

Archaeological Observation

**Ledbury Trunk Main (Town)
Ledbury
Herefordshire**

Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water /
Laing O'Rourke

NGR: SO 7090 3810
SMR No. 48660

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1. Non Technical Summary

Archaeological observation of the Ledbury Trunk Main (Town) Refurbishment Scheme in Herefordshire was carried out between January 15th 2008 & April 4th 2008, excavations occurring intermittently during this period.

The observed section of pipeline refurbishment ran through the historic medieval core of Ledbury, along the main axis of the town between High Street and The Homend. Large quantities of building debris were noted at the north end of High Street, probably representing the demolition of Butchers Row, a series of 15 burgage houses and shops dating from the 16th century and later, which ran along the west side of High Street and which were demolished between 1820 and 1840.

A possible pit and associated layer of building rubble observed in Orchard Lane probably derived from more recent activity relating to the demolition of mid to late 19th century buildings in the vicinity of the modern supermarket car park and a probable medieval or early post-medieval large iron nail or spike used for structural or decorative purposes was found during the excavation of a pit opposite No 76 High Street.

Most pits revealed evidence of previous utility groundworks & road construction activity. Significantly, however, the archaeological observation confirmed that no archaeology was damaged or disturbed during the programme of works without being recorded.

2. Introduction

This report details the archaeological observation programme undertaken by Border Archaeology for Laing O'Rourke on behalf of Dwr Cymru / Welsh-Water (DCWW) in respect of the Ledbury Town Water Refurbishment Scheme Phase 2 (Scheme Ref. E313). These locations correspond to scheme maps E313/02, E313/03, E313/04 & E313/06 as supplied by Laing O'Rourke / DCWW.

Herefordshire Council advised that, although it was unlikely that the engineering works would disturb any features of national importance, an archaeological watching brief should be conducted in specific areas of archaeological potential identified from the Regional Sites & Monuments Record.

The groundworks formed part of DCWW's refurbishment programme, the exact locations of which were determined by engineering considerations, archaeological observation being required in order to observe the excavation of access pits & open cut trenches, & to record as appropriate any remains, features & finds wherever located within the working area, thus providing a formal measure of the impact of the engineering works (whether positive or negative). This took the form of a number of pits and open cut trenches machine excavated to access the existing pipe for slip lining & also to access or remove services & valves.

This report was completed in June 2008 after due consultation that no return to the area for water quality assurance reasons was envisaged. Copies of this report will be submitted to DCWW, Laing O'Rourke, Herefordshire Council & the county Sites & Monuments Record.

2.1 Soils & Geology

The area comprises typical argillic brown earths of the BROMYARD series (571b), consisting of well-drained reddish fine silty soils over Devonian reddish silty shale, siltstone and sandstone.

3. Brief Historical & Archaeological Background

The place name Ledbury refers to the 'settlement on the River Leadon' (Coplestone-Crow 1989), an area that appears to have been occupied from the prehistoric period, with relatively intense activity occurring during the Iron Age and Roman periods.

The archaeological observation was carried out within the historic core of Ledbury town, along the High Street / The Homend axis. High Street occupies the triangular market place of the planned medieval borough of Ledbury, which was established in the 12th century to the W of the original Anglo-Saxon settlement centred upon the early minster church. Tenement plots appear to have been laid out initially to the W and E of The Homend and the market place, with those on the E of the town possibly representing earlier land divisions relating to the original settlement.

By the 13th century, the market place was being infilled by permanent shops, with five shambles or slaughterhouses, the probable forerunners of Butchers Row, mentioned in 1288 (Hillaby 1982, 47; Buteux 1995, 6). Butchers Row itself (Herefordshire SMR No.

19880) comprised some 15 burgage houses and shops situated along High Street, which were mostly of 16th century date or later and which survived into the 19th century, when the buildings were finally demolished (Hillaby 1982, 47).

The town has number of medieval structures, the St Katharine's Hospital complex on High Street (Herefordshire SMR No.11322) being a notable survival, incorporating a mid-14th century stone building and the late-15th century Master's House. There are also buildings of medieval date along Church Lane, including the Town Council Offices, the Prince of Wales Inn and the Old Grammar School (Herefordshire SMR No. 315). Early post-medieval timber-framed structures, many of which have been rendered or brick clad, are more numerous, with examples dating from the late 16th to the mid 17th century located in High Street and at the southern end of The Homend; John Abel's two-storey Market House in High Street, for example, dates from c. 1633 (Herefordshire SMR No. 3219).

4. Methodology

The aim of the programme of archaeological observation was to locate & record any archaeological remains revealed during the course of the groundworks & to confirm that no impact on the archaeological resource occurred without recording.

All groundworks were machine excavated under archaeological supervision using a toothless bucket & associated spoil was scanned for artefacts.

Full written, drawn & photographic records were made in accordance, archaeological practices set out in *Standard & Guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (Institute of Field Archaeologists 2001). Border Archaeology adheres to the IFA *Code of conduct & Code of approved practice for the regulation of contractual arrangements in field archaeology* & to *Standards for Archaeological Projects in Herefordshire* (Herefordshire Council 2005).

A written record of all trenching & pits was maintained using numbered record sheets. Archaeological deposits were recorded in plan at scales of 1:20 or 1:50 (as appropriate) & photographed using an 8.3MPX digital camera.

5. Archaeological Observation

5.1 Table of Results

The results of the archaeological observation are set out in the following table. NAI indicates no archaeology was identified and NSA that archaeology was present but was deemed not significant according to the criteria below. The presence of significant archaeological remains is indicated by blue highlighting and a brief description is given in the results column with a full discussion in section 5.2.

For the purposes of this report, significant archaeology is defined as that which is likely to contribute to a further understanding of the past within a local, regional, national or international context.

Areas where the archaeological observation did not locate finds or features of significance are given limited stratigraphic relationship descriptions within the table. Further information regarding areas where no archaeology was located will be retained in the site archive.

Date	Location	Grid ref/pit or section no.	Description	Results
15/01/08	High Street outside Lloyds Bank	SO 71121 37592 Pit LT01	Tarmacadam surface >> tarmac & stone sub-base >> hardcore layer >> firm pinkish-brown clay sand silt, small & very small angular stones >> stony layer containing medium & large angular stones >> firm mid reddish-brown sand clay silt	NAI
15/01/08	High Street outside Shaw Trust	SO 71122 37598 Pit LT02	Tarmacadam surface >> tarmac & stone sub-base >> stony hardcore deposit >> firm pinkish-brown clay sand silt, small & very small angular stones >> firm medium & large angular & subangular stones >> firm mid reddish-brown sand clay silt	NAI
15/01/08	High Street outside The Feathers Hotel	SO 71120 37599 Pit LT03	Tarmacadam surface >> tarmac & stone sub-base >> stony hardcore layer >> firm pinkish-brown clay sand silt frequent very small angular & subangular stones	NAI
15/01/08	High Street between Gurneys Butchers & Clarks	SO 71119 37603 Pit LT04	Tarmacadam road surface >> tarmac & stone sub-base >> stony hardcore deposit >> grey stony hardcore deposit >> large angular & subangular greyish stony deposit >> firm mid reddish-brown sand clay silt	NAI
15/01/08	High Street outside Gurneys Butchers	SO 71119 37607 Pit LT05	Tarmacadam road surface >> tarmac & stone sub-base >> moderately compacted reddish-brown sand clay silt containing 80% small	C19 kerbstones observed beneath modern tarmac surface in W-facing section

