

birmingham archaeology

Daimler Green, Radford,
Coventry

An Archaeological
Watching Brief 2005



Project No.1697

By

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For

Twigden Homes Ltd

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917a Uppingham Road, Bushby

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SUMMARY

Site Name: 917a Uppingham Road, Bushby, Leicestershire
NGR: SK 658 039
Type: Watching brief
Date of fieldwork: 24th & 25th September 2007
Planning Ref: 05/01491/OUT
Client: Twigden Homes

In September 2007 an archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Birmingham Archaeology at 917a Uppingham Road, Bushby, Leicestershire, on behalf of Twigden Homes during groundworks ahead of residential development.

No archaeological features, structures, deposits or horizons were identified during the course of the groundworks. No artefactual material predating the modern period was recovered.

**917a Uppingham Road, Bushby
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF, 2007.**

1 INTRODUCTION

In September 2007 Birmingham Archaeology carried out an archaeological watching brief at 917a Uppingham Road, Bushby, Leicestershire (hereafter referred to as the study area). The work was commissioned by Twigden Homes Ltd in advance of a proposed residential development.

This report outlines the results of the archaeological monitoring, which was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation produced by Birmingham Archaeology and approved by Leicestershire County Council, in accordance with guidelines laid down in Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (DoE 1990). The project conformed to the Institute of Field Archaeologists Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (IFA 1999).

2 LOCATION AND GEOLOGY

The site is located at 917a Uppingham Road, Bushby, Leicestershire, and is centred on NGR SK 658 039 (Fig. 1 & 2).

The underlying geology consists of glacial till from middle Pleistocene period.

The present character of the site is a grassed garden area with paved paths behind house 917a Uppingham Road. To the west side of the study area a large hedgerow divides the garden from the adjoining property. To the south and east of the site are open fields.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The principle aim of the watching brief was to record any archaeological features, structures, deposits, or horizons exposed during intrusive groundworks across the site.

4 METHODOLOGY

Groundworks comprised the stripping of the topsoil and subsoil layers, down to the natural geology, with 360 tracked excavator fitted with a toothless bucket. This was monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist and complemented with the salvage recording of any archaeological deposits and features revealed during works.

All stratigraphic sequences were recorded, even where no archaeology was present. A comprehensive written record was maintained using a continuous numbered context system on *pro-forma* context and feature cards. Photographs supplemented written records and scale plans and sections.

The full site archive includes all artefactual remains recovered from the site. The site archive will be prepared according to guidelines set down in Appendix 3 of the Management of Archaeology Projects (English Heritage, 1991), the Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage (UKIC, 1990) and Standards in the Museum Care of

Archaeological collections (Museum and Art Galleries Commission, 1992). The paper archive will be deposited with the appropriate repository subject to permission from the landowner.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL CONTEXT

The study area lies just outside the medieval town of Bushby. The first edition OS map shows the site is undeveloped at this time (Fig 3). Later maps also demonstrate the area has not been developed.

6 RESULTS

Natural geology, consisting of brown orange sandy clay, (102) was identified at a depth of 0.30m below current ground level (Plate 1). This was sealed by 0.15m of sandy clay subsoil (101) which, in turn, was overlain by 0.15m of topsoil (100). Owing to the area being undeveloped and more recently used as a garden, the soils were heavily disturbed by root action (Plate 2).



Plate 1. Natural soil



Plate 2. Root disturbance

7 CONCLUSION

Despite the potential of the development site, the watching brief identified no archaeological remains within the area. The site appears to have been left undisturbed over the years, perhaps because it is just outside the centre of the village.

8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The project was commissioned by Twigden Homes Ltd. Thanks are due to Gary Martin for his co-operation and assistance throughout the project. The fieldwork was undertaken by Elisabeth Bishop and produced the written report which was illustrated by Nigel Dodds, and edited by Kevin Colls who managed the project for Birmingham Archaeology.

