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*Archaeological Evaluation at
2 Cowl Street, Evesham, Worcestershire*



An Archaeological Evaluation at 2 Cowl Street, Evesham, Worcestershire

A Report for Smith Wadley Homes Ltd

October 2006

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Project: PJ 170

WSM 35778

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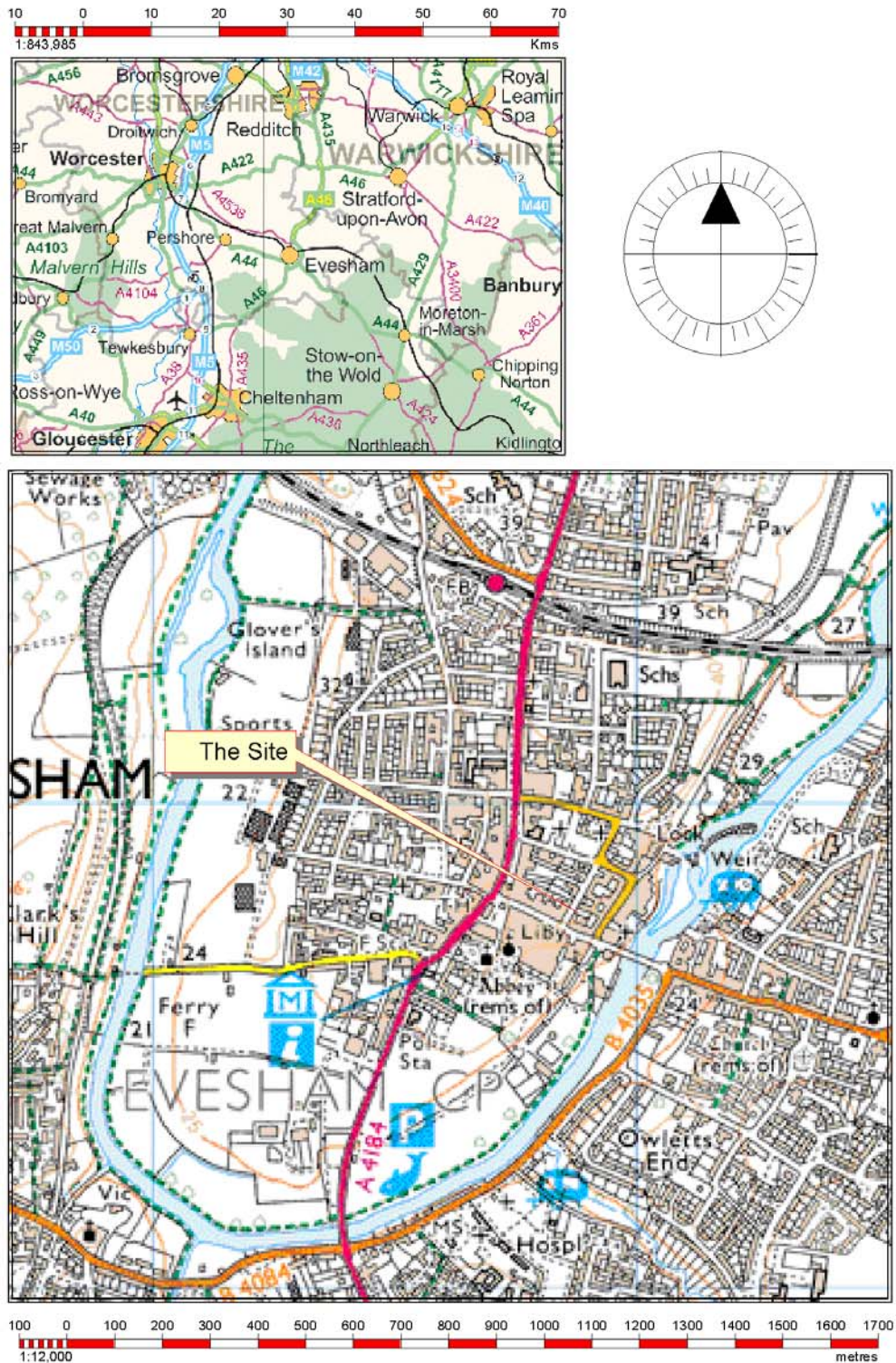
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Figure 1: Location of the Site



Location of the Site at Cowl Street,
Evesham

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1. The Evaluation

Project Background

1.1. Location of the Site

The market town of Evesham is located at a loop in the River Avon, with the historic core of the town on the western side of the river and the medieval suburb of Bengeworth to the east, now amalgamated by modern development. The A46 connects Evesham with Redditch, some 20 kilometres to the north and Tewkesbury, a similar distance to the south-west, with the A44 passing Evesham from Worcester in the north-west to Oxford to the south-east. The town is central within the Vale of Evesham, to the north of the Cotswold Hills (Figure 1). The evaluation was carried out in Cowl Street, which lies to the east of the town centre (NGR SP 0388 4377)

1.2. Development Details

A request was received from Mr Robert Davis (Chartered Architect), on behalf of his client Smith Wadley Homes Ltd, to prepare a proposal, specification and costing for an archaeological evaluation and building assessment to be carried out at 2 Cowl Street, Evesham.

