

WWSW/01



LAND ADJACENT TO STRATFORD ROAD, WOOTTON WAWEN, WARWICKSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

commissioned by Waterloo Housing Group in association
with Warwickshire Rural Housing Association

15/04108/FUL

December 2016

LAND ADJACENT TO STRATFORD ROAD, WOOTTON WAWEN, WARWICKSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

commissioned by Waterloo Housing Group in association
with Warwickshire Rural Housing Association

15/04108/FUL

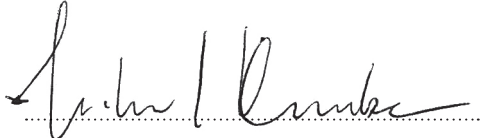
December 2016

project info

HA JOB NO. WWSW/01
HAS NO. 1213
NGR SP 15022 64060
PARISH Wootton Wawen
LOCAL AUTHORITY Stratford-on-Avon
OASIS REF. Headland3-271544

project team

PROJECT MANAGER Mike Kimber
AUTHOR Robert Blackburn
FIELDWORK Lise Brekmoe, Robert Blackburn
GRAPHICS Caroline Norrman
APPROVED BY Mike Kimber – Project Manager



 **HEADLAND
ARCHAEOLOGY**
© 2016 by Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd



MIDLANDS & WEST
Headland Archaeology
Unit 1, Clearview Court, Twyford Road, Hereford HR2 6JR

01432 364 901

midlandsandwest@headlandarchaeology.com

www.headlandarchaeology.com

PROJECT SUMMARY

Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd undertook an archaeological evaluation of land adjacent to Stratford Road, Wooten Wawen, Warwickshire between 14th and 16th of November 2016. The work was undertaken in advance of the re-development of land for affordable housing. The field evaluation did not expose any features of archaeological significance, but a pattern of medieval ridge and furrow running over the site was recorded.

CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION	1
	1.1 PLANNING BACKGROUND	1
	1.2 SITE DESCRIPTION	1
	1.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND	1
2	OBJECTIVES	1
3	METHODOLOGY	2
4	RESULTS	2
5	CONCLUSION	4
6	BIBLIOGRAPHY	4
7	APPENDICES	5
	APPENDIX 1 TRENCH AND CONTEXT REGISTER	5
	APPENDIX 2 PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER	6

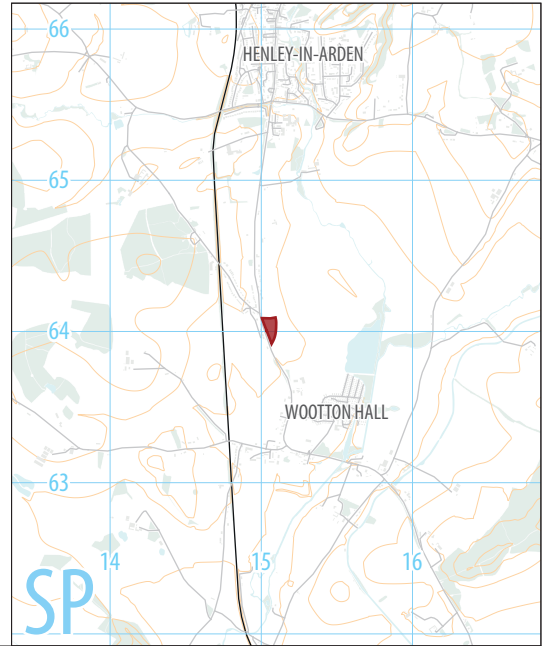
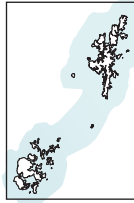
LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

ILLUS 1 SITE LOCATION	VIII
ILLUS 2 GENERAL SITE SHOT, FACING NW	2
ILLUS 3 TRENCH 6, TOPOGRAPHIC SECTION, FACING W	3
ILLUS 4 TRENCH 6, PLAN SHOT, FACING N	3
ILLUS 5 TRENCH 5, SECTION SHOWING TOPSOIL/PLOUGH SOIL, FACING SW	3
ILLUS 6 WORKING SHOT FACING N	3

