



**WORCESTER ROAD, HARVINGTON,
WORCESTERSHIRE**

Archaeological Watching Brief

Statement of Results

Prepared for:

Enterprise Managed Services Ltd
One Supply Chain
West Offices
Lamledge Lane
Shifnal
TF11 8SD

Prepared by:

Wessex Archaeology
Unit R6, Riverside Block
Sheaf Bank Business Park
Prospect Road
Sheffield
S2 3EN

www.wessexarch.co.uk

July 2013

Report Ref: 89620.01



Quality Assurance

Project Code	89620	Accession Code	N/A	Client Ref.	N/A
Planning Application Ref.	CC/12/2013	Ordnance Survey (OS) national grid reference (NGR)	387294, 274759		

Version	Status*	Prepared by	Checked and Approved By	Approver's Signature	Date
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* I = Internal Draft; E = External Draft; F = Final

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WORCESTER ROAD, HARVINGTON, WORCESTERSHIRE

Archaeological Watching Brief

Statement of Results

Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Enterprise Managed Services Ltd to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the topsoil strip and ground reduction ahead of construction of a new sewage pumping station on land south of the Dog Inn, Worcester Road, Harvington (NGR 387294, 274759).

This work was required to mitigate the potential loss of archaeological remains as a result of the development (planning ref. CC/12/2013) and was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation.

This document contains a concise statement of the results of the watching brief. The background to the project, archaeological background and methodology are detailed in the Written Scheme of Investigation which is included as Appendix 1

Monitoring was carried out during all groundworks and took place on the 14th May 2013.

Topsoil was stripped to reveal natural sand deposits. No archaeological remains or artefacts were encountered. An area of modern disturbance near the site entrance corresponded with the former location of two small structures shown on a 1927 Ordnance Map.

The project archive is currently held at Wessex Archaeology's offices in Sheffield and will be deposited with the Worcestershire County Museum in due course, under an accession number to be confirmed at the time of deposition.



WORCESTER ROAD, HARVINGTON, WORCESTERSHIRE

Archaeological Watching Brief

Statement of Results

Site name	Worcester Road, Harvington		
Site address	Land south of the Dog Inn, Worcester Road, Harvington, Worcestershire.		
Client	Enterprise Managed Services Ltd	Consultant	N/A
Curator	Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service Historic Environment Planning Advisor.		
Author	Sam Fairhead	Project Manager	R. O'Neill
Site code	89620	Grid ref (centred)	387294, 274759
Site area	2043m ²		
Planning ref	CC/12/0063		
Dates(s) of attendance	14/05/2013		
Description of construction activities monitored	Topsoil strip and ground reduction ahead of construction of a new sewage pumping station.		
Summary of site stratigraphy			
Natural mid reddish-brown sand c. 0.35m below ground level. The natural substratum was overlain by a 0.35m thick layer of dark brown sandy loam topsoil. The natural surface was pocked in places with brown silt staining caused by bioturbation. There was also an area of heavy modern disturbance at the east end of the site, near the site entrance.			
Archaeological features	None	Natural features	Bioturbation
Finds observed	None		
Finds collected	None	Samples	None
Photography	Digital only	Two site photos overleaf	
Other records	Day register, daily log, photo register, trench sheet, digital CAD survey		
Current archive location	Wessex Archaeology, Sheffield		
Long term archive location	Worcestershire County Museum		
Interpretation			
The modern disturbance appears to have been caused by rubble from the demolition of two small structures visible on the 1927 OS map being pressed into the natural by traffic in and out of the field. No features or deposits pre-dating the 20 th century were observed.			
Other information			
N/A			
Form completed by	SF	Date	4/06/2013
Checked by	AB	Date	17/07/2013
Additional documentation attached -			