The archaeological project was proposed by the Worcestershire County Council Planning Archaeologist in response to the threat posed to the archaeological integrity of the site by possible development, for which a planning application has been submitted. It is understood that it is proposed to construct new domestic accommodation with associated infrastructure on the site.

The planning process determined that the site is listed on the Worcestershire County Historic Environment Record (WSM 20775) as ‘archaeological deposits and historic structures’, which is supported by recent archaeological work in the vicinity (WSM 24149; WSM 29622) that encountered remains from the medieval period. As a result, the Planning Archaeologist advised that the site should be subject to an *archaeological evaluation* prior to any development-taking place, as required under Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (Section 30). A brief for works was written (WHEAS 2006; reference: W/06/1467 and W/06/1469) and a proposal and specification submitted and approved in September 2006 (Mercian Archaeology 2006).

The aim of the archaeological project is, therefore, to determine the presence of significant archaeological remains, assess their nature and condition and to place them into context locally and nationally if applicable. The aim of the historic building assessment was to determine the function, date and significance of the subject buildings and to define the contribution that the buildings afford to the local urban character.

2. Methods and Process

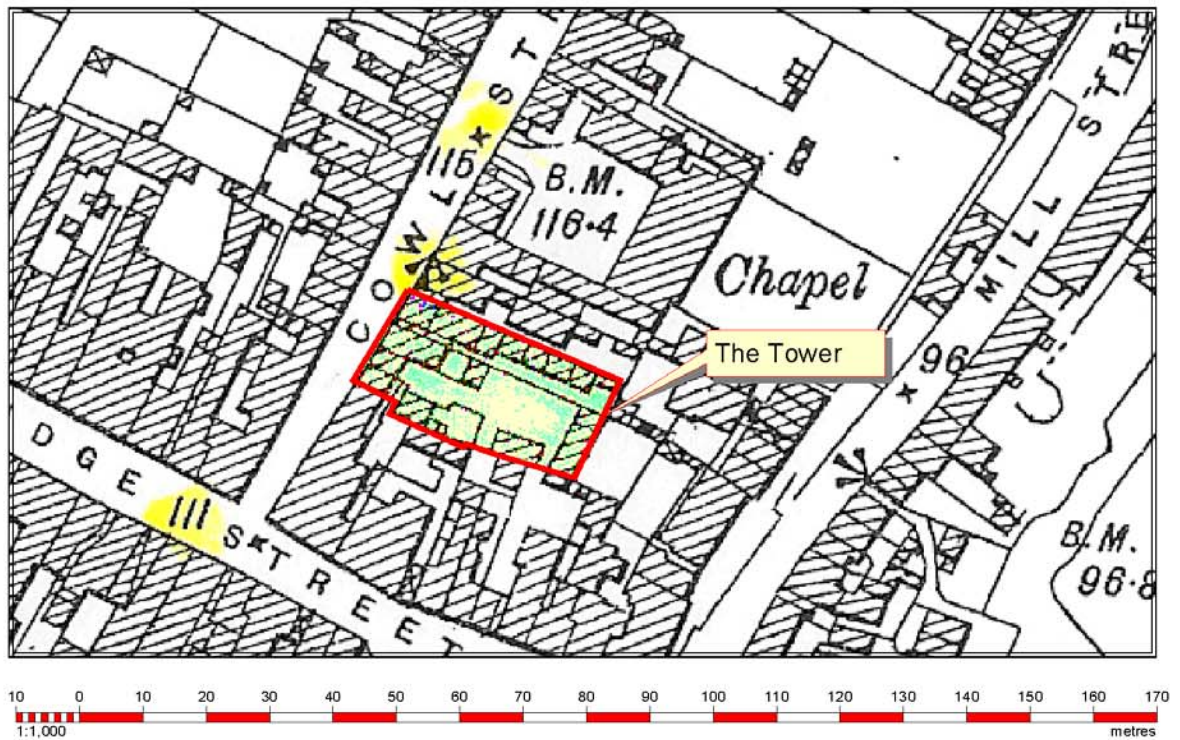
2.1. Project Specification

- ❑ The archaeological project conforms to the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (IFA 2001).
- ❑ The project conforms to a brief prepared by The Planning Archaeologist, Worcestershire County Council (Brief W/06/1467 and W/06/1469, WHEAS 2006), for which a project proposal and detailed specification was produced (Mercian Archaeology 2006).
- ❑ Mercian Archaeology adhere to the service practice and health and safety policy as contained within the *Mercian Archaeology Service Manual* (Williams 2003)
- ❑ The record archive will be offered to the appropriate museum after discussion with the client and / or archaeological curator.
- ❑ *The Code of Conduct of the Institute of Field Archaeologists* (1997) will be adhered to.
- ❑ *The Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology, Institute of Field Archaeologists* (1997) will also be followed
- ❑ *Guidelines for Finds Work, Institute of Field Archaeologists* (2001) will be followed.
- ❑ The project and any recommendations will conform to the government advice contained in *Planning Policy Guidance: Archaeology and Planning* (DoE, PPG 16 1990).
- ❑ The documentary research will follow the guidelines contained within the *Institute of Field Archaeologists Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment* (2001)
- ❑ *Guidelines for the Preparation of Archives for Long-Term Storage* (Walker 1990) and *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections, Museum and Galleries Commission* (1992) will be followed.
- ❑ *Conservation Guidelines No 2, United Kingdom Institute of Conservation.*
- ❑ *Management of Archaeological Projects 2, English Heritage 1991*
- ❑ *Environmental Archaeology and Archaeological Evaluations: Recommendation Regarding the Environmental Archaeology Component of Archaeological Evaluations in England, Association for Environmental Archaeology Working Paper Number 2* (1995)

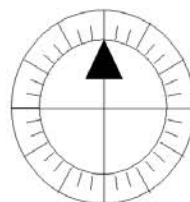
2.2. Background Research