9 REFERENCES

Birmingham Archaeology 2007 *917a Uppingham Road, Bushby. Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Watching Brief*

Department of the Environment (DoE) 1990. *Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning.*

Institute of Field Archaeologists, 2001. *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs.* Institute of Field Archaeologists

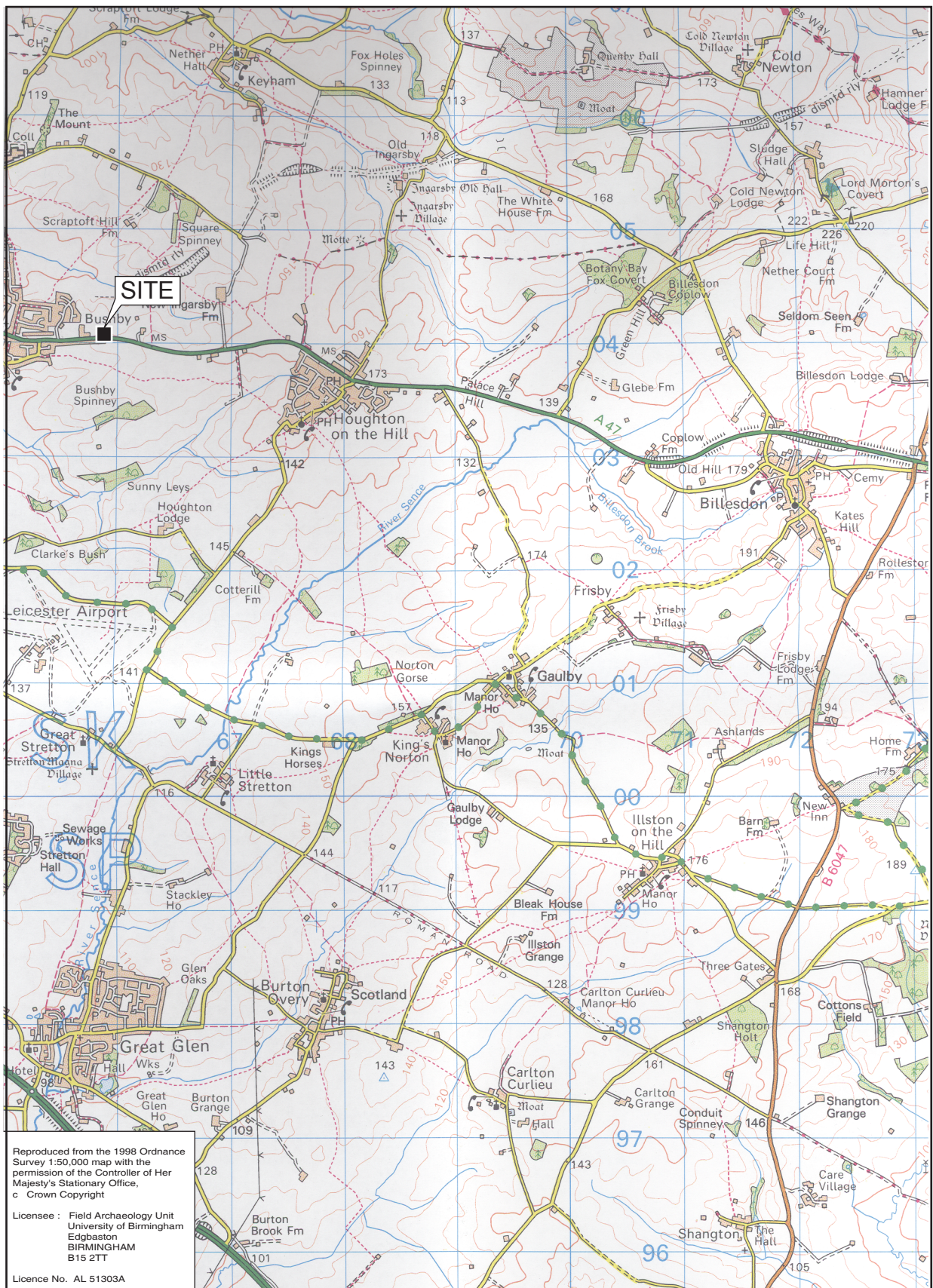


Fig.1



Fig.2

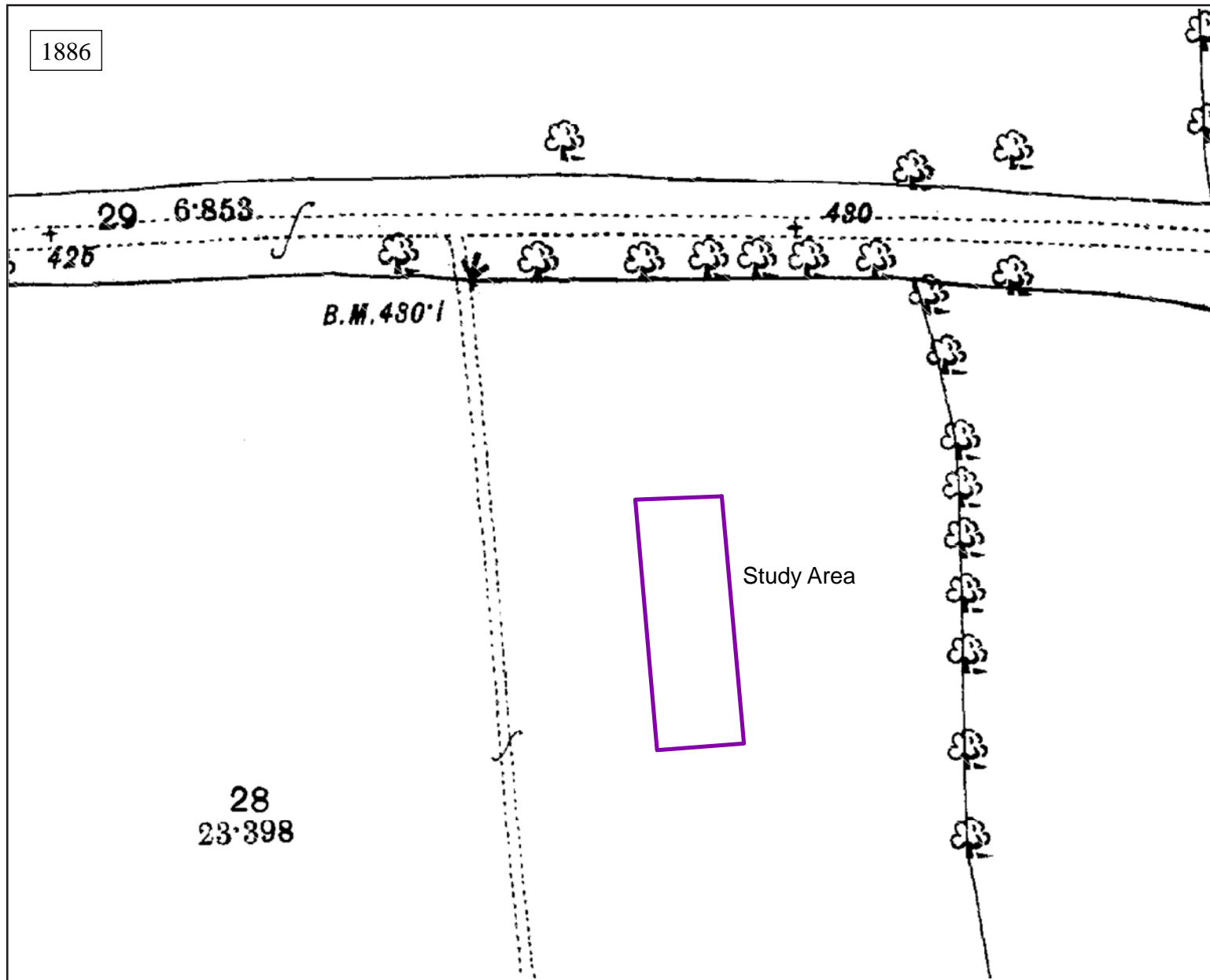


Fig.3