

# Archaeological Excavation

## **Pigeon House Orchard Hope under Dinmore Herefordshire**

Laing O'Rourke for  
Dŵr Cymru / Welsh Water

NGR: SO 50503 52333

SMR No. 41927

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# **BORDER ARCHAEOLOGY**

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### REPORT SPECIFICATION

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## 1. NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY

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*The excavation revealed the foundations of two ranges of substantial masonry buildings located in a field approximately 200m SE of Bury of Hope Farm, formerly known as Pigeon House Orchard.*

*Extensive cartographic and documentary research showed that these originally formed two L shaped ranges of outbuildings grouped around a rectangular courtyard, which originally comprised a building described as a 'pigeon house', a barn and stables. These outbuildings appear to have always belonged to Bury of Hope Farm, the grange farm of the manor of Hope under Dinmore, which was held throughout the medieval period by Leominster Priory. A survey of the manor of Hope under Dinmore taken in 1327 makes reference to a dovecote, and it is tempting to suggest that this structure was located in the field later known as Pigeon House Orchard.*

*However, it is not possible to establish with certainty whether the dovecote mentioned in 1327 actually lay in Pigeon House Orchard and whether the buildings which occupied the site in the early 19th century were medieval in origin. The absence of any reference to these outbuildings in three 17<sup>th</sup> century surveys of the Bury of Hope estate suggests that the buildings in Pigeon House Orchard which are shown in early to mid 19th century maps of the Bury estate could well date from the 18<sup>th</sup> century. It should also be noted that the farmhouse and adjacent barns at Bury of Hope Farm are known to have been extensively rebuilt in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century.*

*Extensive alterations appear to have been made to the outbuildings in Pigeon House Orchard during the first half of the 19th century, firstly by Thomas Berrington, owner of the Bury of Hope estate from 1809 to 1837, and subsequently by the Arkwright family, who converted part of the outbuildings into cottages in 1851. The cottages were leased to the Shrewsbury and Hereford Railway Company, to provide lodgings for the Inspector of Works and labourers employed in the construction of the railway, which ran immediately E of Pigeon House Orchard. The Pigeon House Cottages and associated outbuildings were completely demolished in 1868, in connection with the building of a new roadway running NW from the village towards the Bury of Hope Farm.*

## 2. INTRODUCTION

A programme of archaeological observation carried out by Border Archaeology on behalf of Laing O'Rourke and Dŵr Cymru / Welsh Water (DCWW) revealed the remains of substantial buildings in fields to the west of Hope under Dinmore village centre and close to the medieval grange known as Bury of Hope. These remains lay within the designated wayleave corridor located immediately to the north of the Cherry Brook and were revealed during a topsoil strip prior to the excavation of water pipeline trenching. With the agreement of Laing O'Rourke and DCWW, groundworks on this section of the pipeline were halted to enable further detailed investigations to be carried out. In conjunction with extensive documentary and cartographic research, these investigations revealed much information regarding the history and use of this long forgotten site, its possible medieval origins and its links with specific individuals and the coming of the railway in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century.

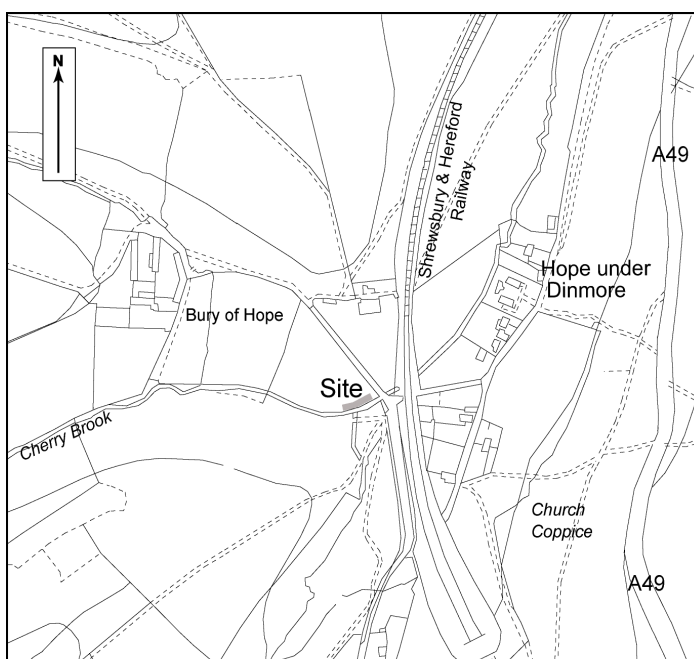


Figure 1: Site location

This programme forms part of Border Archaeology's remit to provide archaeological services to Laing O'Rourke and DCWW.

Copies of this report will be submitted to DCWW, Laing O'Rourke, Herefordshire Council and the regional Sites and Monuments Record.

### *2.1 Soil Characteristics & Geology*

Hope under Dinmore has typical argillic brown earths of the BROMYARD series consisting of well-drained fine silty soils over shale and siltstone and some similar soils with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal waterlogging, with some well-drained coarse loamy soils over sandstone.

The underlying geology of the area comprises Devonian reddish silty shale, siltstone and sandstone.



### 3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

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The village of Hope under Dinmore is a dispersed settlement, located approximately 6km S of Leominster. The core of the settlement is situated along the unclassified lane to the W of the A49 Hereford-Shrewsbury road, on the upper western slopes of the valley of the River Lugg, which runs approximately 500m to the W. As its name implies, the village is situated below and to the NW of the steep eminence of Dinmore Hill, which rises to a height of approximately 160m above Ordnance Datum.

A watching brief carried out by Border Archaeology on the construction of a new water main running through the village of Hope under Dinmore identified the foundations of two substantial masonry buildings, which were discovered in a small field immediately N of the Cherry Brook (a tributary of the River Lugg) known as Pigeon House Orchard (NGR SO 50503 52333). Border Archaeology was consequently instructed by Laing O'Rourke and Welsh Water to carry out an archaeological excavation of the site.

#### *3.1 Iron Age (c. 600 BC-43 AD)*

Evidence for prehistoric activity in the locality of Hope is somewhat limited. Apart from the discovery of a flint arrowhead of Bronze Age date to the SW of the village (SMR Record No. 6562) very little is known about prehistoric occupation in the area before the Iron Age. Iron Age occupation in the vicinity of Hope under Dinmore is well attested in the form of the large univallate hillfort situated E of Church Coppice at NGR SO 5200 5190 (SMR Record No. 1733). The hillfort consists of a single rampart and ditch, covering an approximate area of 9.6 hectares. It has been suggested that the place name element Dinmore, which is apparently derived from the Welsh *din mawr*, meaning great fort or hill, may refer to this particular hillfort, although it could equally refer to Dinmore Hill itself (Mills, 2003, 249). Another significant Iron Age hillfort site, Ivington Camp (SMR Record No. 905), is located approximately 3km NW of Hope under Dinmore (Dalwood, 1997; Sherlock, 1998).

#### *3.2 Roman (c.43 AD-410 AD)*

No archaeological evidence has been found to date indicative of Roman occupation in the immediate locality of the excavation site at Hope under Dinmore. The line of Watling Street West, the principal N-S route of communication during the Roman period, roughly following the line of the modern A 4110 road, is located approximately 5.5km W of Hope under Dinmore, while a secondary N-S route appears to have run to the E above the Lugg Valley on the edge of the Bromyard hills, between the Roman settlements of Weston under Penyard and Blackwardine. More recently, evidence has come to light of Iron Age/Roman settlement activity at Brierley, situated 3.5km NW of Hope under Dinmore.

#### *3.3 Medieval (5th-16th centuries)*

The origins of the present settlement at Hope under Dinmore can be traced back to the Anglo-Saxon period. It occurs as 'Hope' or 'Hopa' in the Domesday Survey of 1086; a



name derived from the OE place name element *hop* denoting a 'small enclosed valley' or 'enclosed plot of land' (Coplestone-Crow, 1989; Mills, 2003, 249). Hope under Dinmore was one of the 16 members or sub-manors of the manor or lordship of Leominster, which were then held as royal demesne by William the Conqueror. These estates formed the endowment of Leominster Priory, originally founded in about 660AD by Merewald, ruler of the Magonsaetan and re-founded as a nunnery during the late 9th-early 10th century, possibly by Queen Ethelfleda of Mercia.

In 1046, the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle records that Eadgifu, abbess of Leominster, was abducted by Earl Swein Godwinson, at which time the nunnery appears to have been dissolved (Garmonsway, 1972, 164). A year later, Swein was exiled and his earldom of Hereford granted to a Norman lord, Ralph de Mantes, a younger son of Godgifu, sister of King Edward the Confessor. It has recently been suggested that Ralph de Mantes may have been responsible for sequestrating the estates of Leominster nunnery (Hillaby, 1987, 655-60). After Ralph's death in 1057, Earl Harold (later King Harold II) took the earldom of Hereford and the estates of Leominster nunnery into his own hands, granting them to his sister Queen Edith, wife of King Edward the Confessor, who held them in 1066.

Leominster and its endowments remained in the hands of the Crown until 1121, when they were granted by King Henry I to his newly founded Cluniac abbey of Reading (Kemp, 1986, 13; Hillaby, 1987, 594). After c.1121, the lands of Leominster Priory were sub-divided into four large administrative units or 'hallimotes' (ministeria), namely Ivington in the SW, Luston in the NW, Stockton in the NE and Stoke Prior to the SE (Hillaby, 1987, 594). Hope under Dinmore was subsumed into the extensive 'hallimote' of Ivington, which covered the townships of Ivington, Brierley, Wharton, Wintercott, Broadward, Newton, Stagbach and Cholestrey. These medieval units of administration remained in existence long after the dissolution of Leominster Priory in 1539; in fact, Hope under Dinmore was treated as being part of the 'hallimote' of Ivington until the 18th century.

It appears that an irregular open field system prevailed at Hope during the medieval period, substantial remnants of which survived until the early 19th century, when systematic enclosure took place. Traces of ridge and furrow, characteristic of an open field system have been recorded in woodland at Dinmore Hill, on either side of the modern A49 road (SMR Record No. 485; NGR SO 5050 5120). Aerial photography has identified further evidence of ridge and furrow cultivation in the vicinity of Hope under Dinmore, at Upper Hill (SMR Record No. 30568; NGR SO 4720 5290).

An extent or survey of the manor of Hope under Dinmore in 1327 survives in a collection of records relating to Leominster Priory, transcribed in the early 18th century (HRO Ref. M31/9 f.122-3; printed in Price, 1795, 166-9). It is unclear whether the extent covers the entire manor of Hope under Dinmore, but it nevertheless provides an extremely valuable picture of the estate in the early 14th century. It identifies two common arable fields, 'Henhope', amounting to 150 acres and 'Brounesfield', containing 120 acres. Four open common pasture fields are listed, namely 'the meadow next the Lugg', 'Folkey', 'Cheney' and 'Grascroft', and five areas of woodland, called 'the foreign wood towards the west', Middleover, Plotwood (Plockwood), Birchover and 'the wood over against the Court'.