- Prior to the commencement of fieldwork relevant available cartographic sources were consulted and various archaeological reports were viewed.

Figure 2 and 3: 1st Edition Ordnance Survey (1885, top) and 2nd Edition (1904, bottom)



Extracts from comparative early Ordnance Survey maps with the site highlighted.



2.3. Topography, Geology and Archaeology

Abbreviations used

SMR ~ Worcestershire Sites and Monuments Record number

Evesham is located on gravel river terrace deposits of the Second and Third Terrace of the River Avon (Geological Survey of Great Britain 1:50,000: sheet 200). The overlying soils are Uffington series clayey alluvial soils to the west of the River Avon and the Fladbury series to the east, with clayey alluvium soil of the Drayton series and stagnogleyic argillic brown earths of the Bishampton series away from the river (Beard et al 1986).

The clayey soils of the Vale of Evesham are ideal for fruit growing and market gardening. The early edition Ordnance Survey maps of the town (Figure 2) show orchards from the edge of the river floodplain to the west, to the edge of the developed area on the western side of the town.

The placename 'Evesham' appears to derive from the early form Eveshomm, although another form was also used (Cronuchomme). Both forms are likely to refer to personal names (Cornoc or Eof) with the suffix *hamm*, meaning 'bend in the river' (Dalwood *et al* 1996).

There is little evidence of prehistoric activity in the immediate area; a flint knife (WSM 21047) and a leaf shaped arrowhead (WSM 21048) provide isolated finds from around the town and prehistoric deposits have been identified at 95-7 High Street (WSM 26358; WSM 27191 and WSM 28764).

Interpretation of Roman activity at Evesham has been bolstered by archaeological work over the last few years. An archaeological evaluation and subsequent excavation at 13 Vine Street identified Roman deposits and artefacts dating to the 2nd-3rd centuries AD (WSM 30354; WSM 30578) and residual Roman material was found during archaeological work at Abbey gate, adjacent to Vine Street (Patrick and Vaughan 2003). A Roman settlement has been suggested to the north of the town at Twyford Bridge (Roberts 1980, in Dalwood et al 1996) and a Roman church is postulated to have stood on the site of the abbey (Dalwood et al 1996).

There is little evidence for the extent of Anglo-Saxon occupation in the town, with activity proposed at the Hampton/ Fairfield area to the south-west of the town (Roberts 1980, in Dalwood et al 1996). The existence of an Anglo-Saxon Minster church at Evesham by around AD 700 suggests further occupation from this period has yet to be discovered in the town.

It was during the medieval period that Evesham prospered and expanded, mainly due to the influence and economic power of the abbey. By the 12th century, Evesham had gained urban status as a borough, with a population of over 1000 (Dalwood *et al* 1996). The abbey continued to influence the economy of the town into the 16th century. For further commentary on the role of the abbey within the town and the post-dissolution changes, see Dalwood 1996.

Evesham continued to prosper into the 18th century, with the now navigable River Avon offering improved trade links. River trade imports consisted of coal, iron, lead, timber, sugar, and tobacco, whilst exports were mainly of corn, other agricultural produce, and leather goods (Cox 1977, in Dalwood 1996).

During the 18th century the towns' economy was based on manufacture of leather and silk wares, paper, rope and nail making (VCH II). Market gardening continues today and is a long-lived occupation in the area.