WWSW/01
 land adjacent to Stratford Rd
 Wootton Waven
 Henley-in-Arden
 Warwickshire

0 200km
 1:10,000,000 @ A4

Contains OS data © Crown copyright and database right [year]



0 40m
 1:2,000 @ A4

KEY
 [red line] development boundary
 [white rectangle] trench location
 [dashed green line] ridge and furrow

HEADLAND
ARCHAEOLOGY

MIDLANDS & WEST Unit 1, Clearview Court, Twyford Road
 Hereford HR2 6JR
 01432 364 901
 www.headlandarchaeology.com

ILLUS 1 Site location

LAND ADJACENT TO STRATFORD ROAD, WOOTTON WAWEN, WARWICKSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PLANNING BACKGROUND

Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd was commissioned by Waterloo Housing Group/Stratford-Upon-Avon District Council, to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation in connection with the building of 16 affordable homes at Wootton Wawen, Stratford Road, Warwickshire.

Planning permission was granted by Stratford-upon-Avon District Council (15/04108/FUL) for the:

‘Construction of 14 affordable homes with associated access road off the A3400, hard and soft landscaping, parking and other associated works.’

Archaeological pre-commencement condition 19 specifies that:

‘No groundworks shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the LPA.’

A Written Scheme of Investigation (Kimber 2016) was produced by Headland Archaeology and submitted to the planning authority. A programme of trial trenching work defined in that Written Scheme of Investigation was subsequently carried out between the 14th and 16th of November.

1.2 SITE DESCRIPTION

The site has an area of 9,500m² and is located at NGR 415022, 264060. The footprint of the eight trenches is located on a flat plateau with the ground falling away to the east (Illus 1). The site lies within the parish of Wootton Wawen, north of the historic village centre, adjacent to a small area of ribbon development associated with the village school and a former public house called the New Inn on the first Edition Ordnance Survey map. It is currently under pasture (Illus 2).

The bedrock geology of the site consists of mudstone of the Mercia group: a sedimentary bedrock dating to the Triassic. No superficial deposits are recorded (NRC 2016).

1.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The consultation response of the archaeological advisor stated that the site has probably been in agricultural use since the medieval period, as evidenced by the ridge and furrow that survives across the site. Although no earlier remains are known from the area, this is likely to reflect a lack of investigation rather than actual absence. Part of the site was assessed as of medium archaeological sensitivity in the Historic Environment Assessment of local Service Villages on accounts of its proximity to a medieval moated site to the south and the presence of ridge and furrow.

2 OBJECTIVES

The methodology followed was outlined in the Written Scheme of Investigation. In general, the archaeological investigations were undertaken in order to:

- › assess the extent, structure and date of any archaeological features and deposits of archaeological interest;
- › to assess the artefactual and ecofactual potential of archaeological deposits;
- › to assess the impact of previous land use on the site;
- › to inform formulation of further measures, if required, to mitigate impacts of the proposed development on surviving archaeological remains; and
- › to produce a site archive for deposition with an appropriate museum and to provide information for accession to the Warwickshire Museum.



ILLUS 2 General site shot, facing NW

The resulting archive will be organised and deposited in the Warwickshire Museum to facilitate access for future research and interpretation for public benefit. An online OASIS form has been completed and will be ultimately submitted with the approved version of the report.

3 METHODOLOGY

The evaluation comprised eight trenches, which measured 30m in length x 1.6m wide, comprising a sample of 4% of the site by area. Trenches were positioned according to a pre-arranged plan, Trenches 1 and 2 were re-positioned because of ground water problems.

Prior to breaking ground, all trenches were located using a Trimble GPS. Utility plans were consulted, and all trenches were scanned using a cable avoidance tool (CAT) to identify any potential buried services. Excavation was by a 3CX-type excavator equipped with a 1.6m wide ditching bucket. Machine excavation was under archaeological supervision and ceased when the natural substrate or archaeological horizon was exposed.