The mention of the 'Court' in the 1327 survey probably refers not to Hampton Court, which was built c.1434 by Sir Rowland Leinthal, but to the manorial grange which would normally consist of ranges of buildings around a courtyard (*curia*). The grange belonging to Leominster Priory at Hope under Dinmore is believed to have been situated at the farm later known as the Bury of Hope (first mentioned by that name in 1607). The Leominster antiquarian John Price, writing in 1795, noted that 'Bury House, formerly belonging to the Priory of Leominster, was the ancient residence of the Steward for this manor' (Price, 1795, 172). It is worth noting that at other estates belonging to Leominster Priory, such as Ivington, Stockton and Luston, the term 'bury' is used to refer to the grange farm. 'Bury' is derived from the OE place name element *burh*, which usually denotes a stronghold or fortified settlement.

No apparent evidence of fortification has been found at Ivington Bury, Stockton Bury, Bury Farm at Luston or Bury of Hope Farm. However, at the first three places, substantial evidence of medieval fabric has been preserved: a late 15th-early 16th century gatehouse at Ivington (SMR Record No. 5194), a medieval circular dovecote at Stockton (SMR Record No. 345) and a late 15th-early 16th century hall range at Luston (SMR Record No. 8920). Evidence of medieval work is less visible at the Bury of Hope Farm, a Grade II listed farmstead consisting of a farmhouse and an extensive range of outbuildings lying immediately to the N and E, dating mostly from the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century with later 19<sup>th</sup> century alterations (EH Listed Building Refs. 149630-149632). However, the farmhouse at Bury of Hope, ostensibly a mid-18<sup>th</sup> century building of two storeys and six bays, with a stuccoed façade and sash windows, is believed to incorporate earlier fabric (EH Listed Building Refs. 149630). A comparison of early 19<sup>th</sup> century plans of the Bury of Hope Farm with modern OS maps reveals that the layout of the buildings has remained essentially unchanged until the present day.

Significantly, the 1327 extent of Hope under Dinmore also mentions the existence of a dovecote, valued at two shillings, although its location is not detailed. It is tempting to place the location of this dovecote in the field called Pigeon House Orchard, particularly as an archaeological excavation carried out by Border Archaeology identified a substantial range of buildings in the S part of the field, which later documentary evidence shows to have comprised a pigeon house, barn and stables. A small assemblage of residual pottery fragments of 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> century date were also found during the excavation, attesting to medieval occupation of the site and adding weight to the possibility that the dove house mentioned in 1327 was indeed located in Pigeon House Orchard. However, later documentary and cartographic evidence indicates that the buildings identified during the excavation of the site probably date from the 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> centuries, although they might occupy the footprint of earlier structures.

### *3.4 Post-Medieval (16th century to present)*

In 1539, Reading Abbey and its dependencies (including Leominster Priory) were dissolved by Henry VIII and its estates confiscated by the Crown. Hope under Dinmore is listed in the Ministers' Accounts for Leominster Priory taken after its dissolution, which valued the rents and tithes of the free and customary tenants of Hope under Dinmore at £13 12s 3d (HRO Ref. M31/9; extracts printed in Dugdale, 1818-30, IV, 59). The accounts make no specific



reference to a dovecote or pigeon-house in Hope under Dinmore at this time.

The priory of Leominster and its estates (variously described as the manor or lordship of Leominster) were leased by the Crown in 1541 to Sir George Cornewall of Berrington, and were subsequently farmed by the Coningsby family during the late 16th-early 17th century. In 1620, the lordship of Leominster was granted by James I to his notorious favourite George Villiers, Marquis (later Duke) of Buckingham. In 1650, it was sequestered by Parliament and granted to Colonel Henry Marten, a leading Parliamentarian and signatory to Charles I's death warrant (Robinson, 1872, 198). The lordship of Leominster reverted to the Duke of Buckingham after the Restoration in 1660 and was subsequently sold to one Major Wildman in 1681 to clear the Duke's considerable debts.

Three 17th century surveys of the lordship of Leominster, including Hope under Dinmore, have survived; the first dating from 1609, when the lordship was still in the hands of the Crown (PRO Ref. LR 2/217 ff.49-59, summarised in Gray, 1915, 522), the second from 1651, after Henry Marten had been granted the estates by Parliament (HRO Ref. S67/1/1), while the third survey was drawn up in about 1665, when the Dukes of Buckingham had regained possession of their lands following the Restoration (HRO Ref. A63/1/306). These three surveys supply valuable information on the topography and the pattern of land ownership in Hope under Dinmore, providing details of farms and their owners, specifying the acreages of each estate, and listing the names of arable fields, meadows, orchards and woodland.

No reference is made to a dovecote or pigeon house in the 1609, 1651 or the 1665 survey, either in the sections dealing with the Bury Farm or the other tenant farms in Hope under Dinmore. The absence of any references in these surveys to a dovecote or pigeon house is somewhat disquieting. However, it is worth noting that the chief preoccupation of all three documents is with specifying the acreage of arable, meadow and woodland belonging to each property. Only limited information is provided concerning the outbuildings attached to the individual farms.

In 1692, the lordship of Leominster, including Hope under Dinmore, was sold to Lord Coningsby of Hampton Court for the large sum of £3060, and it thereafter remained in the possession of his descendants until the early 19th century. Unfortunately, the history of the Bury of Hope Estate and Pigeon House Orchard during the 18<sup>th</sup> century is poorly documented. However, the evidence of the existing buildings at Bury of Hope Farm indicates that the present farmhouse and adjacent ranges of barns were extensively rebuilt during the middle decades of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. It seems reasonable to assume that the outbuildings in Pigeon House Orchard, which always appear to have formed part of the Bury of Hope estate, could have been reconstructed at about the same time.

In 1809, the Coningsby Estate, including the Bury of Hope Farm, was sold by auction (BL Additional MS 13912). A large portion of the former lordship of Leominster was purchased from Lord Selsey and the Rt. Hon. James Peachey Esq., the trustees of the Coningsby Estate by Richard Arkwright, the famous cotton manufacturer; including the mansion of Hampton Court and its appurtenant lands.

However, Richard Arkwright's purchases in the parish of Hope under Dinmore did not

include the estate of Bury of Hope, which instead was acquired by Thomas Berrington Esq. of Winsley Hill. In 1812, Berrington sold several parcels of land belonging to the Bury of Hope estate to Arkwright, but retained the rest of the estate until his death in 1837. During his tenure of the estate, Berrington leased out the Bury of Hope Farm to a number of tenant farmers on short term leases (WRO Refs. 705:24/1255, 1297, 1309).



Figure 2: 1812 Plan of Bury of Hope Estate

(Reproduced by courtesy of Herefordshire Record Office)

A survey and valuation of the parish of Hope under Dinmore taken in 1818 contains a detailed description of the estate at Bury of Hope belonging to Thomas Berrington (HRO Ref. E41/3). This survey makes reference to a Pigeon House, Orchard and Buildings, amounting to 3 acres 3 rods and 6 perches. A sketch plan of the Berrington estate at Bury of Hope, drawn up in about 1812 (**Fig. 2**), clearly shows the layout of the buildings in what was later known as Pigeon House Orchard (HRO Ref. E41A/1/1-2). At that time, the buildings comprised two separate L shaped ranges situated immediately N of the Cherry Brook, enclosing a

rectangular courtyard, with the entrance located at the SE corner. The plan also shows an outer yard situated immediately S of the two ranges of buildings, the E and W boundaries of which are defined by fences or walls running down towards the Brook. The actual location of the pigeon house is not specified, but it appears that the N range consisted of a barn, while the E range may have served as stables. The archaeological excavation carried out by Border Archaeology in 2003 identified the foundations of what appears to have been the S range of outbuildings, aligned E-W and the S end of the E range, aligned N-S.

After Berrington's death in 1837, the Bury of Hope estate was sold by auction (HRO Ref. A63/III/48/2). The sale catalogue describes the property as 'commanding very high and extensive prospects, consisting of an excellent farm called the Bury of Hope, having a good farmhouse and all necessary outbuildings, several smaller farms, a Public House, Blacksmith's Shop, Carpenter's Shop, several cottages with gardens and small parcels of land attached, containing good orcharding and Hop plantations and about 130 acres of woodland and coppicing'.

By a deed of 25 June 1838, Thomas Berrington's trustees sold the remainder of his estate to John Arkwright Esq. of Hampton Court (HRO Ref. B76/2). At the same time, two detailed maps of the Bury of Hope estate were drawn up, one showing the property c. 1812, and the





Figure 3: 1837 Plan of the Bury of Hope Estate

(Reproduced courtesy of Herefordshire Record Office)

other showing the extent of the property in 1837 (HRO Ref. E41/A/1/1-2) (**Figs 2 & 3**). A comparison between these two maps and the sketch plan of the Bury estate made c.1822 reveals that a number of major alterations had been made to the layout of the buildings in Pigeon House Orchard. The L shaped range of buildings to the S and W, shown on the 1812 and 1822 maps, appears to have been significantly truncated, reducing it to the small rectangular structure aligned N-S, which is shown on the estate map of 1837 and subsequent maps and plans. The acreage of the Pigeon House Orchard had also increased slightly, from 3 acres, 3 rods and 6

perches to 4 acres and 11 perches, having absorbed part of the field called 'Essex' lying immediately to the W.

The reasons for these alterations are not altogether clear, but documentary evidence suggests that it may have been part of a general reorganization of the Bury of Hope estate carried out by Thomas Berrington between 1812 and 1837.

A letter accompanying the 1837 estate map, written by a local carpenter named William Vickress, who had been a tenant of the Bury estate for many years, described the significant changes that had been made to the estate and its boundaries during the intervening years (HRO Ref. E41/A/1/1-2). Vickress stated that 'great alterations have been made in the fences of the several fields belonging to the said Estate since the same was purchased by the said Thomas Berrington; many of the old fences having been removed, some of the fields or certain portions thereto, have been laid open to others adjoining and new fences made in various

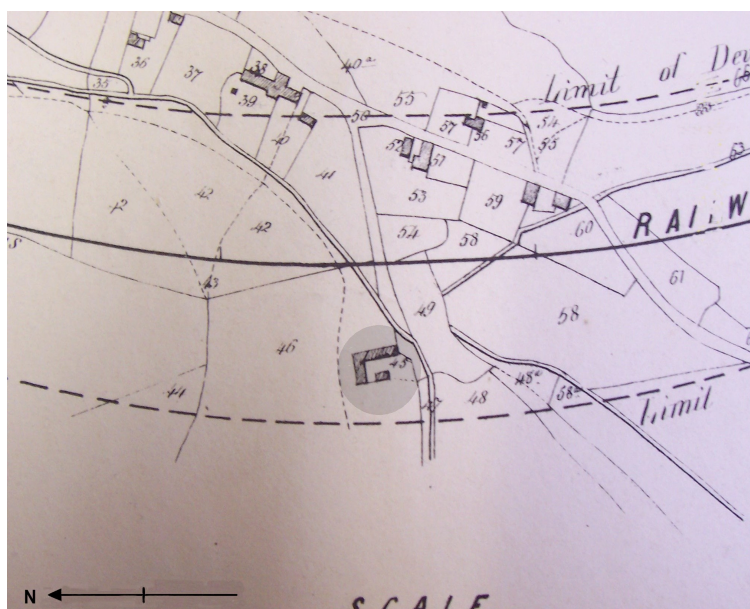


Figure 4: 1845 Railway Plan showing Pigeon House Cottages

(Reproduced courtesy of Herefordshire Record Office)

parts thereof'. This gradual regularization of field boundaries and the amalgamation of smaller fields into larger units can clearly be observed on the 1837 Bury of Hope estate map and is even more apparent on a plan of the area drawn up in 1845 in connection with the building of the Shrewsbury & Hereford Railway (**Fig. 4**).