Date	Location	Grid ref/pit or section no.	Description	Results
			angular & subangular stones	
15/01/08	High Street outside Wine Rack	SO 71113 37619 Pit LT06	Tarmacadam surface >> tarmac & stone sub-base >> stony hardcore sub-base >> firm mid reddish-brown sand clay silt frequent very small angular & subangular stones >> medium sized angular stone layer >> firm mid reddish-brown sand clay silt containing fine gravels	NAI
15/01/08	High Street outside No 26 Wyebridge	SO 71114 37627 Pit LT07	Tarmacadam surface >> tarmac & stone sub-base >> hardcore stony sub-base >> firm mid reddish-brown sand clay silt containing 30% small medium & large angular & subangular stones	NAI
15/01/08	High Street outside Spar at pedestrian crossing	SO 71112 37628 Pit LT08	Tarmacadam surface >> tarmac & sub-base >> hardcore stony sub-base >> firm mid reddish-brown sand clay silt, frequent subangular stones	NAI
15/01/08	High Street outside Spar opposite optometrist	SO 71112 37633 Pit LT09	Tarmacadam road surface >> tarmac & stone sub-base >> hardcore & stony layer >> moderate to firm mid reddish-brown clay sand silt containing 60% small & medium angular & subangular stones	NAI
15/01/08	High Street outside Boots opposite St Katherine's Hospital & chapel	SO 71110 37646 Pit LT10	Tarmacadam surface >> tarmac & stone sub-base >> stony hardcore layer >> greyish-brown angular stone layer >> firm mid reddish-brown sand clay silt, frequent small angular & subangular stones >> medium sized angular &	NAI

Date	Location	Grid ref/pit or section no.	Description	Results
			subangular stone layer >> firm mid reddish-brown sand clay silt	
15/01/08	High Street opposite entrance lane to St Katherine's	SO 71106 37661 Pit LT11	Tarmacadam surface >> tarmac & stone sub-base >> stony hardcore deposit >> firm mid reddish-brown sand clay silt containing 50% small & medium angular stones	NAI
15/01/08	High Street outside small entrance lane to Tinsmiths	SO 71104 37667 Pit LT12	Tarmacadam surface >> tarmac & stone sub-base >> small dark grey angular stony layer >> hardcore & light grey angular stones >> firm mid reddish-brown sand clay silt, frequent small & very small angular & subangular stones & occasional medium & large angular stones	NAI
15/01/08	High Street outside The Retreat	SO 71103 37674 Pit LT13	Tarmacadam road surface >> tarmac & stone sub-base >> firm mid reddish-brown sand clay silt containing 80% small & medium angular & subangular stones & gritty gravel inclusions	NAI
15/01/08	High Street outside Tannery Lane	SO 71100 37685 Pit LT14	Tarmacadam road surface >> tarmac & stone sub-base >> dark grey small angular stone layer >> light grey small angular stone layer >> firm mid reddish-brown gritty clay sand silt containing 40% small & medium angular & subangular stones	NAI
15/01/08	High Street outside HSBC bank	SO 71097 37691 Pit LT15	Tarmacadam surface >> tarmac & stone sub-base >> stony grey hardcore layer >> dark grey stony hardcore >> light	NAI

Date	Location	Grid ref/pit or section no.	Description	Results
			greyish-brown stony hardcore >> medium & large subangular stone layer >> firm mid reddish-brown sand clay silt containing very small fine stones >> firm light brown sand clay silt, small angular stones >> firm mid reddish-brown sand clay silt	
15/01/08	High Street outside HSBC bank adjacent to Pit LT15	SO 71097 37691 Pit LT16	Tarmacadam road surface >> tarmac & stone sub-base >> dark grey angular stone hardcore layer >> light grey small angular stone hardcore layer >> firm mid reddish-brown sand clay silt, frequent very small & fine stones >> moderately to firm greyish-brown sand clay silt, frequent small angular stones >> firm mid reddish-brown sand clay silt	NAI
21/01/08	High St in road opposite SW corner of Market Place	SO 71095 37698 Pit LT17	Tarmacadam road surface >> tarmac & stone sub-base >> dark grey angular stone hardcore >> small & medium sized subangular stone hardcore >> firm mid reddish-brown gritty clay sand silt, 60% small & medium subangular stones & fine very small stones >> loose grey stone & gravel	NAI

Date	Location	Grid ref/pit or section no.	Description	Results
21/01/08	High Street outside the Market House	SO 71090 37704 Pit LT18	Tarmacadam surface >> tarmac & stone sub-base >> tarmac & stony fill >> grey stony gravel fill >> hardcore & small grey angular stones >> hardcore & subangular & rounded small & medium stones >> firm mid reddish-brown sand clay silt occasional brick rubble >> demolition rubble layer	Rubble probably associated with C19 demolition of Butchers Row
21/01/08	High Street at junction with Bye Street	SO 71087 37707 Pit LT19	Tarmacadam road surface >> tarmac & stone sub-base >> small angular stone hardcore deposit >> small & medium angular & subangular stone hardcore >> gravel trench fill >> grey stone & gravel trench fill >> concrete >> demolition rubble	
22/01/08	High Street outside NatWest	SO 71038 37807 Pit LT20	Tarmacadam surface >> tarmac & stone sub-base >> small angular stone hardcore deposit >> small & medium angular & subangular hardcore, occasional brick >> firm mid reddish-brown gritty sand clay silt containing 30% small angular stones >> firm mid reddish-brown gritty sand clay silt & tarmac fragments	NAI
28/01/08	High Street outside entrance to Skiff Alley	SO 71048 37784 Pit LT21	Tarmacadam road surface >> tarmac sub-base >> small angular stones hardcore & gravel >> firm mid reddish-brown silty clay sand, 50% very small angular & subangular stones & gravels	NAI