The Central Marches Historic Towns Survey has identified Cowl Street as being within the medieval core of Evesham (Dalwood *et al* 1996). Cowl Street (*Colestrete*) is recorded as early as 1202 (VCH II, 371) and must have been laid out as part of a 'grid-plan' of burgage plots to the east of the proposed market place at High Street. An Abbey Cartulary of the late 12th century refers to 800 inhabitants living in the 'new borough', indicating that Cowl Street was part of this planned town (Shoesmith and Morriss 1989). Recent archaeological work has enhanced our knowledge of medieval and post-medieval activity along and to the rear of Cowl Street. An archaeological evaluation at 26 Cowl Street identified the structural remains of a medieval, stone founded building, with associated rubbish and cesspits and postholes (Miller and Jones 2000). The structure probably encompassed a stone cellar, which was identified on the adjacent plot a few years earlier (Napthan 1997). Deposits to the rear of 26 Cowl Street indicate that small-scale industrial activity was taking place in the early post-medieval period, with lime deposits and pits interpreted as evidence for tanning being carried out in the vicinity (Miller and Jones 2000). Further archaeological work at 19 Cowl Street also encountered medieval and post-medieval deposits. A series of domestic rubbish and cesspits were excavated and the presence of lime at this site also suggested tanning was taking place here, further pits contained ceramic building material from demolished buildings, presumably from nearby (Lockett and Jones 2001). Excavations to the rear of 31 Cowl Street produced further evidence of domestic activity and possibly cottage industry from the 12th century onwards and a linear feature was identified and interpreted as a possible burgage plot boundary ditch, although the alignment was not at right angles to Cowl Street, as may be expected (Cook 2003).

3. The Fieldwork

Field Evaluation

Abbreviations Used: AOD = Above Ordnance Datum (Newlyn)

The brief required that two 10 x 1.60 metre trenches were excavated on the site totalling 32 square metres of the site. The trenches were to be located across the width of the southern portion of the site and the second trench diagonally across the width of the northern portion. However, the site was split centrally by a 3-metre high brick wall, which was in an unstable condition and leaning to the north, a public footpath also ran through the centre of the northern portion of the site, meaning that the trench layout had to be altered. Trench 1, within the northern portion of the site, was altered to a roughly rectangular trench of around 5 metres x 4 metres and to the south of the central wall an 'L' shaped trench was laid out with lengths measuring 7.50 metres north to south and 4.50 metres east to west (Figure 4).

The evaluation was undertaken between the 25th and 26th September 2006 by Paul Williams of Mercian Archaeology assisted by Steve Rigby. The evaluation trenches were excavated by a mini-digger fitted with a 1.50 metre wide toothless ditching bucket after the tarmac and concrete surface had been broken up.

3.1. Natural Deposits

The natural river terrace deposits were identified in Trench 1 at 1.67 metres below the present ground level at a height of 33.48 metres AOD [106] and in Trench 2 at 1.60 metres below the yard surface at 33.50 metres AOD [207]. The natural topography slopes down to the east and slightly away to the north-east, reflected in the level of the natural deposits.

The natural deposits comprised culturally sterile greyish-orange clayey-sand and gravel with river flint.

Ground water began to seep into Trench 1 at 2.10 metres below present ground level.

3.2. Possible Medieval Deposits

There were no deposits that could be dated to the medieval period by stratified finds. However, the location of the site within the medieval core of Evesham, our knowledge regarding deposits of medieval date at other sites in Cowl Street and the general nature of identified deposits, suggests that a medieval date for activity on the site is likely.

In Trench 1 the foundation of a former wall was identified [107/108] running north-east to south-west. This comprised a 20 centimetre thick deposit of white lime mortar containing charcoal pieces, with medium to small fragments of lias stone. The feature was identified in the bottom of the trench at 33.05 metres AOD, cut into the natural deposits below.

This was overlain by a 15 centimetre thick layer of greenish-grey sand with a moderate percentage of clay, containing frequent small to medium angular lias stone fragments, charcoal flecks and fine roots [105].

A thin layer of redeposited natural [104] noted over layer 105 may relate to the digging of the foundation cut for the wall [108].

In Trench 2 a 60 centimetre thick deposit of dirty greyish-red sandy gravel with a moderate percentage of clay [206] overlay the natural river terrace deposits [207]. The deposit was sterile apart from a rare charcoal fleck suggesting it was formed by natural processes from the underlying natural parent material, although it is likely that the upper level was modified by 'turning-over', indicating it was probably a leached garden soil, although it did not display the humic content associated with a well-manured managed soil. This layer was not seen in Trench 1, suggesting that different activity was taking place in both areas.

This layer had been cut by a linear feature [211/212], which was interpreted as a medieval burgage plot boundary ditch. The feature was cut into the natural from around 34.05 metres AOD; the feature was identified in the north-western corner of the trench and could not be fully excavated as it dipped down below the end baulk of the trench. There were no finds from the backfill of the ditch [212], which was very similar in texture, colour, consistency and inclusions as layer 206 above.

3.3. Later Deposits

In Trench 1 an 80 centimetre thick layer of greyish clayey sand containing charcoal fragments, small rounded stones, coal, degraded oyster shell and bone [103] overlay the potential medieval deposits below. Layer 102 above, was very similar, but was noticeably clayier.

Layers 103 to 106 had been cut by an excavation [111] for a circular brick built well, which is likely to have been sunk in the 19th century [109]. The well had also cut through the foundation layer of the possible medieval wall [107/108]. After the well had gone out of use, probably when mains water was connected in the area (probably late 19th or early 20th century), the well was backfilled [110], and a brick structure built across the top [112], which was later demolished [113] during site levelling [100/101].