The history of the Bury of Hope estate after its acquisition by John Arkwright in 1838 is extremely well documented, thanks to the survival of a substantial collection of records relating to the Arkwright Estate, deposited at the Herefordshire Records Office. Detailed accounts of building works and repairs to buildings on the Arkwright Estate have survived covering the years 1835 to 1880. These show that extensive alterations were made not only to the structures in Pigeon House Orchard but also to the Bury of Hope Farm and many other buildings in the immediate locality.

In 1841, repairs amounting to £25 were carried out to the Pigeon House, which was then held by John Weaver, the tenant of the Falcon Inn property, situated immediately to the E. At this time, it appears that the structures in Pigeon House orchard consisted of a pigeon house or dovecote, with an adjacent barn and stable range. Further changes to the function and layout of these buildings occurred in 1851, when they were converted into four cottages. The expenditure on the conversion of these buildings amounted to £90 13s 4d, and is itemized in the accounts, which show that £37 12s 3d was spent on the wages of masons and carpenters, glaziers and thatchers. The sum of £53 1s 1d was spent on smiths' wages and the purchase of materials, including paving stones, stone tiles, bricks, timber and ironwork (i.e. nails, locks & hinges). It is clear from the building accounts that these structures were extensively refurbished, both internally and externally (HRO Ref. E41/292, 152). The large quantity of stone tiling purchased for the reconstruction of the buildings was presumably used as some form of exterior wall facing; many of these tiles can still be found in the field where the Pigeon House Cottages once stood. Some of the tiles may have been supplied from a stoneyard, identified on the 1845 tithe map, which was situated immediately S of Pigeon House Orchard on the other side of the Cherry Brook.

Initially, these cottages were leased out to agricultural labourers working on the Arkwright estate. However, in late November-December 1851, the tenants of the Pigeon House Cottages were apparently compelled to leave (HRO Ref. E41/7, 89, 91). The reason for their removal was probably connected with an agreement made by John Arkwright with Mr J.B. Brierly, Inspector of Works on the Shrewsbury and Hereford Railway, who consented 'to take the two cottages and stable given up by Francis Fieldhouse at the Pigeon House Hope, rent of 5s per week' (HRO Ref. E41/7, 92).

A further agreement was made with Mr Brierly in April 1852, to lease out the Barn at Pigeon House Orchard and refurbish it as a stable (HRO Ref. E41/7, 103). At about that time, construction of the Hereford-Leominster section of the Shrewsbury & Hereford Railway, begun in 1850 under the direction of the engineer Thomas Brassey, was well underway. Evidently accommodation was needed for the Inspector of Works, and the labourers and horses employed in the construction of the railway, in particular the digging of the great tunnel under Dinmore Hill, over 1000 yards long (SMR Record 30834). At about the same time, a brickyard was erected to the S of Pigeon House Orchard for the use of the Railway Company, presumably for the production of bricks to be used in the construction of the tunnel (HRO Ref. E41/7, 71). The location of this brickyard is unclear; however, a brick

works is shown on the OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition map of 1889, situated approximately 200m S of Pigeon House Orchard. The tunnel at Dinmore Hill was finally opened on 16 September 1853.

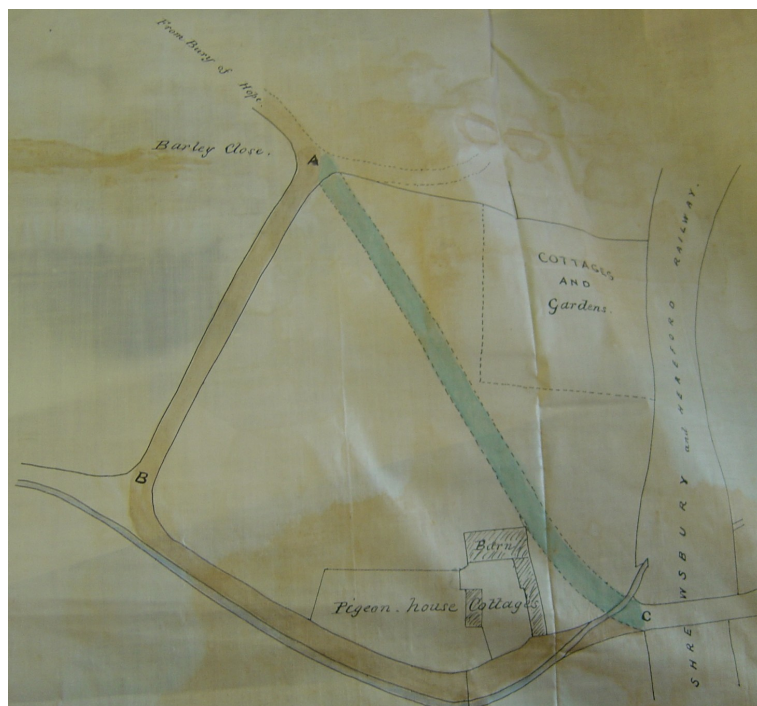


Figure 5: Plan showing line of proposed new highway at Hope under Dinmore in relation to Pigeon House Cottages (1867)

(Reproduced courtesy of Herefordshire Record Office)

The Shrewsbury and Hereford Railway Company continued to occupy Nos 1-4 Pigeon House Cottages until 1854, when Brierly's successor as Inspector of Works, one Mr Pollard, gave up possession to the Arkwrights (HRO Ref. E41/7, 145, 159). The cottages were subsequently let out to a variety of tenants, some of whom, like George Dymock, were railway labourers, while others were woodcutters and agricultural workers (HRO Ref. E41/7, 163,

171, 185). The 1861 census reveals that three of the cottages were occupied, by George Dymock, John Phillips, Right Herds and their respective families. Regular repairs continued to be carried out to the Pigeon House Cottages and associated outbuildings until the mid-1860s; the roof of one of the cottages was re-thatched in 1862 (HRO Ref. E41/11; E41/293).

By 1867, however, only two tenants, George Dymock and John Phillips, were still in occupation. Dymock vacated his cottage in March 1867 and Phillips in the following month (HRO Ref. E41/8, 69, 85). Shortly after this date, the Pigeon House Cottages were demolished. The demolition of the cottages appears to have been connected with the building of a new access road, at the request of J.H. Arkwright, running SE from Bury of Hope Farm to the bridge over the Shrewsbury & Hereford Railway. A plan of the proposed line of the road, which was entered in the Herefordshire Quarter Sessions for 1867, shows that it ran immediately NE of Pigeon House Cottages (HRO Ref. QSR/155/1867) (**Fig. 5**). After having surveyed the site in April 1867, it appears that the decision was taken to demolish the cottages (HRO Ref. E41/8, 85).

The estate account books contain an entry, dated 1868, describing the 'taking down' of Pigeon House Cottages and associated buildings at a cost of £18 4s. The demolition of the cottages seems to have been extremely thorough; the accounts refer to the stacking of stone and other building materials, the haulage of timber from the demolished buildings to the saw yard and the levelling of the land on which the buildings had formerly stood (HRO Ref. E41/293, 366). Shortly after the destruction of the cottages, the roadway was built,



presumably using the stonework from the demolished buildings. A culvert was also built under the road at Arkwright's own expense. The work was apparently completed by 1869, when fences were made along the new road at Pigeon House Orchard (HRO Ref. E41/294). These fences were levelled in 1874, but the road still exists today, running W to the Bury of Hope Farm and from there onwards to Woodmanton Farm and Winsley Hill. At