Date	Location	Grid ref/pit or section no.	Description	Results
28/01/08	High Street outside No 36	SO 71039 37809 Pit LT22	Tarmacadam road surface >> tarmac & stone sub-base >> hardcore & small grey angular stones >> firm mid reddish-brown clay sand silt, 80% small & medium angular stones & gravels & 20% degraded stone inclusions	NAI
28/01/08	High Street opposite junction with Bank Crescent	SO 71030 37826 Pit LT23	Tarmacadam surface >> tarmac & stone sub-base >> hardcore deposit of small & medium angular & subangular stones >> firm mid reddish-brown sand clay silt, 40% brick fragments small & medium angular stones >> firm mid reddish-brown sand clay silt, 20% degraded stone inclusions	NAI
28/01/08	High Street outside No 31 immediately N of Bank Crescent	SO 71026 37837 Pit LT24	Tarmacadam surface >> tarmac & stone sub-base >> stony hardcore deposit >> stone & gravel fill >> firm mid reddish-brown sand clay silt, 80% very small angular stones & gravels & 20% degraded stones inclusions	NAI
30/01/08	High Street outside No 16 & No 18	SO 71044 37791 Pit LT25	Tarmacadam road surface >> tarmac & stone sub-base >> stony hardcore sub-base >> gravel trench fill >> firm mid reddish-brown sand clay silt 30% small & medium angular stones >> firm mid reddish-brown sand clay silt containing occasional medium angular stones	NAI
30/01/08	High Street outside No 20	SO 71064 37746	Tarmacadam road surface >> tarmac &	NAI

Date	Location	Grid ref/pit or section no.	Description	Results
		Pit LT26	stone sub-base >> small grey angular stone layer >> gravel trench fill >> firm mid redeposited reddish-brown sand clay silt containing 30% small & medium angular stones >> firm mid reddish-brown sand clay silt >> stony gravel trench fill	
30/01/08	High Street outside No 22	SO 71061 37756 Pit LT27	Tarmacadam road surface >> tarmac & stone sub-base >> hardcore sub-base >> CBM & stony layer >> firm mid reddish-brown sand clay silt	NAI
30/01/08	High Street, corner of The Homend	SO 71035 37815 Pit LT28	Tarmacadam road surface >> tarmac & stone sub-base >> stony sub-base >> moderately compacted reddish-sandy clay containing CBM fragments & fragments of C19 'bullseye' window glass >> firm mid reddish-brown sand clay silt	NAI
04/02/08	Centre of road outside No 2 High Street	SO 71064 37765 Pit LT29	Tarmacadam road surface >> gravel sub-base >> moderately to firm grey red silty sandy clay, frequent angular mudstone >> firm pinkish-red sandy clay, frequent small rounded stones	NAI
04/02/08	Centre of road outside Merlins, High Street	SO Pit LT30	Tarmacadam road surface >> gravel sub-base >> moderate to firm brownish-red silty clay sand >> moderately compacted pinkish-red sandy clay, occasional small stones	NAI
04/02/08	Centre of road outside Cheltenham &	SO 71064 37767	Tarmacadam road surface >> sub-base	NAI

Date	Location	Grid ref/pit or section no.	Description	Results
	Gloucester, High Street	Pit LT31	>> moderately compacted brownish-red sandy clay, occasional small to medium angular stones >> firm brownish-grey sandy clay, frequent angular stones	
04/02/08	High Street outside Cheltenham & Gloucester 4m N of Pit LT31 on High Street	SO 71061 37771 Pit LT32	Tarmacadam road surface >> hardcore sub-base >> loose greyish-red sandy clay, occasional to moderate small angular mudstone >> moderately compacted red sandy clay, frequent small pebbles	NAI
04/02/08	Outside The Seven Stars PH, The Homend	SO 71063 37769 Pit LT33	Tarmacadam road surface >> stony sub-base >> greyish-pink moderately compacted clayey sand, moderate grit >> loose to moderately compacted greyish-pink clayey sand, frequent angular mudstone	NAI
04/02/08	The Homend, outside optician	SO 71059 37779 Pit LT34	Tarmacadam road surface >> gravel sub-base >> moderately compacted pinkish-brown sandy clay, frequent small pebbles	NAI
05/02/08	High Street opposite Bye Street junction, outside No 5	SO 71081 37729 Pit LT35	Tarmacadam road surface >> tarmac & stone sub-base >> compact light grey angular stone layer >> firm light brownish clay silt sand & angular & subangular stones >> layer of cobbles packed in a reddish-brown sand clay silt >> compact deposit of small angular & subangular stones & occasional CBM >> firm mid	Possible late post-medieval road surface overlying cobbled surface, possibly representing two phases of road construction

Date	Location	Grid ref/pit or section no.	Description	Results
			reddish-brown sand clay silt, 30% angular stones	
05/02/08	High Street outside The Homend Mews	SO 71076 37740 Pit LT36	Tarmacadam road surface >> tar & stone sub-base >> firm greyish hardcore >> brick rubble layer >> firm mid reddish-brown sand clay silt	NAI
05/02/08	High Street outside entrance to The Homend Mews	SO 71073 37749 Pit LT37	Tarmacadam road surface >> tar & stone sub-base >> stony hardcore layer >> firm mid reddish-brown sand clay silt containing brick fragments >> firm mid reddish-brown sand clay silt	NAI
05/02/08	High Street outside No 10	SO 71066 37762 Pit LT38	Tarmacadam road surface >> tar & stone sub-base >> stony hardcore layer >> firm mid to light brown clay sand silt, frequent gravel inclusions >> stony gravel trench fill material >> loose medium & large angular stones & occasional wood pieces within reddish-brown silt clay sand >> firm mid reddish-brown gritty clay silt sand containing 60% yellowish sandstone	Pit containing stone & wood, probably representing post-medieval demolition rubble
05/02/08	High Street outside The Orangery	SO 71067 37758 Pit LT39	Tarmacadam road surface >> tar & stone sub-base >> stone layer >> moderately compacted reddish-brown sand clay silt containing frequent small medium & large angular & subangular stones >> firm mid reddish-brown gritty clay silt sand containing 60% small yellowish-stones	NAI
11/02/08	High Street opposite Four Oaks	SO 70987 37932	Tarmacadam road surface >> stony sub-	NAI

Date	Location	Grid ref/pit or section no.	Description	Results
	delicatessen	Pit LT40	base >> tarmac & stone aggregate sub-base >> aggregate layer containing frequent large stones >> moderately compacted red sand silty clay occasional small stones & degraded stone inclusions	
11/02/08	High Street opposite No 76	SO 70983 37952 Pit LT41	Tarmacadam road surface >> stone sub-base >> tarmac & stone layer >> aggregate layer containing frequent large stones >> moderately compacted red sand silty clay & occasional small stones & degraded stone inclusions	Large Fe nail or spike
13/02/08	High Street outside No 36 & No 38	SO 71010 37879 Pit LT42	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> stony layer containing occasional CBM >> moderately compacted red sand silty clay, bluish-grey degraded stone inclusions	NAI
13/02/08	High Street outside The Olive Tree	SO 70985 37910 Pit LT43	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> moderately compacted red sand silty clay & occasional small stones	NAI
13/02/08	High Street outside The Olive Tree c.12m N of Pit LT43	SO 70992 37933 Pit LT44	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> moderately compacted mid red sand silty clay, occasional small stones & CBM	NAI
13/02/08	High Street outside The Olive Tree opposite gated entrance	SO 71009 37903 Pit LT45	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> moderately compacted mid red sand silty clay,	NAI