To the south of the site in Trench 2, the post-medieval profile was similar, with a build up of soil [204 and 205] above the possible medieval layers and below the 19th and 20th century yard surface [200/201/202]. Layer 204 was similar to layer 102 as seen in Trench 1 and the make-up of layer 205 below was similar to layer 103, suggesting this post-medieval profile was carried across the site.

Layers 204 and 205 had been cut by a drain [208], which ran through the centre of the site towards Cowl Street, this drained the building to the east (see below) and also the yard surface, which was originally of blue engineering brick [202], although later surfacing work in concrete [201] had destroyed the majority of the surface.

The southern side of the trenched area had been heavily disturbed and truncated, with a series of buildings along the southern side of the site, probably first built in the 18th century, having been modified, extended and finally demolished over the following century. One significant archaeological deposit was a large dump of lias stone single pegged roof-tiles [213] from the roof of a demolished medieval building, this deposit also included a fragment of a drying floor tile from a kiln. The original location of this building is unknown, but the dump was deposited against the side of a late 18th to 19th century building [214] on the southern side of the site, suggesting that it was used as levelling material to fill a void created during the construction process. Building [209], demolition [210] and dumping for levelling purposes had totally truncated the deposits above the natural in this area.

Plate 1: *Trench 1: The well [109] and wall foundation [107/108]*



Plate 2: *Trench 2: Sondage into linear feature [211/212]*



Plate 3: *Dump of tiles [213] at southern end of Trench 2*



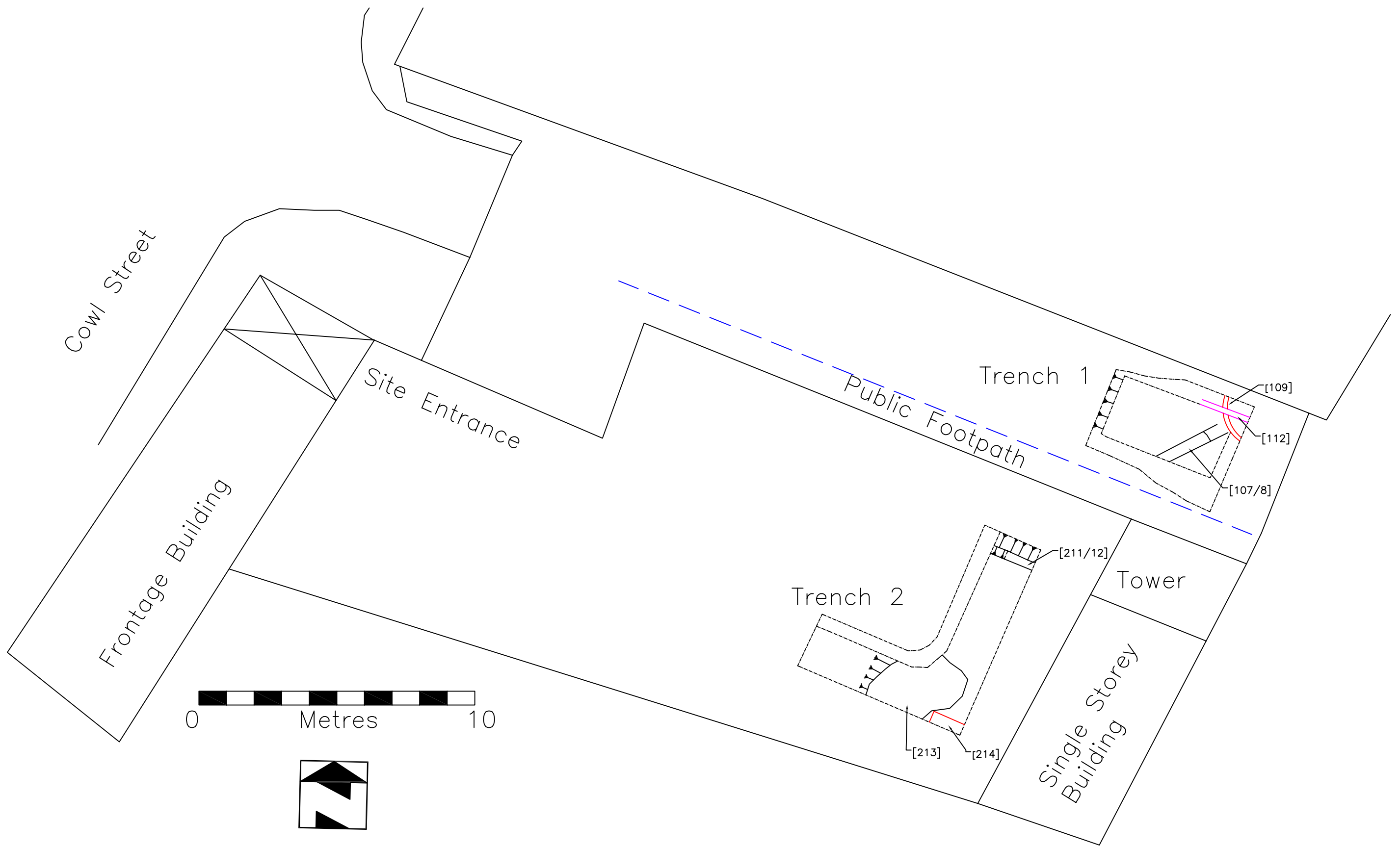
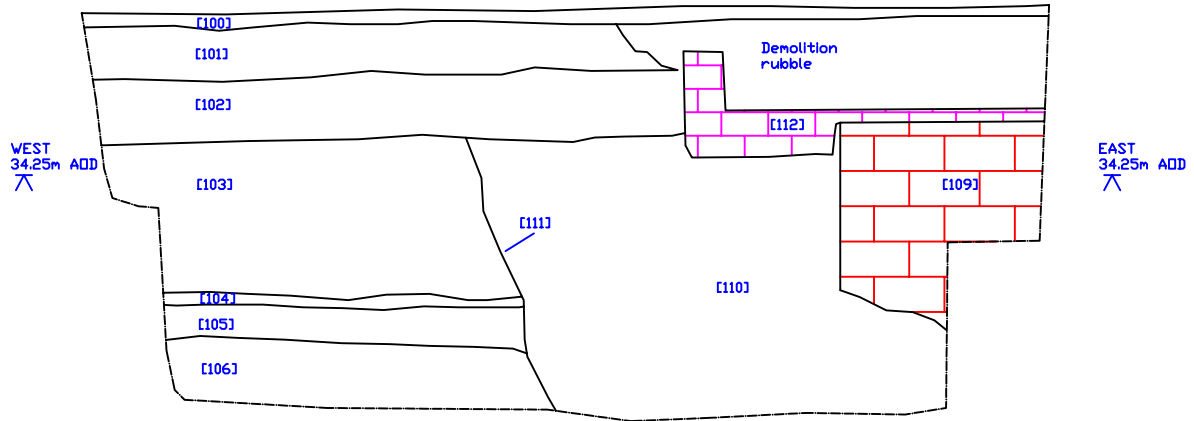