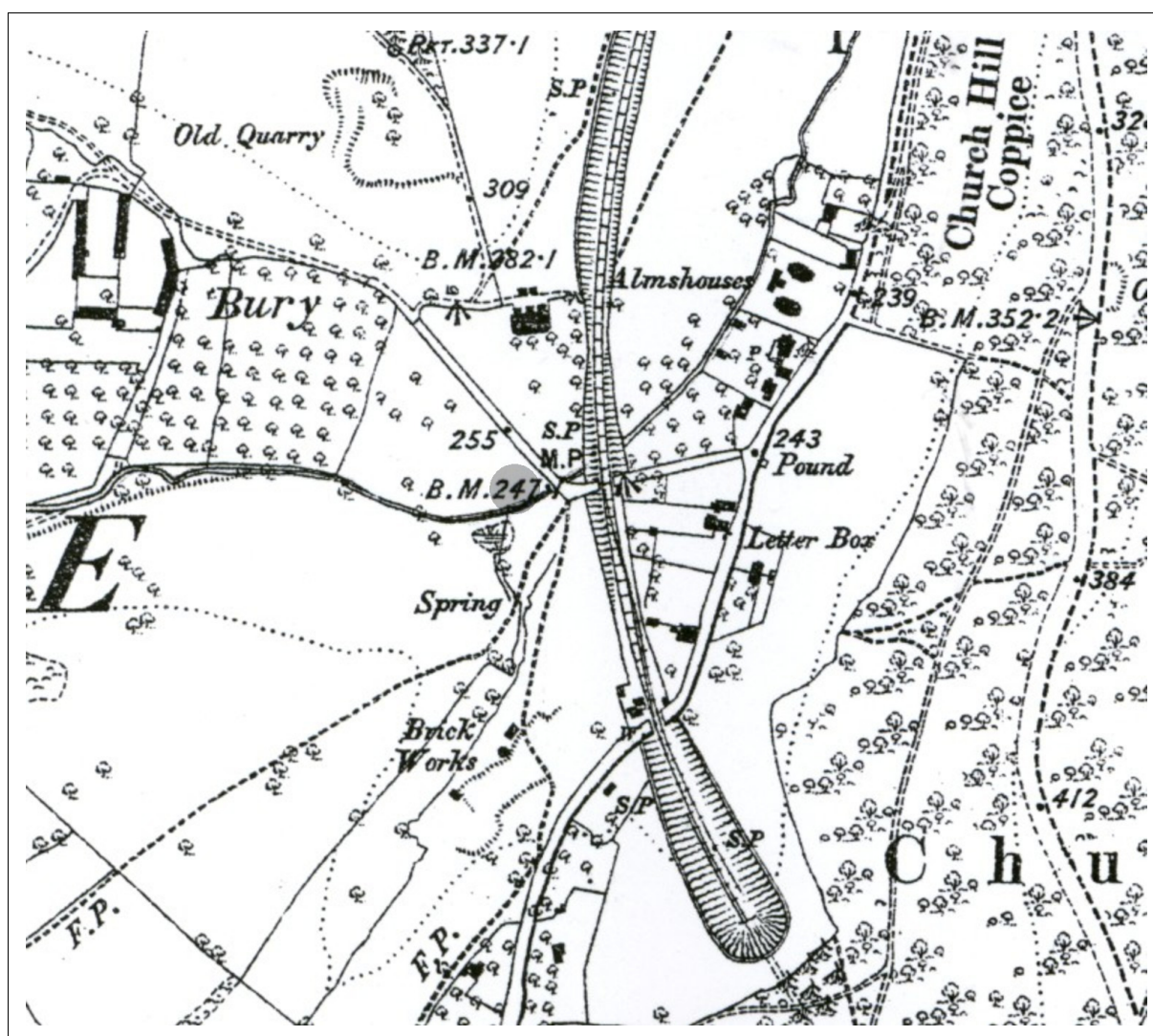


Figure 6: OS 1st edition 6-inch map Herefordshire 19 SE (1889) showing brickworks S of Cherry Brook

some time between 1889 and 1904, another brickworks was built, this time occupying the site of the stoneyard shown on the 1845 tithe map, to the S of Pigeon House Orchard (**Fig. 6**). This brickworks was presumably erected in connection with the construction of the left hand bore of the Dinmore tunnel, completed in 1893.



## 4. METHODOLOGY



Plate 1: The site prior to excavation, looking W

A specific area of archaeological potential comprising a surface scatter of large angular stones together with frequent charcoal flecking and pottery fragments was identified during the course of the groundworks undertaken to the N of the Cherry Brook.

Following initial investigations, an area measuring 7.5m wide at its western end, 4.5m at its eastern limit and 38m E-W was excavated by hand. A single temporary benchmark was established on the site with reference to a spot height value of 75.60m AOD located beneath the railway bridge.

The area was excavated to a depth of 0.15-0.35m below the existing ground level. Recording in plan was at a scale of 1:50 with building elevations drawn at 1:20 scale. Deposits, features and

structures were photographed using monochrome and colour transparency film.

Artefacts recovered from the spoil were recorded as unstratified; those of a late date or considered unimportant were recorded but not retained.





Plate 2: Building A looking N showing wall (008)

## 5. THE EXCAVATION

Immediately underlying the subsoil (002), which contained a moderate amount of post-medieval pottery and occasional medieval sherds, were the remains of walls representing two buildings (Building A and Building B), together with a very substantial quantity of sandstone building rubble (003), containing occasional post-medieval pottery. Building A (**Plates 2 & 3; Figs 7 & 8**) was located at the western end of the excavation area and comprised a three-quartered section of walling (007, 008 and 009) oriented N-S (cross axis) and E-W (long axis) forming the western side of a building. The outer and inner leaves were constructed of randomly uncoursed sandstone rubble bedded into a clay matrix. It would seem plausible that this portion of walling forms a dogleg section of the southern portion of an L-shaped building as represented on the 1812 plan of the Bury of Hope Estate (**Fig. 2**). Running adjacent to (009) but on a slightly different alignment was another sandstone wall (010) of similar construction although its position suggests it was part of a different phase of building activity.

It is difficult to determine whether Building A was a single or multi-celled structure, due to the paucity of internal partitioning. Three surviving features were identified within the interior, the first of which was represented by a charcoal and ash spread (005) covering an area of 1.50m x 1.00m. This lense was 0.01-0.05m thick with a series of small slender sandstone slabs arranged perpendicular to the ground and protruding from the underlying context (003). These may have been part of the general collapse or may represent part of a feature similar to context (011) (see below). The ash layer was not contemporary with Building A and was probably deposited after the demolition of the buildings in 1868.

The second internal feature (011) was located to the N of (005) and comprised a series of slender sandstone slabs set on end and running approximately 1.40m parallel to the projected line of (009). Cross slabs set perpendicular to the wall and 0.40m apart divided this feature into a series of compartments, at least two areas of compartmentalisation being visible, with a third slightly less distinct compartment at the eastern end of the feature. The

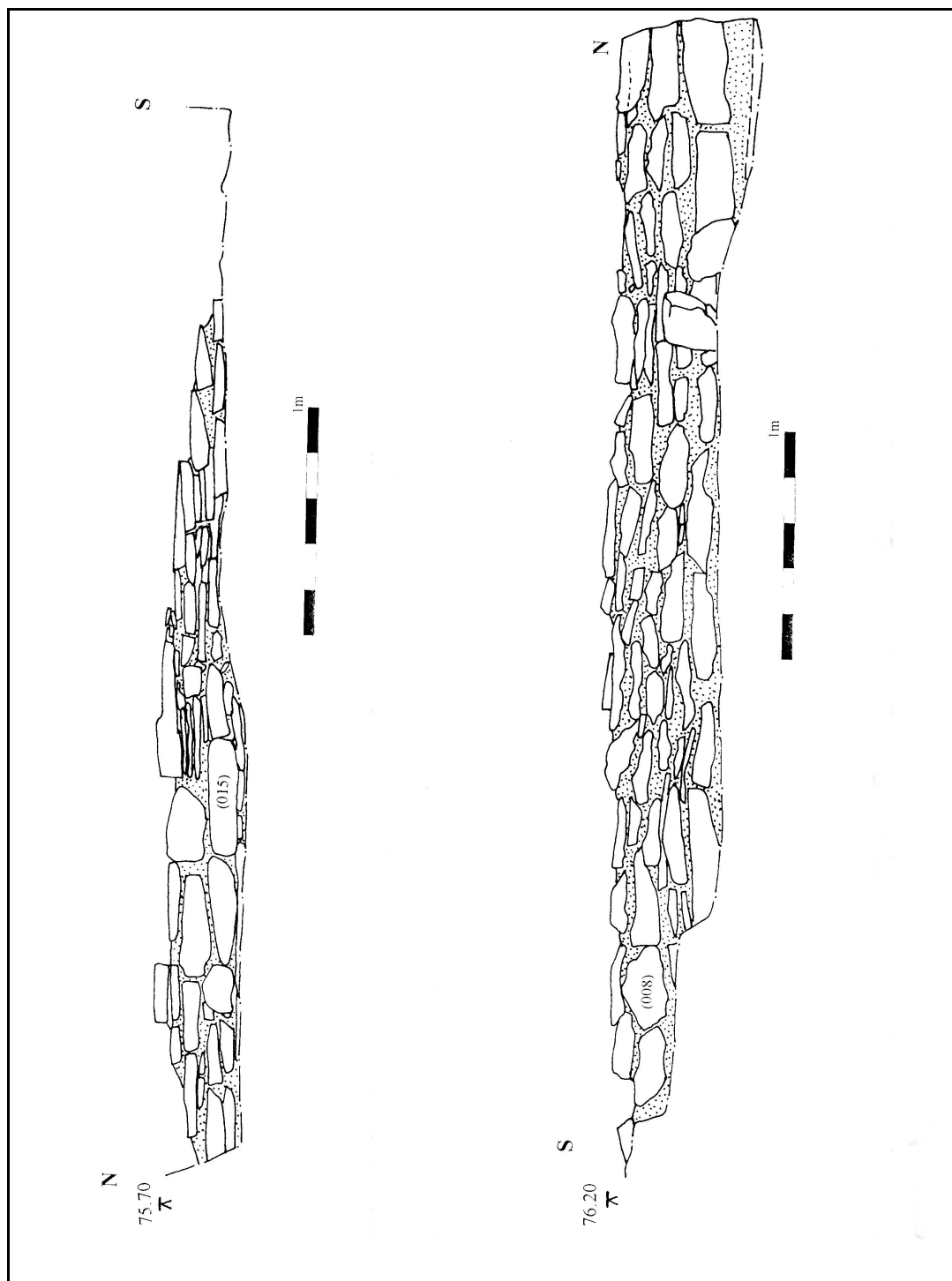


Figure 7: W-facing elevation of Building B (left) and E-facing elevation Building A (right)





Plate 3: Building A looking S towards Cherry Brook

remains of a flat stone base were also visible. These limited remains probably formed one of a series of stalls representing a longitudinal feeding passage dating to the period when the building formed part of a barn and stable range, i.e. prior to its conversion to cottages in 1851.

The third internal feature was located against the southern wall (007) and comprised two / three rectangular sandstone

slabs (014) orientated N-S and measuring  $>0.88\text{m} \times 0.35\text{m}$  and  $0.45\text{m} \times 0.33\text{m}$ . Again the exact nature of this feature was unclear, although its proximity to the stream and its form suggest that it was related to drainage.