Excavation of archaeological deposits and features required to satisfy the objectives of the evaluation continued by hand. On completion of machine excavation, all faces of the trench that required examination or recording were cleaned using appropriate hand tools. The stratigraphic sequence was recorded in full in each of the trenches, even where no archaeological deposits were

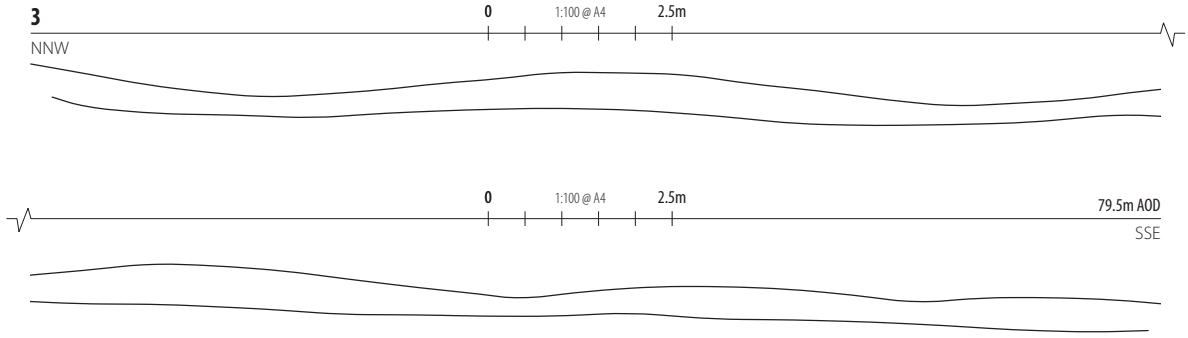
identified; a long section was recorded through the extant ridge and furrow (Illus 3). A sufficient quantity (to adequately evaluate the site) of identified features was investigated and recorded. This typically involved excavation of 50% of discrete features, and a 1m slot of linear features.

All recording followed ClfA Standards and Guidance for conducting archaeological evaluations. All contexts, small finds and environmental samples were given unique numbers. All recording was undertaken on pro forma record cards. 35mm black-and-white prints were taken with a graduated metric scale will clearly visible.

A site plan including all identified features, areas of excavation and other pertinent information was recorded digitally. The site plan is accurately linked to the National Grid and heights to AOD. Where appropriate, sections and stratigraphic sequences were recorded digitally. Digital recording was undertaken using a differential GPS. When additional detailed recording of features and sections was required (ie where their complexity means that archaeological information could be lost if recorded digitally) then plans and sections were hand-drawn on permatrace at an appropriate scale (normally 1:20 or 1:50 for plans and 1:10 for sections).

4 RESULTS

Full context and trench descriptions, including dimensions, depths and orientations, are presented in Appendix 1. Contexts are identified numerically by trench (ie Trench 01: (1001), Trench



ILLUS 3 Trench 6, topographic section, facing W

ILLUS 4 Trench 6, plan shot, facing N

ILLUS 5 Trench 5, section showing topsoil/plough soil, facing SW

ILLUS 6 Working shot facing N

02: (2001)) with cuts indicated by square brackets and deposits by rounded brackets. Selected technical detail is utilised below in order to describe the remains found and to inform the interpretation and dating presented in this report.

The basic site stratigraphy consisted of a topsoil (1001), composed of a dark greyish brown, sandy silt, measuring approximately 0.2m thick, overlying a sub-soil (1002), composed of a mid-orange brown, silty clay containing abundant rounded pebbles. This lower deposit equated to the medieval plough soil, and measured from 0.3 to 0.5m thick. The natural substrate was a very firm reddish clay, with patches of gravel. This sequence of deposits was seen in the sections of all the trenches.

There was no significant archaeology in any of the excavated trenches. The remains of ridge and furrow agriculture which ran east-west across the site, was seen most clearly in the base of Trench 6, where the furrows measured approximately 10m wide (Illus 1 and 3). There was no dating evidence for the furrows, however ploughing activity of this kind which displays a reverse 'S' shape in plan, is generally considered to be from the medieval period.