Figure 4: Trench Location Plan at 2 Cowl Street, Evesham

SOUTH FACING SECTION OF TRENCH 1



WEST FACING SECTION OF TRENCH 2

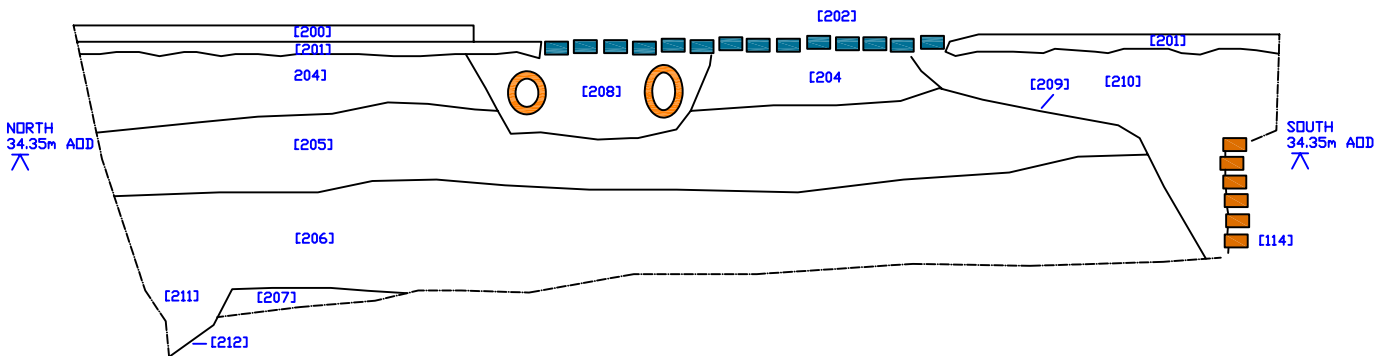


Figure 5: Significant Trench Sections

4. The Buildings

4.1. Identification and Methodology

The development site is split centrally by a 3-metre high brick wall, which runs at right angles to the road and formed a property boundary at the time of its construction, probably in the late 18th century.

There are two remaining upstanding buildings within the walled area, a narrow range across the street frontage and a three storey square tower and attached single storey structure on the eastern side of the plot. The 1885 and 1904 Ordnance Survey maps indicate that there were further buildings located along the southern boundary of the site and on the northern side of the dividing wall in the northern plot (Figures 2 and 3).

The brief required that the buildings were photographed internally and externally. However, on inspection it was deemed that the internal spaces of the buildings posed a threat to health and safety on the following grounds; both buildings were being occupied by large communities of pigeons as a roost; there was an accumulation of dead and dying pigeons inside both structures; a thick layer of guano within the buildings gave off an acrid smell that could be detected some distance away from the building; there was evidence of rats within the roadside buildings; the condition of staircases and upper floors of the structures was unsure. In consideration of these hazards, it was agreed with the Planning Archaeologist that photographs would only be taken inside where health and safety issues were not of concern.