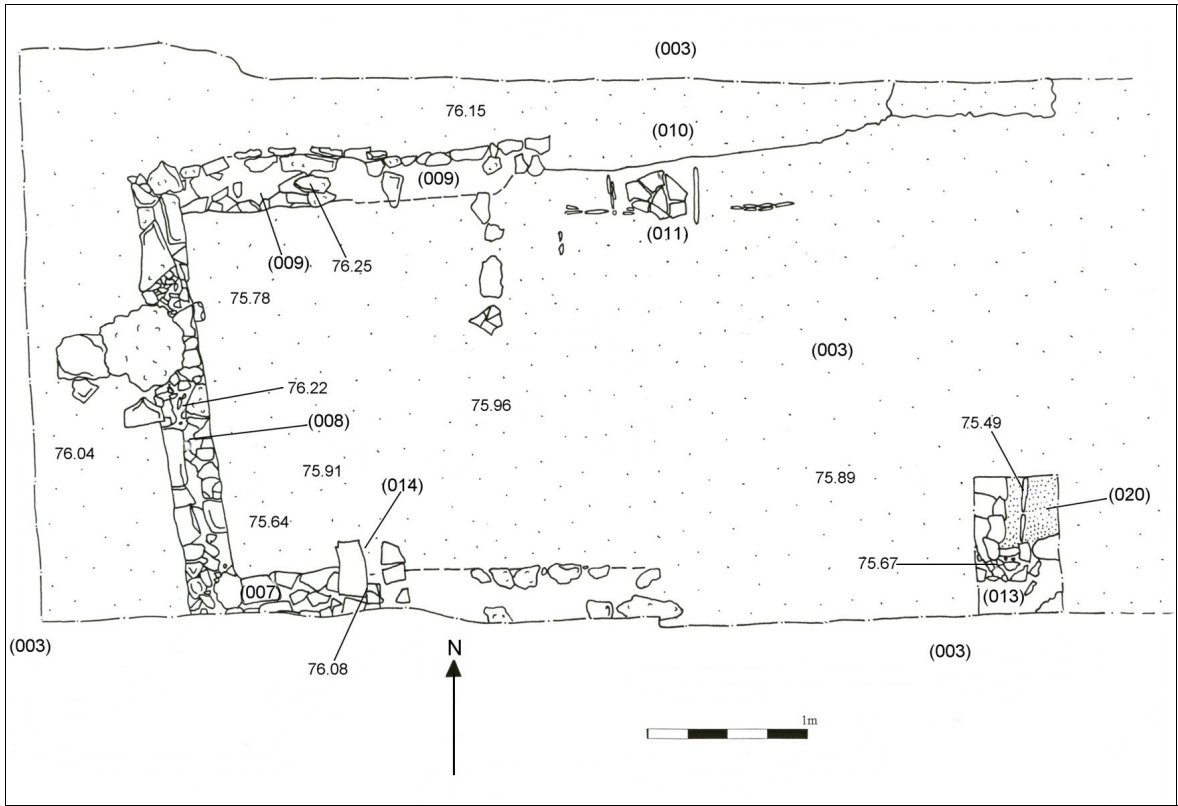
The interior also revealed two further contexts. Context (004) was a moderately compacted medium brown silty clay with a very small number of late medieval sherds, frequent sandstone building rubble/debris and occasional post-medieval pottery. Context (006) was a moderately compacted reddish-brown sandy clay with occasional sherds of possible 12<sup>th</sup>–13<sup>th</sup> century pottery and frequent sandstone building rubble. Both contexts were very similar and represent demolition deposits.



Plate 4: Building A looking W and showing the remains of a possible longitudinal feeding passage (011) and (left) charcoal and ash spread (005))

In an attempt to locate the eastern wall of Building A, a  $1.75\text{m} \times 1.00\text{m}$  test pit was inserted towards the SE end of the building. The pit was excavated to a depth of  $0.22\text{m}$  below the surrounding ground level before a

feature was encountered. This feature comprised two contexts, (013) and (020). Context (013) consisted of an apparent sandstone drain orientated approximately N-S. This was constructed of slender sandstone slabs laid on end and running to what may be the



▲ Figure 8: Plan of Building A

▼ Figure 9: Building A, projection of walls

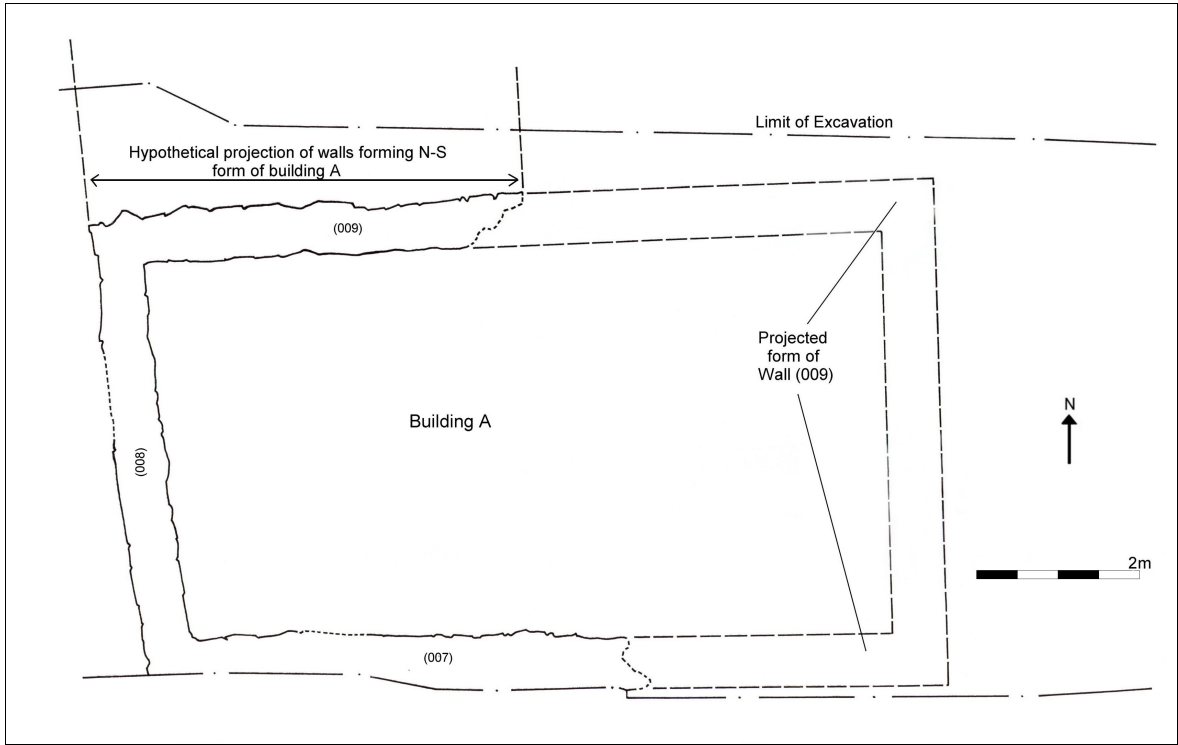






Plate 5: Building B, looking NE and showing wall (015) and stone surface (016)

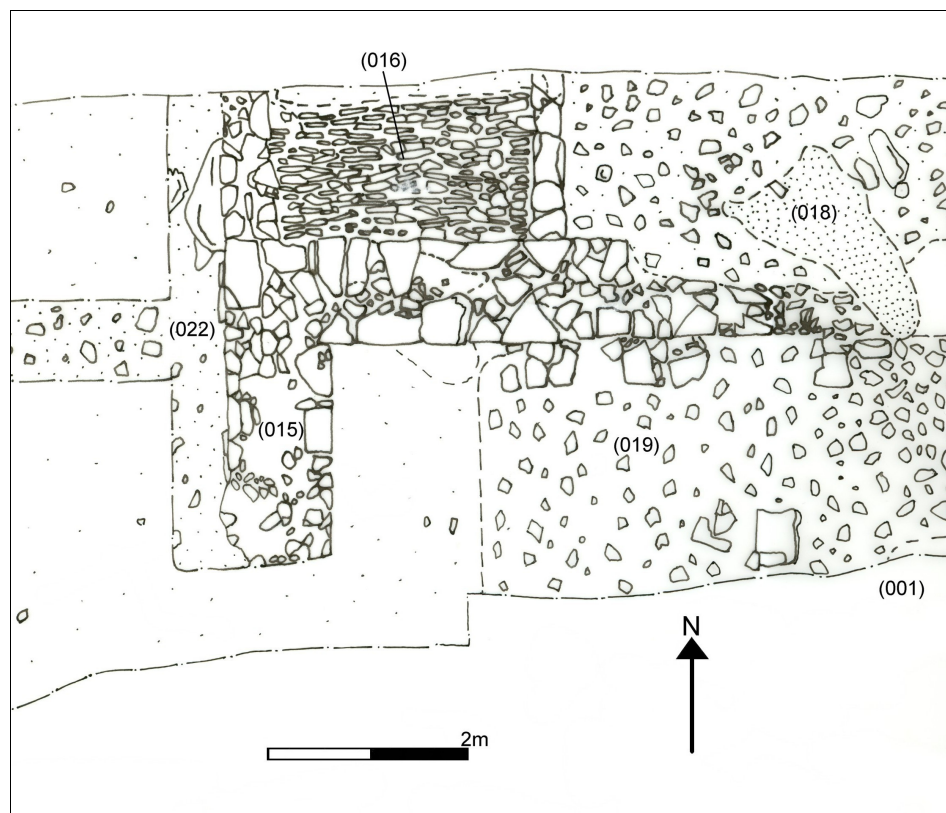
southern wall of Building A. The dimensions of this feature were >1.20m x 0.24m x 0.10m. Context (020) represents a tightly compacted reddish gravel and clay with very occasional medieval pottery sherds. This context was related to (013) and seems to have been laid down during its construction, probably serving as a clay lining for the drain.

Building B was located approximately 7.0m E of Building A and consisted of a substantial section of wall (015) and a stone surface (016)

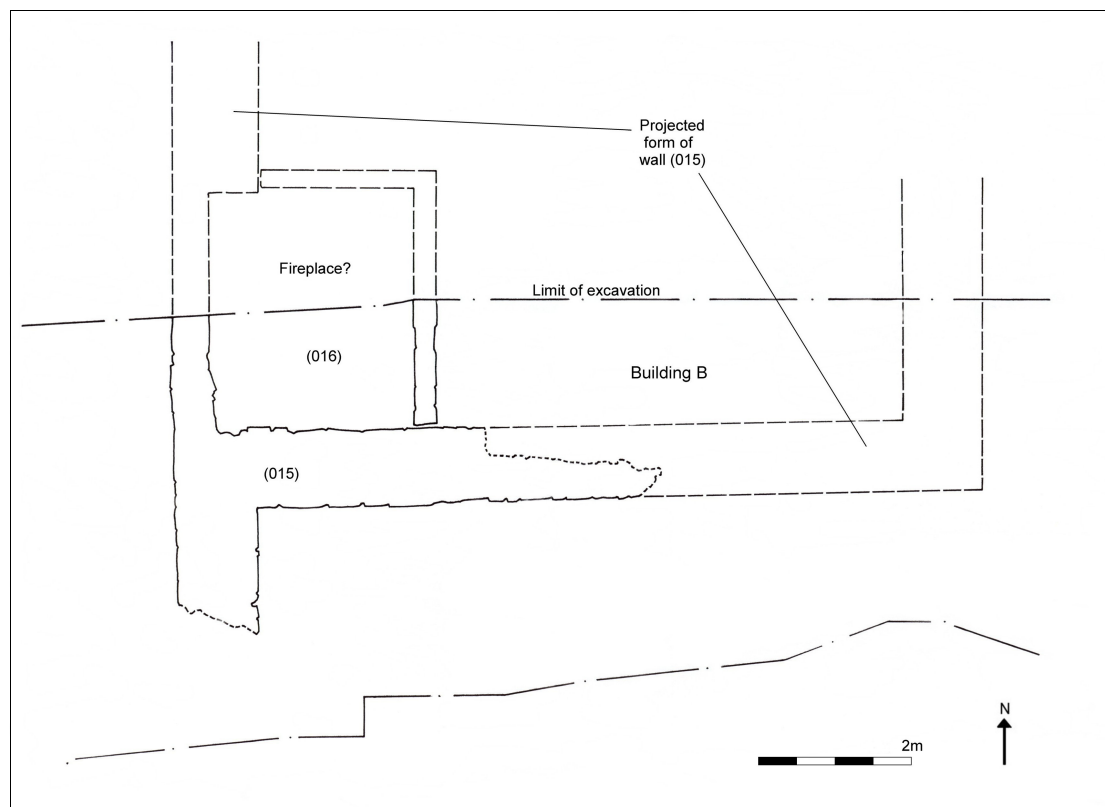
(016) (**Plate 5; Figs 7 & 10**). The remains of the wall were L shaped with the maximum height of the remaining section being 0.40m extending approximately 5.0m N-S and 6.5m E-W. Beyond this the wall seems to have been destroyed by demolition. The outer leaves of masonry of the W-facing elevation were constructed of randomly uncoursed rubble bedded in a clay matrix. This section of coursing possibly represents the upper portion of the below ground foundations. A projection of stone to the S appeared to form a continuation of the southern part of the wall but probably forms a plain buttress with a simple sloping profile. No through stones were observed in the overall plan of the wall and it appears to have been laid without the use of quoins. A difference in the width of the wall is shown in plan at the N end of the elevation. This reduction in width may represent a recess for the insertion of a fireplace represented by stone surface (016) (**Plate 6; Fig. 10**). This was formed by a series of tightly compacted pitched stones. The surface was well laid and was contained within two lines of sandstone blocks that were tied into (015). The surface was constructed from sub-angular and rectangular sandstone blocks (average size 70mm x 200mm) laid end to end and orientated E-W. It seems plausible that this