1.	Fig. 1 Site location
2.	Written scheme of investigation

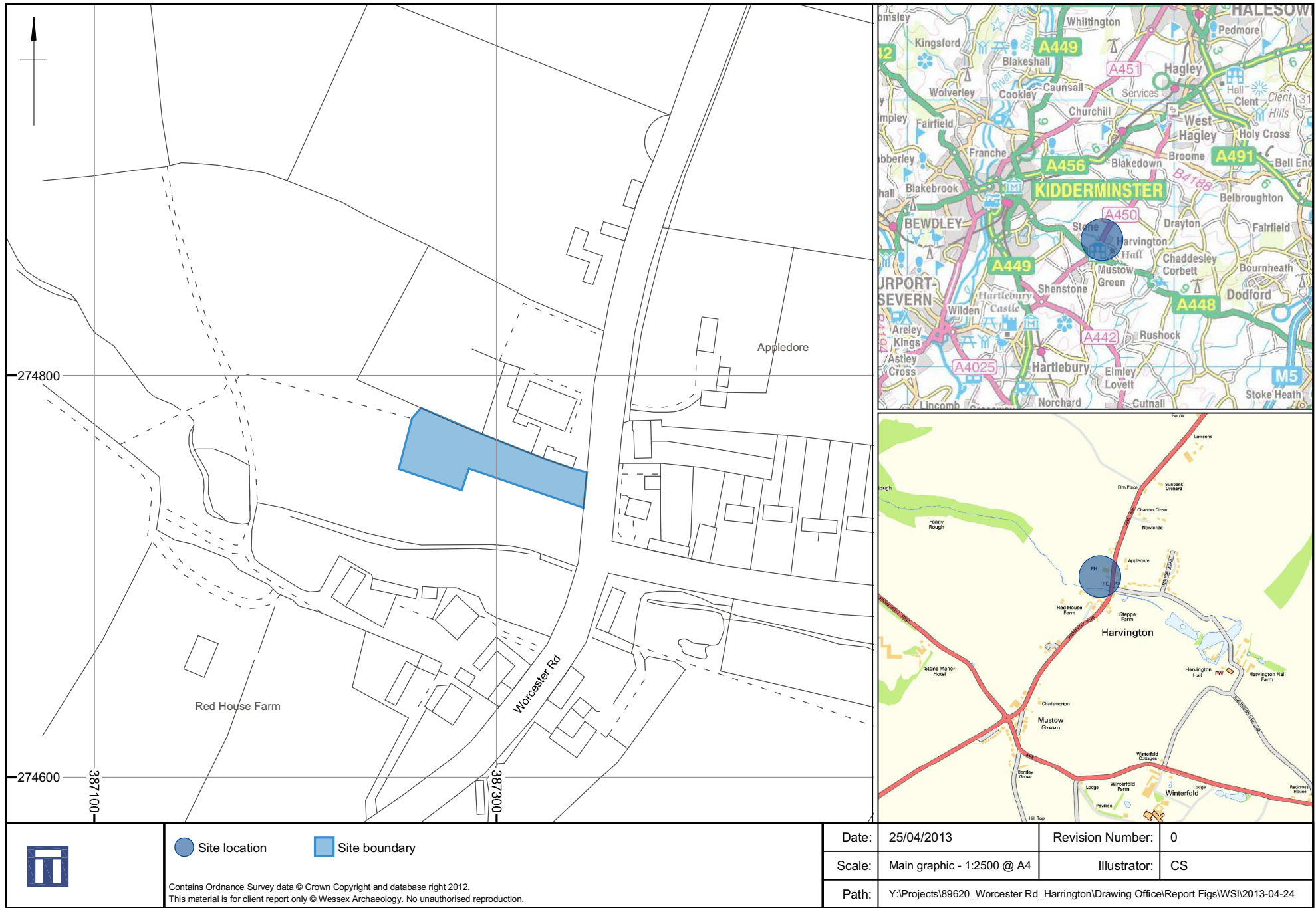
Plates



Modern disturbance near site entrance, looking southeast



Southwest-facing representative section



Site location

Figure 1



APPENDIX 1

Written Scheme of Investigation



**Worcester Road, Harvington,
Worcestershire**

Written Scheme of Investigation for Watching Brief

Prepared for:
Enterprise Managed Services Ltd,
One Supply Chain West Offices,
Lamledge Lane,
Shifnal,
TF11 8SD