Date	Location	Grid ref/pit or section no.	Description	Results
			occasional small stones	
14/02/08	High Street outside No 72, Charisma	SO 70990 37940 Pit LT46	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> moderately compacted mid red sand silty clay, occasional stones & CBM	NAI
14/02/08	High Street outside No 50	SO 70990 37913 Pit LT47	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> moderately compacted mid red sand silty clay, occasional CBM & occasional large stones	NAI
14/02/08	High Street outside No 64	SO 71008 37907 Pit LT48	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> moderately compacted mid red sand silty clay, occasional small stone & CBM	NAI
19/02/08	Outside No 104 St Katherine's Terrace	SO 70957 38040 Pit LT49	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base occasional CBM >> firm mid reddish-brown sand silty clay, occasional CBM & small stones	NAI
19/02/08	High Street outside Carey Gunmakers	SO 70977 37985 Pit LT50	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> moderately compacted mid reddish-brown sand silty clay, occasional small stone	NAI
19/02/08	High Street / The Homend at junction with Belle Orchard	SO 70976 37999 Pit LT51	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> moderately compacted reddish-brown sandy clay occasional small stones occasional CBM	NAI
21/02/08	High Street outside No 86	SO 70983 37975 Pit LT52	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> moderately compacted reddish-	NAI

Date	Location	Grid ref/pit or section no.	Description	Results
			brown sandy clay frequent small stones	
21/02/08	High Street outside No 84 Thornes Barbers	SO 70985 37972 Pit LT53	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> moderately compacted reddish-brown sandy clay, occasional CBM & small stones & degraded stone inclusions	NAI
21/02/08	High Street outside No 80	SO 70969 37950 Pit LT54	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> moderately compacted reddish-brown sand silty clay, occasional small stones & occasional CBM	NAI
21/02/08	High Street outside Hawcutt Funeral Parlour	SO 70989 37948 Pit LT55	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> moderately compacted reddish-brown sand silty clay, occasional small stones & CBM	NAI
22/02/08	Market Place	SO 71098 37719 Pit LT56	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> moderately compacted reddish-brown sand silty clay, occasional large red sandstone fragments	NAI
25/02/08	Outside No 96 St Katherine's Terrace	SO 70960 38032 Pit LT57	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> moderately compacted reddish-brown sand silty clay, occasional stone & CBM	NAI
25/02/08	Outside No 98 St Katherine's Terrace	SO 70960 38034 Pit LT58	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> moderately compacted reddish-brown sand silty clay occasional CBM & small stones	NAI
25/02/08	Outside 'No 102' St Katherine's Terrace	SO 70961 38038 Pit LT59	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >>	NAI

Date	Location	Grid ref/pit or section no.	Description	Results
			moderately compacted reddish-brown sand silty clay, occasional CBM & small sandstone fragments	
25/02/08	Outside No 100 St Katherine's Terrace	SO 70960 38037 Pit LT60	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> moderately compacted sand silty clay, occasional small sandstone fragments	NAI
25/02/08	High Street / The Homend outside former Cottage Hospital	SO 70954 38019 Pit LT61	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> moderately compacted reddish-brown sand silty clay, bluish-grey degraded stone inclusions & occasional CBM	NAI
27/02/08	Belle Orchard at junction with High Street	SO 70967 38026 to SO 70960 38025 Pit LT62	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> moderately compacted reddish-brown sand silty clay frequent CBM	NAI
28/02/08	High Street / The Homend junction, Orchard Lane outside No 140	SO 70951 38134 Pit LT63	Tarmacadam road surface >> tarmac sub-base >> aggregate sub-base >> moderately compacted reddish-brown sand silty clay, occasional CBM fragments & small stones	NAI
03/03/08	High Street outside Nos125-137	SO 70988 37961 to SO 70985 37957 Pit LT64	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> moderately compacted reddish-brown sand silt clay, occasional small stones & CBM	NAI
03/03/08	High Street outside Isaacs	SO 70986 37940 to SO 70988 07939 Pit LT65	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> moderately compacted reddish-brown sand silty clay, occasional CBM & small stones	NAI
04/03/08	Outside No 106 St	SO 70956	Tarmacadam road	NAI

Date	Location	Grid ref/pit or section no.	Description	Results
	Katherine's Terrace	38066 Pit LT66	surface >> aggregate sub-base >> moderately compacted reddish- brown sand silty clay, occasional CBM & small stones	
04/03/08	Outside No 108 St Katherine's Terrace	SO 70958 38064 Pit LT67	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> moderately compacted reddish- brown sand silty clay, occasional small stones	NAI
04/03/08	Outside No 110 St Katherine's Terrace	SO 70956 38066 Pit LT68	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> moderately compacted reddish- brown sand silty clay containing occasional small stones	NAI
04/03/08	Outside No 112 St Katherine's Terrace	SO 70956 38064 Pit LT69	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> moderately compacted reddish- brown sand silty clay, occasional small stones	NAI
04/03/08	Outside No 114 St Katherine's Terrace	SO 70958 38065 Pit LT70	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> moderately compacted reddish- brown sand silty clay, small stones & CBM fragments	NAI
04/03/08	Outside No 116 St Katherine's Terrace	SO 70956 38073 Pit LT71	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> moderately compacted reddish- brown sand silty clay containing occasional small stones	NAI
04/03/08	High Street, outside Baptist Church	SO 70964 38082 Pit LT72	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> moderately compacted red sand silty clay, occasional small stones	NAI
05/03/08	High Street outside No 128	SO 70965 38108	Tarmac road surface >> tarmac & stone	NAI

Date	Location	Grid ref/pit or section no.	Description	Results
		Pit LT73	sub-base >> hardcore layer >> firm mid reddish-brown silty clay sand containing 70% CBM, mortar & charcoal flecking	
05/03/08	High Street outside No 130	SO 70952 38115 Pit LT74	Tarmacadam road surface >> tarmac sub-base >> hardcore deposit >> firm mid reddish-brown silty clay sand containing 70% CBM fragments mortar & charcoal flecking & small & medium stones	NAI
05/03/08	High Street outside No 122 opposite Dews Yard	SO 70953 38108 Pit LT75	Tarmacadam road surface >> tarmac & stone sub-base >> hardcore layer >> firm mid reddish-brown silty clay sand, 70% brick fragments mortar & charcoal flecking	NAI
05/03/08	High Street outside No 130 adjacent to N corner of property	SO 70940 38114 Pit LT76	Tarmacadam road surface >> tarmac & stone sub-base >> hardcore layer >> aggregate sub-base >> firm mid reddish-brown silty clay sand containing 70% brick CBM mortar charcoal flecking small & medium angular stones	NAI
05/03/08	High Street outside No 36	SO 70967 38101 Pit LT77	Tarmacadam road surface >> tarmac & stone sub-base >> hardcore layer >> firm mid reddish-brown silty clay sand, 70% CBM & small & medium angular stones	NAI
05/03/08	High Street outside No 140 The Homend	SO 70938 38128 Pit LT78	Tarmacadam road surface >> tarmac & stone sub-base >> hardcore sub-base >> firm mid reddish-brown silty clay sand, 20% CBM & small & medium angular	NAI