Plate 6: Stone surface (016), looking W



◀ Figure 10: Plan of Building B



▼ Figure 11: Building B, projection of walls



formed part of a hearth/fireplace contained on the end wall of the southern portion of the building. A series of regularly placed edging stones formed the eastern boundary of the fireplace. The eastern section of wall (015) continued for a further c.3.50m and was represented by shallow fragmentary stone remains. At this point the building formed a corner, continuing in a northerly direction. It would seem plausible that this section of walling formed the southern portion of an elongated structure probably a longhouse house and cow-house interconnected.

In an attempt to establish the relationship between Building A and Building B, and to locate the edges of each building, three test slots were inserted in the area between the buildings. The slots were excavated 0.42m below the final depth of the remainder of the excavation in this area where they encountered a possible surface (022) between the two buildings. The precise extent of the W end of Building B was also confirmed; though no conclusive E extent was identified for Building A. Context (022) consisted of a tightly compacted reddish-brown clay with occasional sub-angular sandstones.

To the S, NE and E of Building B were large quantities of sandstone fragments within a moderately compacted reddish-brown clay with occasional post-medieval brick (019). This probably represented a demolition deposit resulting from the removal of the buildings in 1868. One fragment of medieval green glaze ware was located within this deposit. Overlying (019) close to the E end of the E-W wall of Building B was a 0.90m x 0.75m area of charcoal (018) containing frequent post-medieval pottery.

To the E of Building B was a substantial surface of tightly packed small angular stones comprising a path/track (017). This surface covered most of the area between Building B and the eastern limit of the excavation, an area of approximately 8.0 x 4.50m. Lying on the surface, and in some cases within it, were occasional post-medieval iron nails, frequent post-medieval pottery and occasional flecks of charcoal and mortar. Also within this surface was a copper necklace. The surface seemed to run between the present entrance to the field and Building B.

On the southern edge of context (017) was a loosely compacted charcoal deposit (023) containing moderate amounts of iron (Fe), of which the bulk comprised iron nails, and post-medieval pottery (mostly transfer wares).

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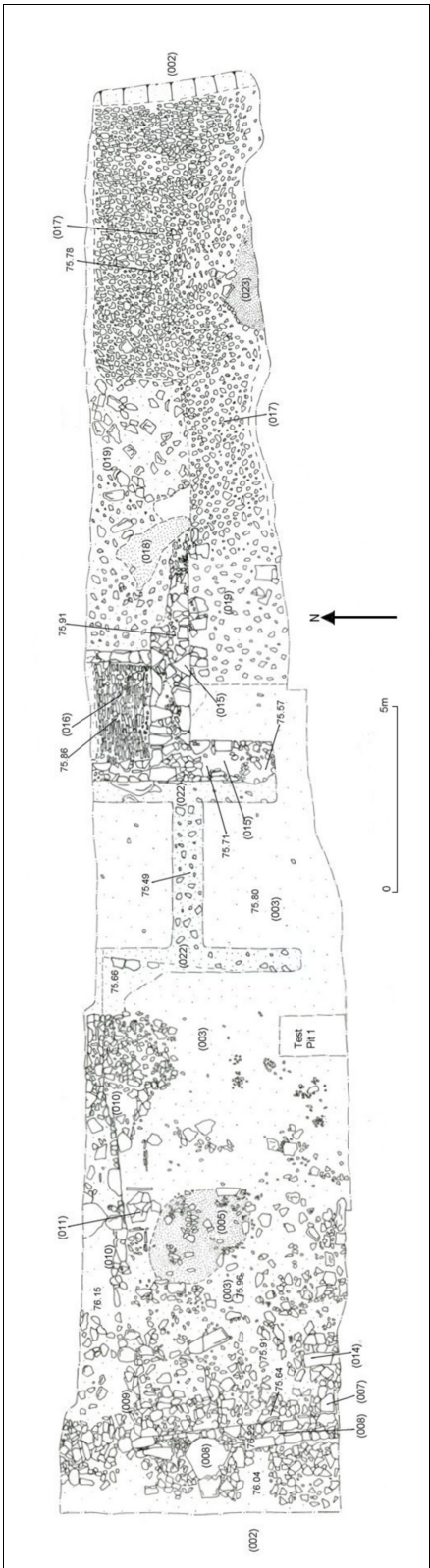
## 6. CONCLUSION

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The excavation identified the foundations of two ranges of substantial masonry buildings located in a field approximately 200m SE of Bury of Hope Farm, formerly known as Pigeon House Orchard.

A detailed consideration of the cartographic and documentary evidence has revealed the existence of two L shaped ranges of outbuildings grouped around a rectangular courtyard, which originally comprised a building described as a 'pigeon house', a barn and stables. These outbuildings appear to have always belonged to Bury of Hope Farm, the grange farm of the manor of Hope under Dinmore, which was held throughout the medieval period by

Figure 12: Plan showing extent of excavation





Leominster Priory. A survey of the manor of Hope under Dinmore taken in 1327 makes reference to a dovecote and it is tempting to suggest that this structure was located in the field later known as Pigeon House Orchard.

However, it is not possible to establish with certainty whether the dovecote mentioned in 1327 actually lay in Pigeon House Orchard and whether the buildings that occupied the site in the early 19th century were medieval in origin. A small but significant assemblage of clay pipes ranging in date from c1610-1730 was found, suggesting that there may have been occupation on the site during the 17th / early 18th century, although the fact that the pipes were found in unstratified subsoil means that they cannot provide a more accurate date for the buildings revealed by the excavation. The absence of any reference to these outbuildings in three 17<sup>th</sup> century surveys of the Bury of Hope estate suggests that the buildings in Pigeon House Orchard which are shown in early to mid 19th century maps of the Bury estate could well date from the 18<sup>th</sup> century. It should also be noted that the farmhouse and adjacent barns at Bury of Hope Farm are known to have been extensively rebuilt in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century.

Extensive alterations appear to have been made to the outbuildings in Pigeon House Orchard during the first half of the 19th century, firstly by Thomas Berrington, owner of the Bury of Hope estate from 1809 to 1837, and subsequently by the Arkwright family, who converted part of the outbuildings into cottages in 1851. The cottages were leased to the Shrewsbury and Hereford Railway Company to provide lodgings for the Inspector of Works and labourers employed in the construction of the railway, which ran immediately E of Pigeon House Orchard. The Pigeon House Cottages and associated outbuildings were completely demolished in 1868 in connection with the building of a new roadway running NW from the village towards the Bury of Hope Farm.

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## 8. COPYRIGHT

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## APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT REGISTER

CONTEXT (001)	Loose mid brown silty clay soil with occasional sandstone fragments extending across area to a depth of 0.20m.
INTERPRETATION:	<i>Topsoil</i>
CONTEXT (002)	Tightly compacted mid brown silty clay with moderate amounts of charcoal flecking, moderate post-medieval pottery, occasional medieval pottery, occasional post-medieval CBM and moderate amounts of small angular sandstone. Extended across the area and measured up to 0.40m thick at the western end.
INTERPRETATION:	<i>Subsoil</i>
CONTEXT (003)	Moderately compacted reddish-brown sandy clay soil with frequent sandstone building rubble extending across the area. Occasional post-medieval pottery.
INTERPRETATION:	<i>Post-medieval soil deposit.</i>
CONTEXT (004)	Moderately compacted mid brown silty clay with very occasional late medieval and post-medieval pottery and frequent sandstone building rubble/debris. Dimensions: c. 4.0m x 1.8m x 0.18m. This deposit filled the areas defined by the walls of Building A at the W end of the site.
INTERPRETATION:	<i>Demolition deposit within Building A</i>
CONTEXT (005)	Loosely compacted dark grey/ black charcoal and ash deposit with occasional angular sandstone fragments. Dimensions: 2.5m x 2.0m x 0.03m. Lying close to Building A.
INTERPRETATION:	<i>Post-medieval ash deposit.</i>
CONTEXT (006)	Moderately compacted reddish-brown sandy clay with occasional C12-C13 / C14 pottery and frequent sandstone building rubble. Dimensions: c. 4.0m x 1.8m x >0.18m.
INTERPRETATION:	<i>Demolition deposit within Building A.</i>
CONTEXT (007)	Located at the W end of the excavation area part of a three-quartered section of walling oriented N-S (cross axis) and E-W (long axis) forming the W side of Building A. Outer and inner leaves constructed of randomly uncoursed sandstone rubble bedded into a clay matrix that measured 0.35m wide. Oriented approx. E-W. Measured 5.0m x 0.6m x 0.1m.
INTERPRETATION:	<i>Sandstone wall comprising part of Building A.</i>
CONTEXT (008)	Located at the W end of the excavation area part of a three-quartered section of walling oriented N-S (cross axis) and E-W (long axis) forming the W side of Building A. Outer and inner leaves constructed of randomly uncoursed sandstone rubble bedded into a clay matrix. Oriented approx. N-S. Measured 5.5m x 0.6m x 0.1-0.6m
INTERPRETATION:	<i>Sandstone wall comprising part of Building A.</i>