Prepared by:
Wessex Archaeology
Unit R6 Riverside Block,
Sheaf Bank Business Park,
Prospect Road,
Sheffield,
S2 3EN

www.wessexarch.co.uk

April 2013

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Quality Assurance

Project Code	86920	Accession Code	-	Client Ref.	-
Planning Application Ref.	CC/12/0063	Ordnance Survey (OS) national grid reference (NGR)	387294 274759		

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V1.1	F	LD	RON	<i>Ronald Owen</i>	30/04/2013
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* I = Internal Draft; E = External Draft; F = Final

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Worcester Road, Harvington, Worcestershire

Written Scheme of Investigation for Watching Brief

Contents

1	INTRODUCTION.....	2
1.1	Project Background.....	2
1.2	Scheme Location and Description	2
2	HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND.....	2
2.1	Summary.....	2
2.2	19 th century - Modern	2
3	AIMS AND METHODOLOGY	3
3.1	Aims	3
3.2	Methodology (General)	3
3.3	Machine Excavation	4
3.4	Hand Excavation of Archaeological Remains	4
3.5	Recording.....	4
3.6	Finds	4
3.7	Human Remains	5
3.8	Environmental Samples	5
3.9	Other Samples	5
3.10	Treasure.....	5
4	POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORTING	6
4.1	Report	6
4.2	Distribution of Reports.....	7
4.3	OASIS	7
5	ARCHIVE	7
5.1	Preparation and Deposition.....	7
6	PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND STAFF.....	7
6.1	Personnel.....	7
7	STANDARDS.....	7
7.1	Quality and Code of Practice	7
8	INSURANCE AND HEALTH AND SAFETY	8
8.1	Policy and Risk Assessment.....	8
9	BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	9



Worcester Road, Harvington, Worcestershire

Written Scheme of Investigation for Watching Brief

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology have been commissioned by Enterprise Managed Services Ltd. (hereafter 'the Client') to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the construction of a new sewage pumping station within an agricultural field adjacent to A450 Worcester Road Harvington, Worcestershire (hereafter 'the Site' centred on NGR 387294 274759 **Figure 1**).

1.1.2 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been prepared in accordance with current industry best practice (IfA 2008a), with IfA Codes of Conduct (2010) and in line with a brief provided by Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service (WAAS, 2012), and will be submitted to the Client and the Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service Historic Environment Planning Advisor for approval.

1.2 Scheme Location and Description

1.2.1 The Scheme is located on land to the west of Worcester Road A450, running west through an agricultural field, bounded by land belonging to the Dog Inn to the north, within Harvington, Worcestershire centred on NGR 387294 274759. The Scheme proposes a new sewage pumping station, glass reinforced plastic kiosk, associated infrastructure, new access, landscaping and temporary contractor's compound. The development may affect a site of archaeological interest, registered on the County Historic Environment Record (ref. WSM10297).

1.2.2 The Site is located at 71m aOD and the geology comprises sandstone of the Bromsgrove Sandstone Formation (British Geological Survey).

2 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Summary

2.1.1 The Site is identified as having once being within the original medieval settlement of Harvington, first mentioned in 1275. The mapped boundary of this settlement is speculative due to little or no archaeological fieldwork having been undertaken to confirm its extent.

2.2 19th century - Modern

2.2.1 The Site is depicted in the 1884 OS map as an agricultural field with a pathway running from Worcester Road westwards across the field. This path is still depicted on modern maps. Two buildings were also depicted at the northeast corner of the field, adjacent to the road, and to the southeast of the pathway. These two structures are still depicted on



the 1927 OS map before they were presumably demolished prior to the 1960s. Land to the north of the Site was occupied originally by the Talbot Inn, now The Dog Inn. No other features are shown.

