and post-medieval pottery	Chris Cumberpatch	Freelance
Post-medieval pottery and glass	Leigh Dodd	Freelance
Ceramic building material (CBM), tile	Phil Mills	Leicester University
Vessel glass	Cecily Cropper	Freelance specialist
Clay tobacco pipe	Dr David Higgins	Freelance Specialist

**Bourne Farm, Aldridge
Archaeological Watching Brief
Written Scheme of Investigation**

Coins, brooches	Dr Roger White	University of Birmingham
Iron, leather	Quita Mould	Freelance finds specialist
General finds	Erica Macey-Bracken	Freelance finds specialist
General finds	Jon Goodwin	Finds specialist, Senior Planning Officer, Stoke On Trent City Council
Animal bone	Matilda Holmes	Freelance archaeozoologist
Human bone	Dr Caroline Sturdy Colls	Staffordshire University
Archaeo-geomorphology	Dr Andrew Howard	Freelance specialist
Palynology	MOLA	Museum of London Archaeology
Archaeobotany	MOLA	Museum of London Archaeology
Entymology	Dr David Smith	University of Birmingham
	Dr Emma Tetlow	University of Edinburgh
Charcoal and wood	Rowena Gale	Freelance Specialist
Dendrochronology	Dr Robert Howard	Nottingham Tree Ring Dating Laboratory
Archaeometallurgy	Anthony Swiss	Freelance specialist
	Rod MacKenzie	Freelance specialist
	Jane Cowgill	Freelance specialist
Glass residues	Dr David Dungworthy	English Heritage

7 REPORT

- 7.1 A report will be produced for the watching brief. On completion of the fieldwork post-excavation work for each phase, including finds processing/ conservation, and analysis will be undertaken. A site archive will be compiled and an illustrated report will be prepared.
- 7.2 This report would be in the format required by the *Management of Archaeological Projects 2* (English Heritage 1991) and *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (English Heritage 2006, 2008) guidelines as appropriate, to include:
- 1) Summary
 - 2) Description of the archaeological background
 - 3) Method
 - 4) 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
 - 5) Summary of the finds and environmental evidence
 - 6) Specialist assessments of the finds and environmental evidence
 - 7) Impact assessment and recommended mitigation strategy.

- 7.3 The written report will be made publicly accessible, as part of the Historic Environment Record within three months of completion. Two copies of the report will be lodged with the Sites and Monuments Record and the Archaeological Advisor to Walsall Council. A summary report may be submitted for inclusion in a local archaeological journal or similar. If the results are considered of regional or national importance it may be appropriate to publish the report in a regional or national archaeological journal or other suitable publication outlet including digital online reports.
- 7.4 On completion of the report the appropriate OASIS (Online Access to the Index of archaeological investigations) form will be completed and the report will be submitted to OASIS.

8 ARCHIVING

- 8.1 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 Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery subject to permission from the landowner.
- 8.2 Preparation and deposition of the site archive will be undertaken with reference to relevant Museum service 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

- 9.1 At least two weeks notice of the start of fieldwork will be given to the Archaeologist Advisor for Walsall Council. Review/ monitoring meetings will be arranged during the fieldwork. As yet there is no provisional start date for the project and no current estimates for duration.

10 PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

- 10.1 All project staff will adhere to the Code of Conduct of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA), the governing body for archaeological projects in the U.K. The project will follow the requirements set down in the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief* (IfA 1994, revised 2008). The project manager is registered with the IfA at Member (MIFA) grade and the Centre of Archaeology is a Registered Organisation with the IfA.
- 10.2 Any human remains encountered will be initially left *in situ* and covered. In the event that human remains need to be removed this will be carried out under the terms of a Ministry of Justice Licence and adhering to relevant environmental health regulations. All finds which may constitute 'treasure' under the Treasure Act, 1997 will be removed to a safe place and reported to the local Coroner. If removal is not possible on the same working day as discovery, appropriate security arrangements will be provided to keep the finds safe from theft.

11 HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 11.1 A detailed risk assessment (and method statement when appropriate) will be prepared prior to the commencement of fieldwork.

- 11.2 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 where appropriate. Work will be carried out in accordance with guidelines laid out in the *Staffordshire University health and Safety Manual* and *Health & Safety in Field Archaeology Manual* (SCAUM 2007).

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