Date	Location	Grid ref/pit or section no.	Description	Results
			stones	
10/03/08	Bank Crescent at junction with High Street	SO 71043 37840 to SO 71042 37835 Pit LT79	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> stony sub-base >> moderately compacted reddish-brown sand silty clay, occasional CBM	NAI
11/03/08	Bank Crescent outside No 4 & No 2	SO 71036 37832 to SO 71061 37853 Pit LT80	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> large angular stones & CBM >> moderately compacted reddish-brown sand silty clay, occasional small stones & CBM	NAI
31/03/08	The Homend at junction with Orchard Lane	SO 70935 38144 to SO 70947 38151 Pit LT81	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> tarmac surface >> moderately compacted reddish-silty clay containing 60% CBM, yellowish sand inclusions, occasional timber & Fe >> firm mid reddish-silty clay >> loose mid brown sand 70% CBM & stone	Frequent C19 pottery & CBM, partial wooden railway sleeper iron bar & gate hinge & an accumulation of demolition rubble, possible pit
01/04/08	The Homend at junction with Orchard Lane	SO 70948 38156 Pit LT82	Tarmacadam road surface >> tarmac sub-base >> loose sand, frequent gravel >> compact greyish sand & aggregate >> firm mid reddish sand & aggregate layer >> firm mid red silty clay, frequent degraded stone >> firm mid red silty clay >> moderately compacted light reddish-sandy clay containing moderate gravel inclusions	NAI
02/04/08	Orchard Lane immediately S of supermarket car park	SO 70932 38168 Pit LT83	Tarmacadam road surface >> concrete underpinning >> asphalt sub-base >> compact light reddish-orange grit &	NAI

Date	Location	Grid ref/pit or section no.	Description	Results
			stone trench fill >> firm greyish-road stone >> moderately compacted to firm mid reddish-orange silty clay	
07/04/08	Outside No 140 St Katherine's Terrace	SO 70955 38154 Pit LT84	Tarmacadam road surface >> asphalt sub-base >> indurated concrete >> firm mid reddish-grit & stone >> firm mid red silty clay	NAI
07/04/08	The Homend at junction with Orchard Lane 2m N of Pit LT84	SO 70955 38145 Pit LT85	Tarmacadam road surface >> asphalt sub-base >> firm light brown sand & gravel >> firm mid reddish-brown silty clay	NAI
09/04/08	The Homend outside entrance to Westmead	SO 70913 38262 Pit LT86	Tarmacadam road surface >> asphalt sub-base >> weakly cemented light reddish-brown sand & gravel >> firm mid reddish-sand grit & gravel >> firm grey sand gravel & pebbles >> firm mid red silty clay, frequent greyish degraded stone inclusions	NAI
09/04/08	The Homend opposite filling station	SO 70934 38231 Pit LT87	Tarmacadam road surface >> weakly cemented grey sand & roadstone >> firm mid reddish-brown sand silt clay, frequent road stone inclusions	NAI
14/04/08	The Homend adjacent to boundary between Greenacres & Westmead	SO 70903 38313 Pit LT88	Tarmac road surface >> tarmac sub-base >> indurated concrete sub-base >> firm mid red silty clay	NAI
14/04/08	The Homend outside Green Acres	SO 70900 38320 Pit LT89	Tarmacadam road surface >> asphalt hardcore >> concrete stony sub-base >> firm mid reddish-silty clay occasional greenish-degraded stone >> firm greyish gritty sand & gravel	NAI

Date	Location	Grid ref/pit or section no.	Description	Results
14/04/08	The Homend outside driveway to Shalom	SO 70899 38333 Pit LT90	Tarmacadam road surface >> tarmac asphalt roadstone sub-base >> tarmac & medium angular & subangular stones >> firm mid red sandy clay, occasional stones >> weakly cemented gritty sand & small stones	NAI
14/04/08	The Homend outside gateway Shalom	SO 70896 38344 Pit LT91	Tarmacadam road surface >> tarmac & roadstone sub-base >> stony gritty layer >> firm mid reddish-brown silty clay, moderate degraded stone	NAI
14/04/08	The Homend outside Deanwood	SO 70892 38362 Pit LT92	Tarmacadam road surface >> road stone sub-base >> firm mid red sandy clay, frequent road stone inclusions	NAI
15/04/08	The Homend at junction with Newbury Park	SO 70889 38404 Pit LT93	Tarmacadam road surface >> road stone & tarmac sub-base >> stony concrete sub-base >> weakly cemented red silty clay & siltstone, frequent degraded stone inclusions >> firm mid red silty clay, moderate red siltstone fragments & occasional tarmac & gravel	NAI
17/04/08	Newbury Park near junction with The Homend	SO 70871 38386 to SO 70860 38383 Pit LT94	Tarmacadam road surface >> angular stony sub-base >> firm mid red silty clay	NAI
21/04/08	The Homend, immediately N of junction, The Langland, opposite Homend Lodge	SO 70874 38496 Pit LT95	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> trench fill material >> firm light reddish-orange sand silt clay, occasional subangular stones	NAI
21/04/08	The Homend outside Beulah Villas	SO 70884 38425 Pit LT96	Tarmacadam road surface >> tarmac & stone sub-base >> tarmac & greyish-	NAI

Date	Location	Grid ref/pit or section no.	Description	Results
			gritty stone trench fill >> firm mid red sand silt clay, occasional stones	
21/04/08	The Homend outside Beulah Villas 25m N of Pit LT96	SO 70882 38443 Pit LT97	Tarmacadam road surface >> tarmac stony sub-base >> firm mid reddish- brown silty clay, occasional subangular stones >> firm greyish gritty sand & stony trench fill	NAI
22/04/08	The Homend, c.8m S of junction with The Langland	SO 70885 38479 Pit LT98	Tarmacadam road surface >> tarmac stony sub-base >> grit & stone trench fill material >> firm mid red sandy clay, frequent subangular stones, occasional CBM	NAI
28/04/08	The Homend, opposite entrance to industrial units adjacent to railway station	SO 70861 38560 Pit LT99	Tarmacadam road surface >> tarmac sub-base >> grey sand & gravel trench fill >> firm light reddish-brown sand, occasional subangular stones >> firm mid reddish-clay siltstone & very frequent 25% degraded stone	NAI
28/04/08	The Homend, opposite entrance to railway station	SO 70861 38569 Pit LT100	Tarmacadam road surface >> aggregate sub-base >> stony trench fill >> firm mid reddish-brown sandy clay, frequent aggregate inclusions	NAI

5.2 Further Information & Interpretation

5.2.1 Building rubble deposit in Market Place (SO 71090 37704 & SO 71087 37707) Pit LT18 & LT19 (Map E313/06)

A heavy concentration of brick rubble was observed in two pits at the northernmost end of the Market Place, close to the junction of High Street and Bye Street. This was possibly associated with the demolition of Butchers Row (Herefordshire SMR No 19880), a large complex of buildings within the area of the medieval market place associated with animal slaughter & butchery, with antecedents dating to the 13th century, when five shambles or slaughterhouses are mentioned (Hillaby 1982, 47; Buteux 1995, 6-8). The

shops remained in use through several phases of reconstruction until their clearance in the early to mid 19th century, the demolished structures probably being of 16th century date or later. Based on the evidence of brick & mortar samples, the rubble identified during the current programme of works appears to relate to a post-medieval phase of construction. The rubble layer was >0.65m thick & >4.0m (E-W) by >2.7m (N-S) in Pit LT18 (**Fig. 1**) & 0.25m thick & >0.80m (N-S) in Pit LT19 (**Plate 1; Fig. 2**).