3 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

3.1 Aims

3.1.1 The general aims of the project are:

- to carry out full documentary research for the Site;
- to identify any archaeological remains within the Site;
- to accurately record the location and stratigraphy of areas excavated during groundworks;
- to record all archaeological remains disturbed by the groundworks;
- to determine the extent, condition, character, importance and date of any archaeological deposits encountered;
- to provide information that will enable the archaeological remains to be placed within their local, regional and national contexts;
- to integrate the results into the wider cultural and environmental context and with specific research aims;
- to recover artefacts disturbed by the Site works, and
- to produce an accurate and comprehensive record and report of any archaeological deposits disturbed by the Site works.

3.2 Methodology (General)

3.2.1 Prior to commencement of works a unique fieldwork reference number will be obtained by Wessex Archaeology from the HER manager at Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service (WAAS). This fieldwork reference number must be clearly marked in all reports, finds and archive material created during the project.

3.2.2 A programme of documentary research will be undertaken at the Worcestershire Historic Environment Record office and Worcestershire County Records Office to gain further information about the development of the area and allow for any results from excavations to be placed within their local and regional context.

3.2.3 An archaeological watching brief will be carried out, subject to prior and adequate notification being given by the Client, on all groundworks within the Site.

3.2.4 All ground breaking activity will be monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist from Wessex Archaeology. Any archaeological remains that may be revealed during the watching brief will be observed and recorded in accordance with current national IfA 2008a) and regional guidelines (WAAS 2010).

3.2.5 The Client/Contractor will afford reasonable access in order that all archaeological features and deposits revealed during excavations and groundworks can be investigated



and recorded. Depending upon the nature of any remains found further archaeological excavation may be necessary in consultation with Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service.

3.3 Machine Excavation

- 3.3.1 Topsoil or overburden will be removed using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, working under the continuous direct supervision of a suitably experienced archaeologist. Topsoil will be removed in a series of level spits down to the level of the upper archaeological horizon, or the level of the natural geology, whichever is reached first.

3.4 Hand Excavation of Archaeological Remains

- 3.4.1 Where archaeological features and deposits are encountered, excavation will be carried out by hand. A sufficient sample of each layer/feature type will be excavated in order to establish the date, nature, extent and condition of the archaeological remains.
- 3.4.2 Archaeological features and deposits will be investigated and stratigraphically excavated by hand. The percentage of any feature or group of features to be excavated will be dependent on a number of factors. These include the achievement of the aims and objectives, the significance or potential of the archaeological features/deposits, the stratigraphic record, health and safety considerations, and the requirements of WAAS.

3.5 Recording

- 3.5.1 All archaeological features and deposits encountered will be recorded using Wessex Archaeology *pro forma* recording sheets and a continuous unique numbering system. A stratigraphic matrix will be compiled to record the relationships between features and deposits (including those within 'blank' trenches).
- 3.5.2 All trenches will be located in relation to the OS grid, and other plans, sections and elevations of archaeological features and deposits will be drawn as necessary at 1:10, 1:20 and 1:50 as appropriate. All drawings will be made in pencil on permanent drafting film.
- 3.5.3 The spot height of all principal features and levels will be calculated in metres relative to Ordnance Datum, correct to two decimal places. Plans, sections and elevations will be annotated with spot heights as appropriate.
- 3.5.4 Photographs will be taken of all archaeological features to produce a photographic record consisting of digital images (at least 10 megapixels) and 35mm monochrome prints where appropriate.