CONTEXT (009)	Located at the W end of the excavation area part of a three-quartered section of walling oriented N-S (cross axis) and E-W (long axis) forming the W side of Building A. Outer and inner leaves constructed of randomly uncoursed sandstone rubble bedded into a clay matrix. Oriented approx. E-W. Measured 5.0m x 0.6m x 0.3m.
INTERPRETATION:	<i>Sandstone wall, part of Building A.</i>
CONTEXT (010)	Located at the W end of the excavation, a section of sandstone wall incorporating natural sandstone conglomerate. Orientated approx. E-W, but on a slightly different alignment from (009). Dimensions 8.5m x 0.40–0.50m.
INTERPRETATION:	<i>Part of Building A, possibly representing a later phase of building activity.</i>
CONTEXT (011)	Loosely compacted sandstone feature consisting of five to eight flat sandstone slabs of up to 0.04m in thickness placed on end. The slabs were arranged into roughly square compartments. The compartments were lined with up to three layers of sandstone slabs. Dimensions: 2.0m x 0.55m. Compartments filled by (003). Within the fill was a rounded sandstone which may have been part of a quern stone.
INTERPRETATION:	<i>One of a series of stalls representing a longitudinal feeding passage dating to the period when the building formed part of a barn and stable range.</i>
CONTEXT (012)	Void
INTERPRETATION:	N/A
CONTEXT (013)	Sandstone drain feature located within Test Pit 1. Orientated approx. N-S. Constructed of slender sandstone slabs laid on end and running to what may be the southern wall of Building A. Dimensions: >1.20m x 0.24m x 0.10m.
INTERPRETATION:	<i>Drainage feature located within Building A.</i>
CONTEXT (014)	Two rectangular slabs of sandstone orientated N-S into southern section. One slab measured >0.88m x 0.35m and the second 0.45m x 0.33m. The second slab was arranged with several smaller pieces of sandstone slab to make it a similar size to the first.
INTERPRETATION:	<i>Possible drainage feature within Building A.</i>
CONTEXT (015)	Located approximately 7.0m E of Building A, a substantial L shaped section of wall with the max. height of remaining section being 0.30m extending approximately 5.0m N-S and 6.5m E-W. Beyond this the wall apparently destroyed by demolition. Outer leaves of masonry of W-facing elevation constructed of randomly uncoursed rubble bedded in a clay matrix. This section of coursing possibly represents upper portion of the below ground foundations. Projection of stone to S appeared to form continuation of southern part of the wall but probably forms a plain buttress with a simple sloping profile. No through stones observed in overall plan of wall; appears to have been laid without use of quoins. A difference in the width of the wall is shown in plan at the N end of the elevation.

INTERPRETATION:	<i>Remains of building (Building B)</i>
CONTEXT (016)	Series of tightly compacted pitched stones; well laid and contained within two lines of sandstone blocks tied into (015). Constructed from subangular and rectangular sandstone blocks (average size 70mm x 200mm) laid end to end and orientated E-W.
INTERPRETATION:	<i>Part of a hearth/fireplace contained on the end wall of the southern portion of the building. A series of regularly placed edging stones forms the E boundary of the fireplace.</i>
CONTEXT (017)	Tightly compacted metallised sandstone surface with frequent c. C19 pottery sherds. Moderate amounts of post-medieval brick fragments and occasional charcoal and mortar flecking. Dimensions: c.10.0m x 5.0m.
INTERPRETATION:	<i>Post-medieval metallised surface.</i>
CONTEXT (018)	Moderately compacted black charcoal lense with frequent post-medieval pottery, iron nails. Dimensions: 1.0m x 0.75m.
INTERPRETATION:	<i>Post-medieval charcoal spread.</i>
CONTEXT (019)	Moderately compacted reddish-brown clay mixed with frequent angular sandstones and occasional post medieval brick. Dimensions: >5.0m x 4.0m.
INTERPRETATION:	<i>Levelling / infill rubble deposit around Building B</i>
CONTEXT (020)	Tightly compacted reddish gravel and clay with very occasional medieval pottery. Dimensions: 1.0m x 0.7m.
INTERPRETATION:	<i>Compacted gravel layer relating to (013).</i>
CONTEXT (021)	Tightly compacted reddish-brown sandy clay with occasional charcoal flecking. Similar to (006).
INTERPRETATION:	<i>Post-medieval deposit.</i>
CONTEXT (022)	Tightly compacted reddish-brown clay with occasional sub angular sandstones.
INTERPRETATION:	<i>Possible surface between Building A and Building B.</i>
CONTEXT (023)	Loosely compacted black charcoal layer with moderate amounts of iron (Fe), of which the bulk was iron nails, and frequent post-medieval pottery.
INTERPRETATION:	<i>Post-medieval combustion deposit.</i>

## APPENDIX 2: POTTERY

*Stephen Clarke MIFA*

### Context (002)

<i>Ware/Form/Decoration.</i>	<i>Fabric</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Sherds</i>
Rim	B1	Prob. C14 / C15	1
Internal glaze bowls	A7d	C17	6
Cup handle	A7d	C16 / C17	1
German stoneware	F2	C16 / C17	1
Simple rouletting	B4		1
PM	B4		1
	A7d		2
Non local slipware		C17 / C18	2
Moulded? Staffs slipware	E6		1
Mocha Ware		C19	1
Yellow Ware		C19 / C20	1
Staffs and Midlands various pancheons / bowls		C19—C20	15
Iron glazed		C19 / C20	2
Non local micaceous sand tempered jug with simple rouletting		Prob C13 / C14	1
Poss A3 with copper added to glaze		Prob. C14	1
Prob. Tripod pitcher—northern Herefordshire	A4	C13	1
Various Staffs etc	A7d	C18	30
Malvern cooking pot	B1	Poss. C12 / C13	1

### Context (003)

<i>Ware/Form/Decoration.</i>	<i>Fabric</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Sherds</i>
Bowl base	A7d	Prob. C17	1

Context (004)

<i>Ware/Form/Decoration.</i>	<i>Fabric</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Sherds</i>
Staffs slipware			1
	?B4	Late med	1

Context (006)

<i>Ware/Form/Decoration.</i>	<i>Fabric</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Sherds</i>
Cooking pot rim	B1	Poss. C12	1
Base	B1		1
Oxidised rim of cooking pot	B1	Poss. C12	1
	A7B	Late med	2
Jug rim	A5	C13 / C14	1

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## APPENDIX 3: CLAY TOBACCO PIPES

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*Dr D A Higgins*

### Introduction

This report deals with the clay tobacco pipes recovered by Border Archaeology during excavations at Hope under Dinmore, Herefordshire, in 2003. These pipes were examined and a detailed catalogue of the material prepared so as to provide a proper record of the pipes recovered as well as accurate dating evidence for the excavations as a whole. The excavations produced a total of 18 fragments of clay tobacco pipe, all of which were bowl fragments, from two different contexts. A summary of the key features relating to each fragment has been made and this is provided as Table 1 below. In the report that follows the excavated groups are considered first, followed by a general discussion of the pipes as a whole.

### Context (002)

This context was compacted subsoil, up to 40 cm in depth, and it produced by far the largest group of pipes from the site (17 of the 18 fragments). These pieces must have been selectively retained since they are all bowl fragments. This sampling policy limits the range and reliability of the information that can be derived from the group in two ways. First, the stems can be used to check the dating evidence provided by the bowls, particularly for the 18th century where bowl fragments tend to be under-represented in excavated groups. Second, stems are sometimes marked or decorated and these pieces can provide valuable information as to the date and origin of the pipes. Despite the selective sampling, this context still produced a good number of bowl fragments, which range in date from c1610-1920. Within this range, however, there appear to be two distinct groups of pipes represented.

The first group comprises six fragments, which range from c1610-1730 in date. There is one early piece of c1610-1640 but all of the others date from c1660-1730, suggesting a late 17th to early 18th century phase of pipe deposition on this site. In contrast, the second group, which comprises all of the other pieces from this context, ranges in date from c1760-1920. Within this range, however, the majority of the fragments are likely to date from c1810-60, suggesting a second main phase of pipe deposition on the site during this period. Although all the other finds and site evidence would need to be considered, the pipes from this context certainly suggest that two main phases of activity are represented by this deposit.

### Context (004)

Only one bowl fragment was recovered from this context, which was a demolition deposit within building A. The pipe fragment is from a bowl of c1660-1700. No other site evidence was available at the time of writing this report. However, if the pipe is contemporary with

the demolition of this building rather than being residual within it, then this might tie in with the earlier phase of deposition noted within Context 002.

## The Pipes

Although this is only a small group of pipes, it comes from an area where there has been little previous work on pipe assemblages and it includes a number of interesting individual pieces. The earliest bowl (**Fig. 1**) dates from c1610-40, the period during which smoking was rapidly establishing itself as a popular and acceptable habit at all levels of society. Herefordshire and Shropshire appear to have been areas where smoking became popular at an early period and where early pipemaking industries flourished. This piece is clearly of a local style since it lacks the refinement and quality of pieces produced in the larger urban centres such as Bristol and Chester. The bowl has a rather uneven surface and lop-sided form while the heel has been trimmed at an odd angle to the stem. Furthermore, the fabric is a pale buff colour rather than white. Unfortunately this piece is not marked but it must have been made at a local workshop and it is very similar to examples recovered from early production centres, such as those at Pipe Aston in North Herefordshire or Ludlow in south Shropshire.

By the middle of the 17th century distinctive local styles had emerged in this area, characterised by distinctive bowl forms, particular styles of mark, the rare occurrence of burnishing and the use of low-set milling. All of the other early pieces exhibit these characteristics and show that local industries were dominating the market in the Hope under Dinmore area at this time. All of the earlier fragments are made of quite fine clays without noticeable inclusions. This fabric contrasts with the coalmeasure clays used in the Broseley area of Shropshire, where a major industry that often exported to Herefordshire was based. Likewise, most of the Broseley area pipes were burnished whereas none of the fragments from this site has been treated in this way. Figures 2-5 show examples of these local styles, three of which are marked. One is stamped with the initials IG flanking a rose and crown on the bowl facing the smoker. The rose and crown mark is particularly associated with Herefordshire and this particular example can be attributed to John Grubb of Leominster who was married in 1666, baptised a son John in 1668 and acted as a bondsman for eight marriages between 1669 and 1671 (Allan Peacey, *pers com*; IGI). This mark has previously been recorded from various excavations in Hereford (Clarke 1971, Fig 8.30; Peacey & Shoemith 1985, Fig 75), showing that Grubb marketed his products over a good area of the county.

Less easy to place are the 'wheel' marks (**Figs. 4 & 5**). This symbol mark was widely used by pipemakers across the country although it was particularly popular north Herefordshire. The two examples from this site are both neatly cut but they were probably produced using different individual dies. Very little is known about pipemaking in the Leominster area itself and so it is not known if these pieces could have been produced there, although they almost certainly originate from somewhere in the North Herefordshire or South Shropshire area.