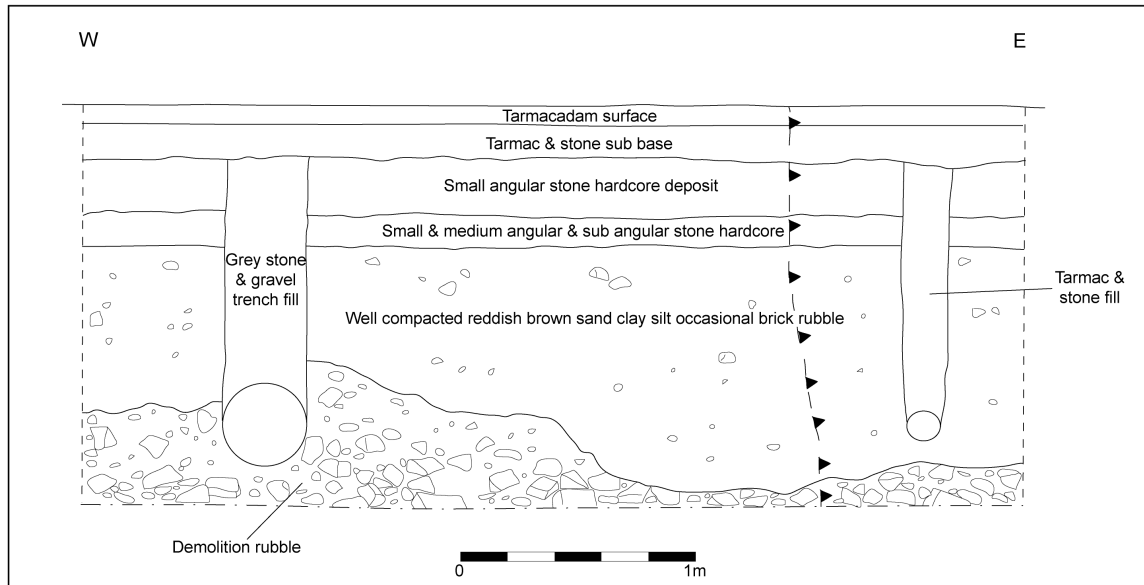


Fig. 1: S-facing section Pit LT18

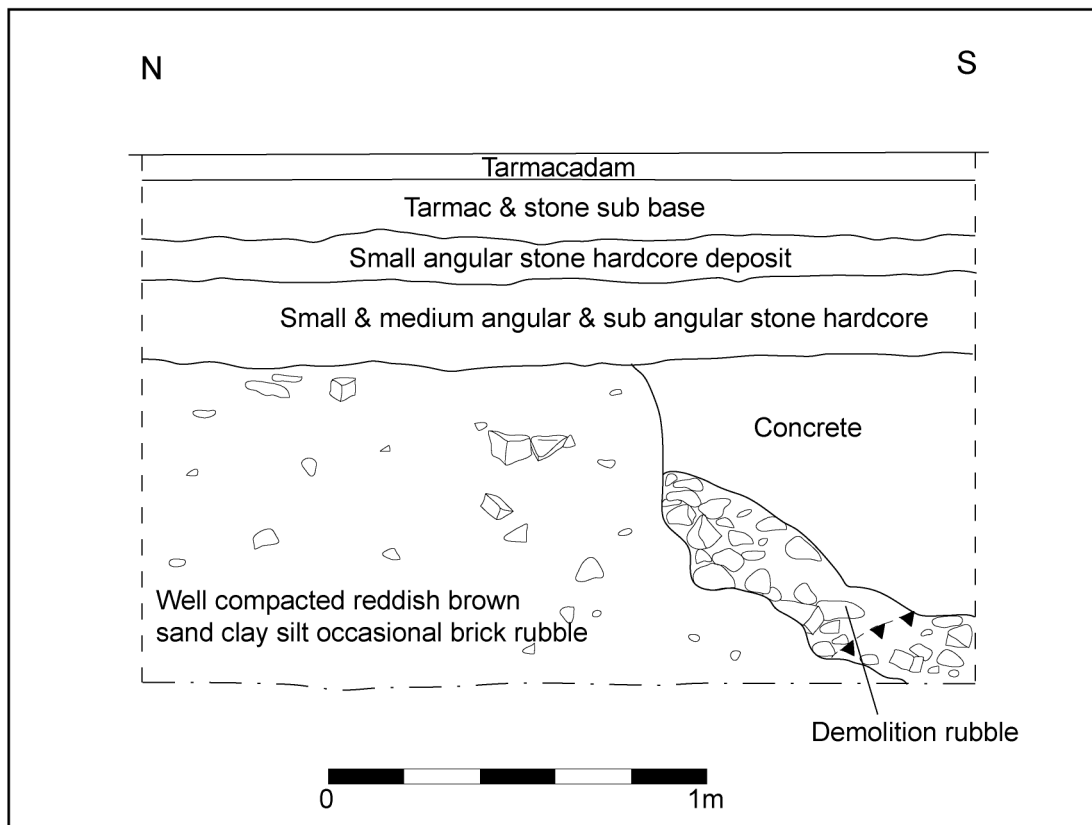


Fig. 2: W-facing section Pit LT19



Plate 1: View E showing demolition rubble within Pit LT19

5.3 Additional findings

5.3.1 Remains of cobbled surface in High Street opposite Bye Street junction outside No 5 (SO 71081 37729) Pit LT35 (Map E313/06)

A layer of cobbles set in a reddish-brown sand clay silt was revealed in this location at a depth of c.0.50m below the existing ground level. This cobble layer measured approximately 0.10-0.20m thick and underlay a firm light brown clay silt sand containing frequent angular and subangular stones (**Plate 2; Fig. 3**). This sequence of deposits appears to represent two phases of road construction comprising a late post-medieval roadway overlying a cobbled surface.