3.6 Finds

- 3.6.1 Finds will be treated in accordance with the relevant guidance (UKIC 1990; English Heritage 2005 and 2006; WAAS 2010), except where these are superseded by statements made below.
- 3.6.2 All artefacts from excavated contexts will be retained, except those from features or deposits of obviously modern date. No finds will, however, be discarded without the prior approval of the Curator.
- 3.6.3 All retained artefacts will, as a minimum, be washed, weighed, counted and identified. Any artefacts requiring conservation or specific storage conditions will be dealt with



immediately in line with *First Aid for Finds* (Watkinson & Neal 1998). Ironwork from stratified contexts will be x-rayed and stored in a stable environment along with other fragile and delicate material. Other conservation needs will be assessed by Wessex Archaeology's Conservator.

- 3.6.4 Animal bone recovered by hand during excavation will be processed as part of the finds assemblage. Animal bone recovered from bulk samples will also be retained for analysis.
- 3.6.5 All artefacts will be recorded by context, with summary listing of artefacts by category to provide simple quantification. Artefacts will be analysed and reported by specialists.
- 3.6.6 In the event of discovery of artefacts covered or potentially covered by The Treasure Act 1996 (and amendments), their excavation and removal will be undertaken following notification of the Client, Coroner and Curator.

3.7 Human Remains

- 3.7.1 If human remains are encountered a Ministry for Justice Licence for the removal of human remains will be obtained. Further excavation and recording will be carried out in accordance with the conditions of the licence. All excavation and post-excavation will be in accordance with the standards set out in McKinley & Roberts (1993). Appropriate specialist guidance and/or Site visits will be undertaken by Jackie McKinley of Wessex Archaeology. Following analysis, the final placing of human remains will be subject to the requirements of the Ministry of Justice licence.

3.8 Environmental Samples

- 3.8.1 The development of an appropriate sampling strategy will depend upon the survival and condition of the deposits identified. The English Heritage Regional Science Advisor will be consulted for Site-specific guidance at the earliest possible opportunity. In general terms, it is anticipated that the following strategies will be followed.
- 3.8.2 Bulk environmental soil samples for plant macro-fossils, small animal and fish bones and other small artefacts will be taken from appropriate well-sealed and dated/datable archaeological deposits. The collection and processing of environmental samples will be undertaken in accordance with national (English Heritage 2011) and regional (WAAS 2010) guidelines.
- 3.8.3 The residues and sieved fractions of the bulk environmental soil samples will be recorded and retained with the project archive. For charred material, bulk samples of 40-60 litres in volume will be taken for processing by flotation. All samples will be floated on a 250-300µm mesh and the heavy residues washed over a 0.5-1mm mesh. The heavy residues will be scanned with a magnet to recover micro-slugs.

3.9 Other Samples

- 3.9.1 Other samples will be taken, as appropriate, in consultation with Wessex Archaeology specialists and the English Heritage Regional Science Advisor (e.g. dendrochronology, soil micromorphology, monolith samples, C14, etc.). Samples will be taken for scientific dating where necessary for the development of subsequent mitigation strategies.

3.10 Treasure

- 3.10.1 In the event of discovery of artefacts covered or potentially covered by The Treasure Act 1996 (and amendments), their excavation and removal will be undertaken following



notification of the Client and English Heritage. All discoveries covered by the Act will be notified to the Coroner within 14 days.

4 POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORTING

4.1 Report

4.1.1 On completion of all archaeological monitoring a report detailing the results of work will be produced and forwarded to the Client and WAAS within six weeks of completion of all fieldwork.

4.1.2 The watching brief report will be prepared in accordance with national (Institute for Archaeologists' 2008a) and regional (WAAS 2010) guidelines, except where superseded by statements below.

4.1.3 The report may include;

- a non-technical summary;
- plans and sections at an appropriate scale locating the Site, location of works, known archaeological structures and deposits and their extent;
- tabulation of finds data by context and by material type;
- a summary by category of the material types recovered;
- a summary of the palaeo-environmental evidence recovered;
- preliminary phasing of any archaeological structures, features and deposits encountered;
- a consideration of the archaeological evidence from within the Site set in its broader landscape and historic setting.