Plate 4: *The single storey structure adjoining the tower, looking south-east (scale 2 metres)*



4.2. The Frontage Building

The Cowl Street frontage building is interesting in that it has no windows to the street elevation and light was provided by a range of windows to the eastern elevation, facing into the courtyard. The entrance into the building is via a side door off the property on the corner of Bridge Street and Cowl Street. The building was occupied as two cottages and according to local knowledge; a third cottage that was attached to the northern end of the upstanding buildings was destroyed by fire in the 1970's or early 1980's.

Plate 5: *The Cowl Street frontage buildings showing the position of third cottage that was destroyed by fire. The elevation shows that the cottages were three storied.*



The access from Cowl Street into the enclosed yard is now via double gates below the first floor of the former middle cottage (now the end cottage), this has been much altered with 20th century brickwork to the internal and rear elevations and the early map evidence suggests that the double entrance was not original and therefore, must have been punched through the range in the early 20th century to cater for a new use of the courtyard buildings, probably to allow vehicular access.

Plate 6: *Eastern elevation of the frontage building from the yard, looking towards Cowl Street.*



It was not possible to inspect the interior of the building thoroughly due to health and safety considerations (outlined above). A pair of cast-iron ranges stand below a central chimneystack serving the two former cottages, which at some stage have been incorporated into one building. The chimneypots are missing and so it was not possible to determine if there were heated rooms upstairs, although this is likely. There is a further fireplace visible at first floor level in the northern elevation of the build (Plate 6).

Plate 7: *Cast-iron range inside the street frontage building (scale 2 metres)*



The history of the former use of the buildings is unknown although the form suggests that the building was related to the yard, rather than the street, suggesting that it may have originally been commercial and only later reverted to domestic usage. The documentary research shed little light on the development of the building. The Evesham Trade Directories indicate that number 1 Cowl Street has traditionally always been a shoe and boot makers shop, listed as Mark Beard Boot and Shoe Maker in 1873 (Littlebury's Directory), 1882 (Kelly's Directory), 1887 and 1900 and Bedenham's Boot and Shoe Maker in 1910 (W & H.Smith's Almanack).

The only references to number 2 Cowl Street located during the documentary work were Charles Hughes, Market Gardener in 1892 (Kelly's Directory) and 'Ferryman' in 1900 (W & H.Smith's Almanack). The later directories refer to 'Amphletts Court' at this end of Cowl Street (W & H.Smith's Almanack 1900, 1910, 1930,1961) and list occupiers for numbers 1 to 5, with separate numbers 1 and 2. Amphlett Court not appearing on any of the available maps and later re-numbering of Cowl Street properties did not help the confusion.

The style of the building and construction material suggests a late 18th century date of construction. The building is of little architectural merit.

4.3. The Tower and Adjoining Building

The tower and single storied attached building are located on the eastern side of the development site (Plates 8 to 10).

Plate 8: *The tower looking from Cowl Street, the wall divides the development site. Trench 1 is beyond the orange fencing to the north of the wall.*



Plate 9: *The tower and attached building looking east (scale 2 metres)*



Plate 10: *The tower looking west*



The three-storey tower is contemporary with the brick boundary wall, but the attached single-storey building is later; its roofline obstructs a window opening, which must have been bricked up when the building was attached, leaving the first floor level without natural light. The upper floor has window openings to the west and south elevations.

Plate 11: *Stable door between the north and south room of the single storey building (scale 2-metres)*



Internally, the single storey unit is divided into two, with a stable door leading to a space with a bricked floor and central drain, which suggests an association with animals.

Plate 8: *Brick floor and central drain (scale 2 metres)*



The documentary research shed little light on the function of the tower structure. There was no tithe map of the area, which would have given an owner, occupier and possibly function of the structure in the mid-19th century; the 1:500 Ordnance Survey map of 1886 showing the site (sheet 49.3.5) was not available at Worcester Records Office or Evesham Library. The land tax assessments were inconclusive, as the details could not be tied into the buildings. The trade directories all listed a plumber/glazier at 3 Cowl Street, which may have been the plot to the north of the dividing wall, or perhaps even the plot to the south containing the tower; Thomas Wilson Roberts, plumber was listed in Littlebury's Directory (1873), Kelly's Directory (1892, 1916), W & H. Smith's Almanack (1911, 1961).

According to local knowledge the plot to south of the wall was formerly an abattoir (fellmongers), where meat was also cured, the tower being used as a 'salting tower'. It was relayed that a butchers, whose shop was located on the opposite side of the road owned the site. Unfortunately, there was no evidence found to support this. A currier (David Hughes) and fellmonger (J. Jones) are listed in Cowl Street by Bentley's Directory of 1841, but do not appear in later directories.