The later group of pipes, ranging overall from c1760-1920 but with the majority dating from c1810-60, are completely different in character. They have much thinner bowls many of which have a mould line visible at the rim where a metal plate has been inserted to repair or alter the mould itself. There are 11 fragments in this group, four of which are plain (and two

Site	Cxt	SF	Date	Bore (64")	Stamp	Decoration	Fig	Comments
DIN 03	002	115	1670-1720	6	wheel		4	Bowl damaged, but almost certainly fully milled originally. Neat, well-made local form.
DIN 03	002	116	1670-1720	7			3	Nice neat local form.
DIN 03	002	117	1820-1900	4				The larger part of a rather battered plain spur bowl. The bowl is quite short and poorly made and is most likely of earlier C19th date.
DIN 03	002	118	1670-1720	6	wheel		5	Part of a well made local form with a wheel mark. Fine fabric.
DIN 03	002	119	1760-1830	-				Part of a tall quite thin-walled bowl coming to a rounded point at the mould seams. Find 131 is part of the same bowl.
DIN 03	002	120	1810-1860	-		Leaf seams		Bowl fragment with crude leaf decoration on the seam and a mould line at the rim.
DIN 03	002	121	1810-1860	-		Leaf seams		Bowl fragment with crude leaf decoration on the seam and a mould line at the rim.
DIN 03	002	122	1610-1640	5			1	Early bowl form in a local style - neatly finished and probably fully milled originally. The bowl form is a bit lop-sided and the heel trimmed at an odd angle in relation to the stem. Quite a fine, off white fabric.
DIN 03	002	123	1680-1730	-				Bowl fragment from a neatly finished bowl of local style.
DIN 03	002	124	1780-1920	-				Plain bowl fragment, most likely dating from the first half of the C19th.
DIN 03	002	125	1810-1860	-		Leaf seams		Bowl fragment with crude leaf decoration on the seam and a mould line at the rim.
DIN 03	002	126	1810-1860	4		Leaf seams		Bowl fragment with a wide pedestal base and crude leaf decoration on the seams.
DIN 03	002	127	1810-1860	-		Leaf seams		Bowl fragment with crude leaf decoration on the seam.
DIN 03	002	128	1810-1860	-		Leaf seams		Bowl fragment with crude leaf decoration on the seam.
DIN 03	002	129	1810-1870	4		Leaf seams		Spur fragment with crude leaf decoration on the seams. Poorly trimmed, especially around the spur.
DIN 03	002	130	1660-1690	-	IG		2	Bowl fragment with low-set milling and a relief bowl stamp with the initials IG flanking a rose and crown mark facing the smoker. This can be attributed to John Grubb of Leominster, who is recorded in the town from at least 1666-1671.
DIN 03	002	131	1760-1830	-				Part of a tall quite thin-walled bowl coming to a rounded point at the mould seams. Find 119 is part of the same bowl.
DIN 03	004	526	1660-1700	-				Late C17th fragment from a local style bowl.

Table 1: Summary details of all pipe fragments from the excavations showing site, context and small find numbers; the likely date range of each fragment; the stem bore in 64ths of an inch; any maker's stamp on the pipe; any moulded decoration; the figure number and any comments.

of which come from the same bowl). The others are all decorated with crude leaf decoration on their seams, a style very rarely used in Shropshire. Once again, this points to a different supply sources for the pipes from this excavation. One of the fragments has a wide flared heel, from which a long tail would have extended back beneath the stem. This distinctive style was developed and very widely used in Shropshire from c1680-1730 but it appears to have been revived during the 19th century by makers in the Bristol area and in South Wales. An example of this type was recovered from amongst the pipe kiln waste from the kiln site at Nantgarw in Mid Glamorgan (Higgins 1997, Fig 7.12). The Nantgarw assemblage also included a number of bowls with leaf decorated seams and mould lined around the rim dating from c1840-70 (*ibid*, Figs 7.1-12 & 15). While it is not suggested that the Hope under Dinmore finds necessarily came from Nantgarw, it is clear that they belong to a style of pipe being produced to the south and in Wales rather than to the north in Shropshire.

## Summary

Although this is only a small assemblage, it makes an important contribution since it comes from an area where there has been little previous work on clay tobacco pipes. The evidence suggests that locally produced pipes were already available by the early 17th century and that, by the middle of the century, local forms were dominating the market at the expense of pipes from the Broseley area of Shropshire. There is no mid-18th century evidence from the site, perhaps suggesting a change of use or waste deposition, and then resurgence from the late 18th century onwards, with a particular peak during the period c1810-60. Bowls with simple leaf decorated seams dominate this later assemblage and, once again, the main styles being used are local or imported from the south, rather than showing any input from the prolific workshops of the Broseley area to the north.

## Acknowledgements

I am grateful to Dr A Peacey for providing some of the details relating to John Grubb and to Dr S D White for proof reading a draft of this paper.

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## List of Figures

*Fig 1 Bowl fragment of local style dating from c1610-1640 with at least a three-quarters milled rim (probably fully milled originally) and a stem bore of 5/64". The bowl form is a bit lop-sided and the heel trimmed at an odd angle in relation to the stem but otherwise the finish is neat. Quite a fine, off white fabric. DIN 03 002.122.*

*Fig 2 Bowl fragment of a local style dating from c1660-1690 with a milled rim. The bowl has particularly low-set milling and a relief bowl stamp with the initials IG flanking a rose and crown mark facing the smoker. This can be attributed to John Grubb of Leominster, who is recorded from at least 1666-71. DIN 03 002.130.*

*Fig 3 Nice neat local bowl of c1670-1720 with a fully milled rim and a stem bore of 7/64". DIN 03 002.116.*

*Fig 4 Local style bowl fragment of c1670-1720 with a stem bore of 6/64". The bowl is damaged, but would almost certainly have been fully milled originally. Neat, well-made local form with a local style wheel mark on the heel. DIN 03 002.115.*

*Fig 5 Local style bowl fragment of c1670-1720 with a stem bore of 6/64". Neat, well-made local form with a fine fabric and a local style wheel mark on the heel. DIN 03 002.118.*

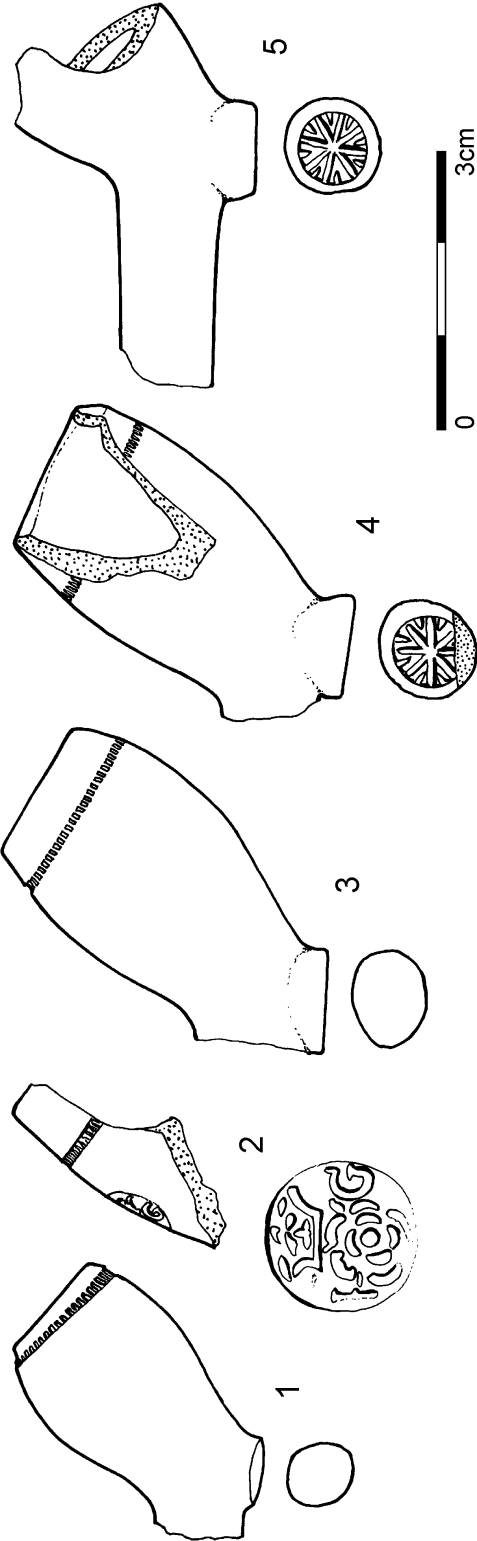


Figure 11: Clay tobacco pipes recovered from Hope under Dinmore

## SITE SUMMARY

Title of Report	Archaeological Excavation: Pigeon House Orchard Hope under Dinmore Herefordshire	
Contractor	Border Archaeology, PO Box 36, Leominster, Herefordshire, HR6 OYQ	
Site Name	Pigeon House Orchard	
	Grid Ref: NGR SO 50503 52333	Planning App. No: N/A
SMR number(s) of site	41927	
Date of Field Work	2003	
Date of Report	2004	
NUMBER AND TYPE OF FINDS		
Pottery	Period: Medieval / Post-medieval	Number of sherds: c. 80
Other	Period: Post-medieval clay pipes	Quantity: 18 bowl fragments
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
Insect	No of columns/spot samples: N/A	
	Name of pollen specialist: N/A	
Other	Type and specialist: N/A	

## REPORT SUMMARY

The excavation revealed the foundations of two ranges of substantial masonry buildings located in a field approximately 200m SE of Bury of Hope Farm, formerly known as Pigeon House Orchard.

Extensive cartographic and documentary research showed that these originally formed two L-shaped ranges of outbuildings grouped around a rectangular courtyard, which originally comprised a building described as a 'pigeon house', a barn and stables. These outbuildings appear to have always belonged to Bury of Hope Farm, the grange farm of the manor of Hope under Dinmore, which was held throughout the medieval period by Leominster Priory. A survey of the manor of Hope under Dinmore taken in 1327 makes reference to a dovecote, and it is tempting to suggest that this structure was located in the field later known as Pigeon House Orchard.

However, it is not possible to establish with certainty whether the dovecote mentioned in 1327 actually lay in Pigeon House Orchard and whether the buildings which occupied the site in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century were medieval in origin. The absence of any reference to these outbuildings in three 17<sup>th</sup> century surveys of the Bury of Hope estate suggests that the buildings in Pigeon House Orchard which are shown in early to mid 19<sup>th</sup> century maps of the Bury estate could well date from the 18<sup>th</sup> century. It should also be noted that the farmhouse and adjacent barns at Bury of Hope Farm are known to have been extensively rebuilt in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century.

Extensive alterations appear to have been made to the outbuildings in Pigeon House Orchard during the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, firstly by Thomas Berrington, owner of the Bury of Hope estate from 1809 to 1837, and subsequently by the Arkwright family, who converted part of the outbuildings into cottages in 1851. The cottages were leased to the Shrewsbury and Hereford Railway Company, to provide lodgings for the Inspector of Works and labourers employed in the construction of the railway, which ran immediately E of Pigeon House Orchard. The Pigeon House Cottages and associated outbuildings were completely demolished in 1868, in connection with the building of a new roadway running NW from the village towards the Bury of Hope Farm.