4.1.4 The preparation of the report may involve the following elements:

- the conservation of appropriate material, including the X-raying of ironwork;
- the spot-dating of all pottery from excavated contexts. Spot-dating will be corroborated by scanning of other categories of material;
- a statement on each category of material, including reference to quantity, provenance, range and variety and condition;
- the selection and prioritisation of bulk soil samples taken for environmental and artefactual data in the light of preliminary phasing. Sieving, processing and scanning of selected soil samples will be undertaken and an assessment statement on charred food and plant remains; and
- a statement of potential for each material category and for the data collection as a whole will be prepared, including specific questions that can be answered and the potential value of the data to local, regional and national investigation priorities.

4.1.5 As a minimum a note on the results of the work will be published in a suitable local journal.



4.2 Distribution of Reports

- 4.2.1 A digital pdf copy of the report will be sent to the Historic Environment Planning Advisor (WAAS) for approval prior to formal submission to the County Historic Environment Record. Upon approval copies will be sent to the Client as well as one bound paper and one digital pdf copy of the report to be lodged with the County Historic Environment Record within three months of completion of the fieldwork.

4.3 OASIS

- 4.3.1 An OASIS (Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations) record will be created at the start of the evaluation fieldwork and will be updated at after each stage of work. The record(s) will be finalised once the report has been accepted by the Historic Environment Planning Advisor (WAAS).

5 ARCHIVE

5.1 Preparation and Deposition

- 5.1.1 The complete project archive will be prepared in accordance with Wessex Archaeology's Guidelines for Archive Preparation and in accordance with standard guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives (UKIC 1990; Brown 2007; WAAS 2010). The Archive will likely be deposited with Worcestershire County Museum. As part of the post excavation work an OASIS form will be completed and submitted to the Archaeological Data Service (ADS).

6 PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND STAFF

6.1 Personnel

- 6.1.1 The fieldwork will be carried out by an experienced archaeologist from Wessex Archaeology's Sheffield office staff, who will be on Site at all times for the length of monitoring. The overall responsibility for the conduct and management of the project will be held by one of Wessex Archaeology's project managers (Richard O'Neill MIfA), who will visit the fieldwork as appropriate to monitor progress and to ensure that the scope of works is adhered to. The appointed project manager and experienced archaeologist will be involved in all phases of the project through to its completion.
- 6.1.2 The processing and analysis of the finds and environmental data will be undertaken by Wessex Archaeology core staff or external specialists. Information on Wessex Archaeology and external finds and environmental specialists can be provided on request.

7 STANDARDS

7.1 Quality and Code of Practice

- 7.1.1 Wessex Archaeology is a registered archaeological organisation with the Institute for Archaeologists.



- 7.1.2 Wessex Archaeology endorses the Code of Practice and the Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology of the Institute for Archaeologists.
- 7.1.3 All core staff would be of a standard approved by Wessex Archaeology, be employed in line with The Institute for Archaeologists Codes of Practice and be members of the Institute for Archaeologists or be appropriately qualified.
- 7.1.4 Wessex Archaeology operates a *Project Management System*. All projects are undertaken under the direction of the Project Manager who is responsible to a Regional Manager, who ensures the maintenance of quality standards within the organisation. The Chief Executive has ultimate responsibility for all of the Company's work.
- 7.1.5 All work will be carried out in line with current industry national guidance and best practice (IfA 2008a and b) and regional guidance (WAAS 2010).

8 INSURANCE AND HEALTH AND SAFETY

8.1 Policy and Risk Assessment

- 8.1.1 Health and safety considerations will be of paramount importance in conducting all fieldwork. Safe working practises will override archaeological considerations at all times.
- 8.1.2 All work will be carried out in accordance with the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and the Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992, and all other relevant Health and Safety legislation, regulations and codes of practice in force at the time and in accordance with the SCAUM (Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers) health and safety manual *Health and Safety in Field Archaeology* (1997).
- 8.1.3 Wessex Archaeology will supply a Risk Assessment to the Main Contractor before the commencement of any fieldwork. The Risk Assessment will have been read and understood by all staff attending the Site before any groundwork commences, and a copy will be kept on Site at all times. A copy of Wessex Archaeology Health and Safety Policy is available on request.
- 8.1.4 All Wessex Archaeology staff will comply with any requests by the Main Contractor concerning health and safety, including requirements to attend Site induction prior to the commencement of fieldwork.
- 8.1.5 Wessex Archaeology has both public liability (£10,000,000) and professional indemnity insurance (£5,000,000).