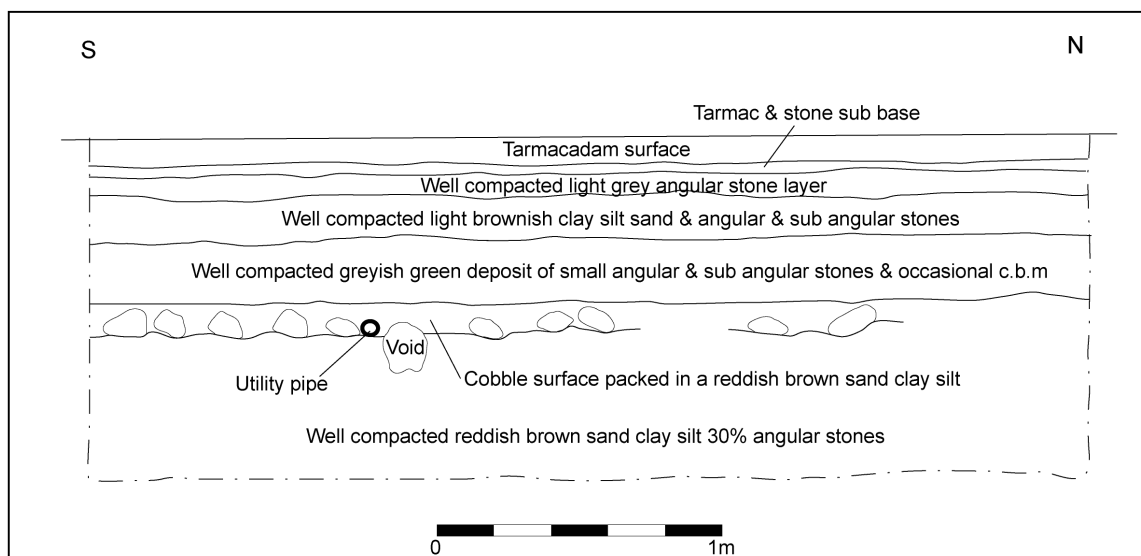


Fig. 3: E-facing section showing remains of cobbled surface in Pit LT35



Plate 2: View W showing fragmentary remains of cobbled surface

5.3.2 Pit containing stone & timber, probably representing post-medieval demolition rubble located outside No 10 High Street SO 71066 37762 Pit LT38 (Map E313/06)

A pit containing stone and timber, probably representing post-medieval demolition rubble, was identified outside No 10 High Street at a depth of c.0.20m below the existing ground surface (**Fig. 4**). The feature underlay a firm mid to light brown clay sand silt containing frequent gravel inclusions, which, in turn, underlay a series of deposits forming the modern road surface.

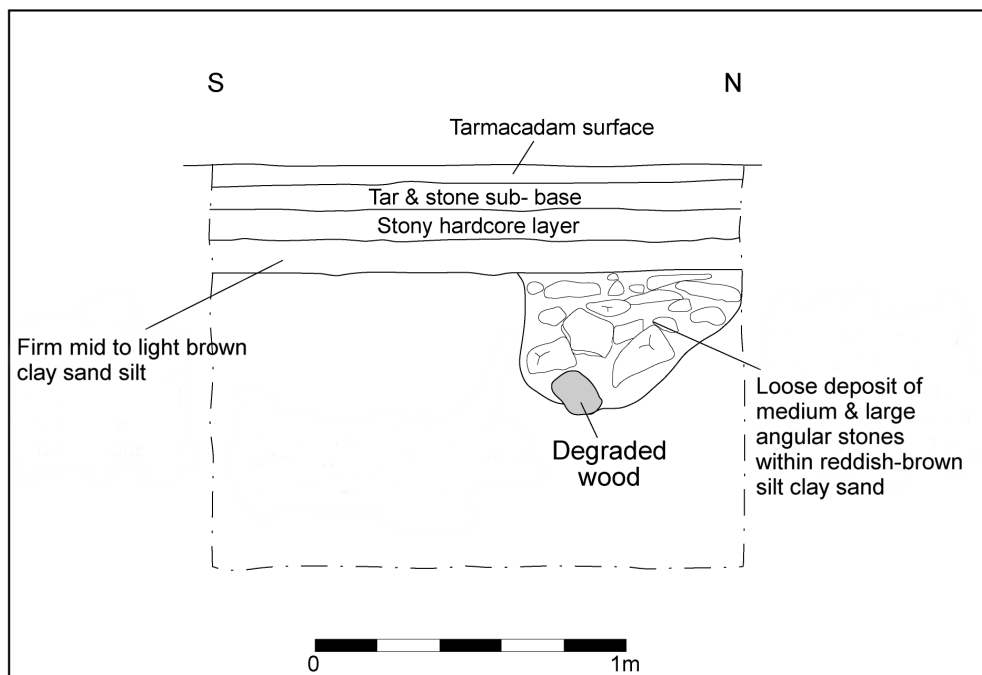


Fig. 4: E-facing section showing pit containing post-medieval demolition rubble

5.3.3 Iron (Fe) nail outside No 76 The Homend / High Street SO 70983 37952 Pit LT41 (Map E313/04)

An iron (Fe) spike, was excavated from an access pit in the road outside No 76 The Homend / High Street from a moderately compacted red sand silt clay containing occasional small stones & degraded stone inclusions. The deposit was >1.20m in thickness & measured >3.80m (N-S) by >3.20m (E-W) and had been heavily disturbed or redeposited by the installation of a modern water pipe.

The spike has a large flattish or slightly domed squared head, measuring 50mm x 55mm across, and a squared stem measuring 90mm in length (**Plates 3 & 4**). It is probably medieval or early post-medieval in date & may have been used for structural or decorative purposes.



Plates 3 & 4: Medieval or early post-medieval iron spike

5.3.4 Demolition material relating to mid to late 19th century buildings at The Homend junction with Orchard Lane SO 70935 38144 to SO 70947 38151 Pit LT81 (Map E313/04)

A possible pit and associated layer of building rubble observed in Orchard Lane probably derived from activity relating to the demolition of mid to late 19th century buildings in the vicinity of the modern supermarket car park. The material comprised frequent 19th century pottery & CBM, a section of wooden railway sleeper, an iron bar and gate hinge and an accumulation of demolition rubble (**Fig. 5**).

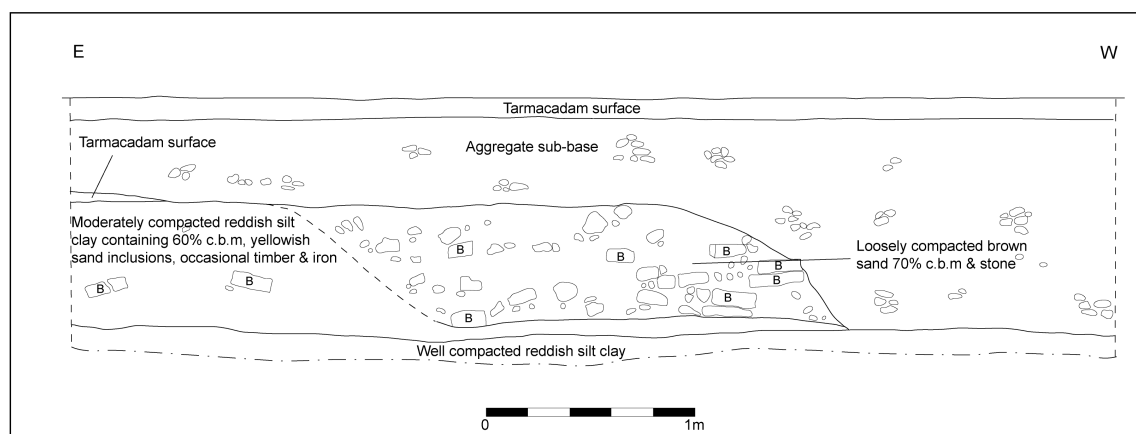


Fig. 5: N-facing section showing rubble deposit probably relating to the demolition of mid to late 19th century buildings in the Orchard Lane area

6. Conclusion

The observed section of pipeline refurbishment revealed a large quantity of building rubble probably relating to the demolition between 1820 and 1840 of a row of 15 burgage houses and shops known as Butchers Row, which formerly ran NW-SE along the W side of High Street. Documentary sources, specifically the Red Book of the bishop of Hereford, indicate the presence of five shambles or slaughterhouses in this part of the medieval market place as early as 1288. The properties which survived into the 19th century, however, were of 16th century date or later and the building debris identified at the N end of High Street appeared to represent a relatively late phase of construction activity.