5 CONCLUSION

The evaluation confirmed below ground evidence for the presence of the ridge and furrow running east-west across the site, which likely dates to the medieval period, and there was no reason to doubt the use of the site for agricultural/ploughing purposes since this time. The evaluation identified no archaeological features predating the medieval period.

The lack of any significant archaeological remains from any period, suggests that this area has generally been used for agricultural/ploughing purposes, and lay away from any settlement focus. This fits with the model of medieval settlement which saw open fields surrounding the village centre which was probably located to the south, closer to the church.

6 BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CifA) 2014 *Code of Conduct* [online document] Accessed from www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/CodesofConduct.pdf
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CifA) 2014 *Standard and guidance for archaeological evaluation* [online document] Accessed from www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/CifAS&GEvaluation.pdf
- Kimber, M 2016 *Land adjacent to Stratford Road, Wootton Wawen; Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation* [unpublished document] Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd
- Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) 2016 *British Geological Survey* [online] Accessed 24 November 2016 from www.bgs.ac.uk/

7 APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 TRENCH AND CONTEXT REGISTER

* DBGL = Depth below ground level

TR01	L (M)	W (M)	MIN. D (M)	MAX. D (M)
	30	1.6	0.72	0.45
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
0101	Topsoil: dark greyish brown, friable, occasional small stone			0–0.2
0102	Subsoil: mid orange brown, friable, abundant rounded pebbles, silty clay			0.20–0.45
0103	Natural: very firm red clay with patches of gravel			0.45+

SUMMARY

No archaeological features encountered.

TR02	L (M)	W (M)	MIN. D (M)	MAX. D (M)
	30	1.6	0.40	0.45
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
0201	Topsoil: dark greyish brown, friable, silty clay, rooty			0–0.2
0202	Subsoil: mid orange brown, friable, abundant stones, silty clay			0.2–0.3
0203	Very firm red clay with gravel patches			0.3–0.45

SUMMARY

No archaeological features encountered.

TR03	L (M)	W (M)	MIN. D (M)	MAX. D (M)
	30	1.6	0.5	0.6
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
3001	Topsoil: dark greyish brown, friable, silty clay, rooty			0.15–0.25
3002	Subsoil: mid orange brown, friable, silty clay, abundant rounded pebbles			0.25–0.35
3003	Natural: very firm red clay, with patches of gravel			0.35–0.6

SUMMARY

No archaeological features encountered.

TR04	L (M)	W (M)	MIN. D (M)	MAX. D (M)
	30	1.6	0.5	0.6
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
4001	Topsoil: dark greyish brown, friable, silty clay, rooty			0–0.25
4002	Subsoil: mid orange brown, friable, silty clay, abundant rounded pebbles			0.25–0.45
4003	Natural: very firm red clay with patches of gravel			0.45–0.6+

SUMMARY

No archaeological features encountered.

TR05	L (M)	W (M)	MIN. D (M)	MAX. D (M)
	30	1.6	0.4	0.5
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
05001	Topsoil: dark greyish brown, friable, silty clay, rooty			0–0.2
05002	Subsoil: mid orange brown, friable, silty clay, with abundant rounded pebbles			0.2–0.3
05003	Natural: very firm red clay			0.3–0.5

SUMMARY

No archaeological features encountered.

TR06	L (M)	W (M)	MIN. D (M)	MAX. D (M)
	30	1.6	0.5	0.6
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
6001	Topsoil: dark greyish brown, friable, silty clay, rooty			0–0.2
6002	Subsoil: mid orange brown, silty clay, friable			0.2–0.4
6003	Natural: very firm red clay with patches of gravel			0.4–0.6

SUMMARY

No archaeological features encountered.

TR07	L (M)	W (M)	MIN. D (M)	MAX. D (M)
	30	1.6	0.4	0.5
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
7001	Topsoil: dark greyish brown, friable, silty clay, rooty			0.2
7001	Subsoil: mid orange brown, friable, silty clay, abundant rounded pebbles			0.2–0.4
7002	Natural: very firm red clay with patches of gravel			0.4–0.5

SUMMARY

No archaeological features encountered.