4.4. Function of the Tower

As outlined above, it has been suggested that the tower was used as a salting tower in the process of curing meat within an abattoir yard. It is clear from the fieldwork evidence that the southern space in the single storey building attached to the tower is animal related, with a central drain, brick floor and stable door to the room. However, this building is later than the tower and may have simply provided stabling for a workhorse.

Another possibility is that the tower was an overseers office, with views to the entrance of the yard to monitor incoming and outgoing traffic and a good line of vision across the yard. Unfortunately, at this stage the evidence is inconclusive.

4.5. Historic, Architectural and Aesthetic Importance

The tower is visually striking, not from the point of view of its architecture, which is basic, but simply as it stands out as something different, which also by definition makes it rare. However, the tower is more prominent today than during its useful lifespan as there is clear view of the Tower from Cowl Street, but the early map evidence indicates that it was surrounded by buildings during the 19th and most of the 20th centuries and would only have been visible from within the yard and so can not be described as having been a landmark. This is borne out, as the tower does not appear once in the collection of Evesham photographs at Worcester Records Office and it does not appear in any of the published pictorial histories of the town.

A similar tower, although much more architecturally elaborate, stands in nearby Port Street; this tower was built by the Burlingham family and used as an observatory (Fryer and Jeremiah 1995).

4. Analysis and Discussion

Abbreviations used

CMHTS ~ Central Marches Historic Towns Survey (Dalwood et al 1996)

The CMHTS suggests that Cowl Street is within an area of Evesham developed during the 12th century onwards, based on burgage plots aligned on a planned grid of streets (Dalwood *et al* 1996) and this is supported by recent archaeological investigation in Cowl Street, Bridge Street and Mill street (see above). The results of the previous work in Cowl Street evidenced domestic activity and cottage industry interpreted as ‘tanning’, from the 12th century into the post-medieval period. All intrusive work encountered domestic rubbish pits, cess pits and structural remains (post-holes, stone walls), with copious dating evidence in the form of medieval pottery at all sites. The work at 2 Cowl Street, however, produced different results, with only one sherd of residual medieval pottery recovered from the two trenches and no dateable medieval features, although two features, a linear (possible ditch 211/212) and a wall foundation (107/108) may be medieval, based on evidence of depth and overlying deposits. The proposed ditch appears to run at right angles towards Cowl Street, which would be the expected alignment of a burgage plot boundary ditch within an area based on a grid plan. The wall foundation, however, is on a north-east to south-west alignment, which is clearly an anomaly, indicating that the wall is possibly later or even earlier than the medieval grid plan. This issue cannot be resolved from the information retrieved during the evaluation, although a proposed boundary ditch identified during work at 31 Cowl Street (Cook 2003) appears also to have been aligned at an oblique angle to the street.

In view of the location of the site in the heart of the medieval town of Evesham, the lack of cultural material dating to the medieval period from the site evaluation is probably best explained due to the location of the trenches. At 19, 25, 26 and 31 Cowl Street the trenches were all close to the street frontage, either within the area of the medieval structure as at number 26, or adjacent to the rear. This indicates that the main body of evidence for medieval activity comes from close to the occupation site, which is close to the street frontage, with less noticeable evidence from the back-plots. The southern side of the site had been heavily truncated, with building, demolition and levelling destroying layers and thus any possible evidence for back-plot activity.

Unfortunately, the documentary research regarding the buildings unusually drew a complete blank.

5. Conclusion

The field evaluation encountered two features that whilst could not be dated definitively to the medieval period, are suggested as possibly medieval. A linear feature encountered in Trench 2 (211/212) was interpreted as a possible burgage plot boundary ditch and would, therefore, have been first cut in the 12th century. The other feature, a wall foundation (107/108) can only be postulated as medieval and may date from the post-medieval period, it is clearly cut by the excavation for a Victorian well and so without further evidence can only be dated to before this period. The layers above were generally devoid of medieval material and whilst there was evidence for some truncation and disturbance during the 18th to 20th centuries, it is likely that medieval activity was not evidenced as the trenches were located within areas of the burgage plots that were likely used for activity that left little evidence, i.e. animal pens, minor cultivation etc. Archaeological work at 19, 25, 26 and 31 Cowl Street was all focused on areas closer to the street than this evaluation and all encountered significant evidence for medieval activity.

The building assessment determined that both the frontage building and the buildings to the east of the yard, including the tower, were probably late 18th century in date. The background research produced no firm evidence for the function of the tower and local inhabitants seem to think that it was used as a salting tower in the meat processing industry, the yard being used as a small abattoir. The tower building, whilst not visually or architecturally stunning, is notable for its rarity value, although it never appears to have been regarded as a local landmark.

6. Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank the client Tim Smith of Wadley Smith Homes Ltd and his agent Robert Davis. Further thanks are extended to Mick George for supply and operation of the mini-excavator, Steve Rigby for his contribution on site; Mike Glyde, Planning Archaeologist, Worcestershire Historic Environment and Archaeology Service and the staff of Worcester Records Office and Evesham Library.

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