Further evidence of demolition activity occurred in Orchard Lane, where a possible pit and associated layer of building rubble were identified. This appeared to represent more recent activity associated with the removal of mid to late 19th century buildings in the vicinity of the modern supermarket car park. The excavation of a pit opposite No 76 High Street revealed a probable medieval or early post-medieval large iron nail or spike used for structural or decorative purposes.

Most pits revealed evidence of previous utility groundworks & road construction activity. Significantly, however, the archaeological observation confirmed that no archaeology was damaged or disturbed during the programme of works without being recorded

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8. Bibliography

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9. DCWW / Laing O'Rourke scheme map showing location of pipeline

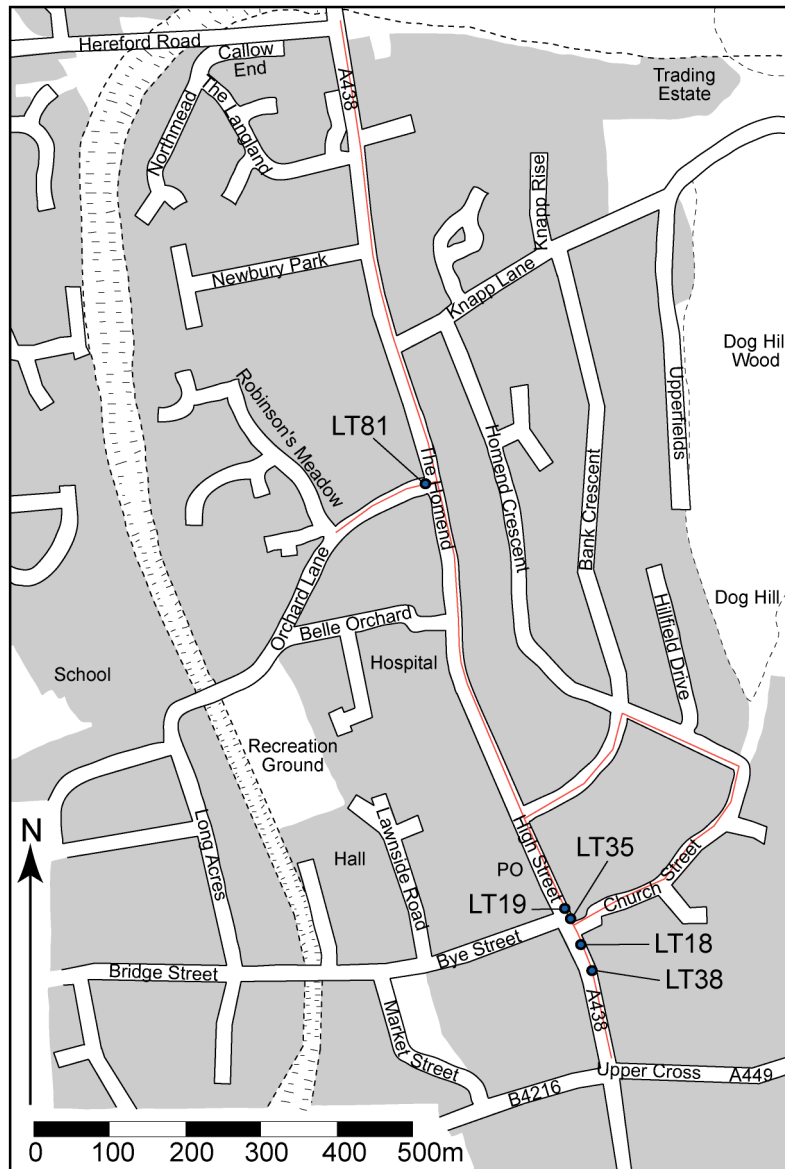


Fig. 6: Plan of Ledbury town showing location of pipeline and finds

10. Site summary

Report Name & Title	Ledbury Trunk Main (Town) Refurbishment Scheme	
Contractor's Name and Address	Border Archaeology Chapel Walk Burgess Street Leominster Herefordshire HR6 8DE	
Site Name	Ledbury Town	
Grid Reference (8 fig)	SO 7090 3810	
Planning Application Number	N/A	
SMR Number/s of Site	48660	
Date of Fieldwork	January 15 th 2008 & April 4 th 2008	
Date of Report	June 2008	
NUMBER AND TYPE OF FINDS		
Type	Period:	Quantity
Pottery	Post-medieval	8 sherds
CBM	Post-medieval	4 samples retained
Clay pipe	None	N/A
Animal bone	None	N/A
Metal finds	Iron spike	1
Other	None	N/A
NUMBER AND TYPE OF SAMPLES COLLECTED		
Sieving for charred plant remains	No of features sampled	N/A
	No of buckets	N/A
C¹⁴/scientific dates	No and Type	N/A
	Result	N/A
Pollen	No of columns/spot samples	N/A
	Name of pollen specialist	N/A
Bone	Number of buckets sieved for bone	N/A
	Quantity Recovered	N/A
	Period	N/A
Other (type and specialist)		N/A
Summary of the report:	<p>Evidence of extensive previous utility groundworks & road construction activity was revealed.</p> <p>Large quantities of building debris noted in the Market Place area probably represented the demolition of Butchers Row in 1820-40.</p> <p>A possible pit & associated layer of building rubble observed in Orchard Lane probably derived from more recent activity relating to the demolition of mid to late 19th century buildings in the vicinity of the modern supermarket car park.</p> <p>A probable medieval or early post-medieval large iron nail or spike used for structural or decorative purposes was unearthed in the The Homend.</p> <p>Significantly, the archaeological observation programme confirmed that no structures, features or deposits of archaeological significance were damaged during the course of the engineering works.</p>	

Document Control

Job title	Ledbury Trunk Main (Town) Refurbishment Scheme	Job No	BA0816LORLT
Report written by	<i>William Logan BA</i>		
Report edited by	<i>George Children MA</i>		
Issue No	Status	Date	Approved for issue
1	Final	June 2008	<i>Neil Shurety</i>