TR08	L (M)	W (M)	MIN. D (M)	MAX. D (M)
	30	1.6	0.5	0.55
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
8001	Topsoil: dark greyish brown, friable, silty clay, rooty			0–0.25
8002	Subsoil: mid orange brown, friable, silty clay, abundant rounded pebbles			0.25–0.3
8003	Natural: very firm red clay with patches of gravel			0.3–0.55

SUMMARY

No archaeological features encountered.

APPENDIX 2 PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER

PHOTO	B/W	DIGITAL	DIRECTION FACING	DESCRIPTION
001	—	108-0001	NE	Opening shot of Trench 8
002	—	108-0002	NW	Rep. sec. shot of Trench 8
003	—	108-0003	E	Opening shot of Trench 9
004	—	108-0004	S	Rep. sec. of Trench 9
005	—	108-0005	E	Rep. sec. of Trench 10
006	—	108-0006	S	Opening shot of Trench 10
007	—	108-0007	NE	Opening shot of Trench 12
008	—	108-0008	S	Rep. sec. of Trench 12
009	—	108-0009	SE	Opening shot of Trench 11
010	—	108-0010	S	Rep. sec. of Trench 11
011	—	108-0011	W	Rep. sec. of Trench 13
012	—	108-0012	NE	Opening shot of Trench 13
013	—	108-0013	S	Opening shot of Trench 14
014	—	108-0014	E	Rep. sec. of Trench 14
015	—	108-0015	E	Opening shot of Trench 15
016	—	108-0016	N	Rep. sec. of Trench 15
017	—	108-0017	SW	Opening shot of Trench 1
018	—	108-0018	S	Rep. sec. Trench 1
019	—	108-0019	NW	Opening shot of Trench 2
020	—	108-0020	NE	Rep. sec. of Trench 2
021	1/35	—	—	ID shot
022	1/34	108-0021	W	NE facing section of EW orientated drainage ditch [206]
023	—	108-0022	N	Opening shot of Trench 7
024	—	108-0023	N	Opening shot of Trench 7
025	—	108-0024	W	Rep. sec. of Trench 7
026	—	108-0025	NE	Opening shot of Trench 3
027	—	108-0026	NW	Rep. sec. of Trench 3
028	—	108-0027	NW	Opening shot of Trench 16
029	—	108-0028	NE	Rep. sec. of Trench 16
030	—	108-0029	N	Opening shot of Trench 5
031	—	108-0030	E	Rep. sec. of Trench 5
032	1/33	108-0031	W	E facing section of foundation cut [1504]
033	—	108-0032	NW	SE facing oblique section of foundation cut [1504]
034	1/32	108-0033	SW	NE facing section of pit [1404] & land drain
035	—	108-0034	W	E facing section of pit [1404] Trench uncating topsoil

PHOTO	B/W	DIGITAL	DIRECTION FACING	DESCRIPTION
036	—	108-0035	W	E facing section of pit [1404] Trench uncating topsoil
037	—	108-0036	NW	Opening shot of Trench 4
038	—	108-0037	SW	Rep. sec. of Trench 4
039	—	108-0038	N	Opening shot of Trench 6
040	—	108-0039	W	Rep. sec. of Trench 6



© 2016 by Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd

SOUTH & EAST

Headland Archaeology
Building 68C, Wrest Park, Silsoe
Bedfordshire MK45 4HS

01525 861 578

southandeast@headlandarchaeology.com

MIDLANDS & WEST

Headland Archaeology
Unit 1, Clearview Court, Twyford Road
Hereford HR2 6JR

01432 364 901

midlandsandwest@headlandarchaeology.com

NORTH

Headland Archaeology
Unit 16, Hillside, Beeston Road
Leeds LS11 8ND

0113 387 6430

north@headlandarchaeology.com

SCOTLAND

Headland Archaeology
13 Jane Street
Edinburgh EH6 5HE

0131 467 7705

scotland@headlandarchaeology.com

www.headlandarchaeology.com