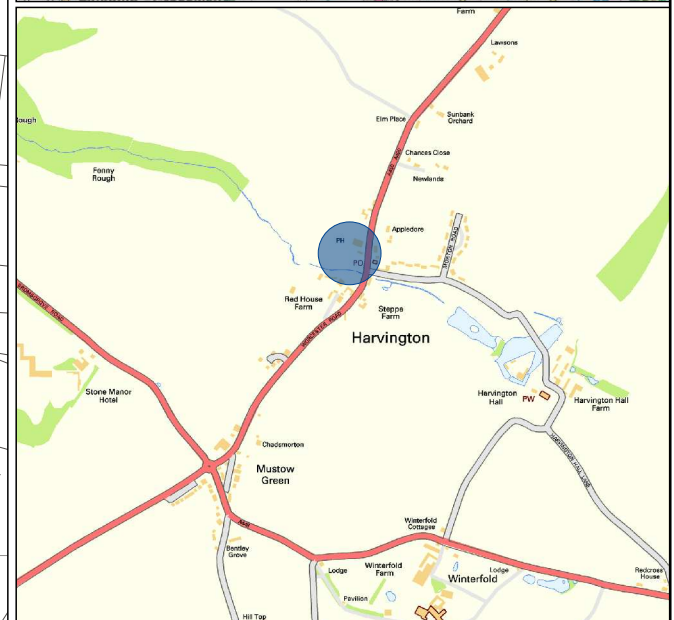
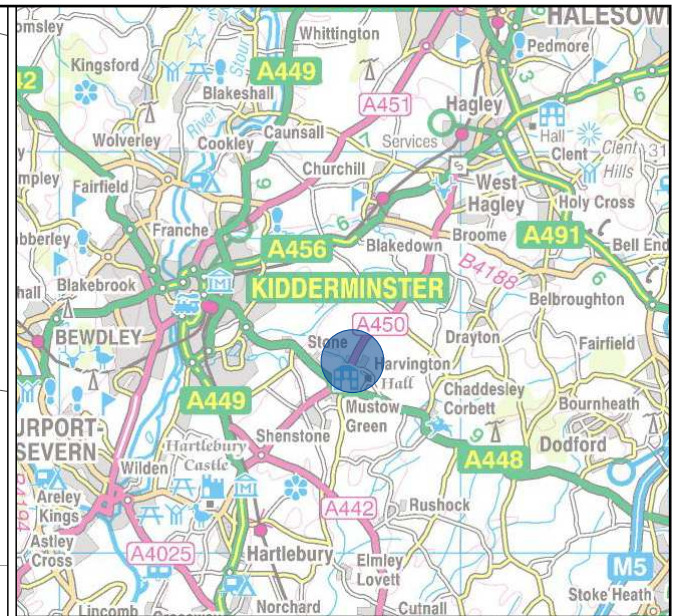
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Websites Consulted

- www.heritagegateway.org.uk
- www.old-maps.co.uk
- www.bgs.ac.uk/home.html?src=topNav



	<p>● Site location ■ Site boundary</p> <p>Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown Copyright and database right 2012. This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.</p>	Date: 25/04/2013	Revision Number: 0
		Scale: Main graphic - 1:2500 @ A4	Illustrator: CS
		Path: Y:\Projects\89620_Worcester Rd_Harrington\Drawing Office\Report Figs\WSI\2013-04-24	

Site location

Figure 1