

**Land adjacent 79 Winchcombe Road
Sedgeberrow
Worcestershire**

Archaeological Watching Brief



for
Cornwell Construction Homes Ltd


CA Project: 4586
CA Report: 14283
HER Event Number: WSM 57126

July 2014

Land adjacent 79 Winchcombe Road
Sedgeberrow
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date	9 July 2014
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date	11 July 2014
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signed	
date	11 July 2014
issue	01

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Fig. 2 The site, showing location of groundworks (1:500)



SUMMARY

Project Name: Land adjacent 79 Winchcombe Road
Location: Sedgeberrow, Worcestershire
NGR: SP 0255 3829
Type: Watching Brief
Date: 25-26 June 2014
Planning Reference: W/13/00934/OU
Location of Archive: To be deposited with Worcestershire County Museum
Site Code: WIR 14

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the construction of two domestic dwellings on land adjacent 79 Winchcombe Road, Sedgeberrow, Worcestershire.

No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks. One abraded sherd of Roman pottery was recovered from the subsoil.



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In June 2014 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief for Cornwell Construction Homes Ltd on land adjacent 79 Winchcombe Road, Sedgeberrow, Worcestershire (centred on NGR: SP 0255 3829; Fig. 1). The watching brief was undertaken to fulfil a condition (no. 3) attached to a planning consent granted by Wychavon District Council (WDC) for a two domestic dwellings (WDC Planning ref: W/13/00934/OU). The objective of the watching brief was to record all archaeological remains exposed during the development.
- 1.2 The planning condition was recommended by Mike Glyde, Historic Environment Planning Officer, Worcestershire County Council, the archaeological advisor to WDC. A subsequent detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) was produced by CA (2014) and approved by Mr Glyde. The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (IfA 2009), the *Guidelines for Archaeological Projects in Worcestershire* (WHEAS 2010), the *Management of Archaeological Projects 2* (English Heritage 1991) and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (EH 2006).

The site

- 1.3 The site is approximately 0.25ha in extent and consists of a rectangular plot set between existing housing on the eastern side of Winchcombe Road (Fig. 2). It lies at approximately 52m AOD, on agricultural land that slopes down gently to the north and east to the River Isbourne and its tributaries some 90m away.
- 1.4 The underlying solid geology of the area is mapped as Charmouth Mudstone of the Jurassic era. No superficial deposits are recorded on site, although Head deposits of clay, silt, sand and gravel from the Quaternary Period are noted 90m to the east (BGS 2014). During the groundworks the clay substrate was encountered 0.5m below present ground level (bpgl).

Archaeological background

- 1.5 An assessment of the Worcestershire Historic Environment Record (HER) and Worcestershire Record Office was undertaken in May 2014 of the area of proposed development and the results are summarised below. The HER recorded no Heritage

Assets within the site; no Scheduled Monuments and nine Listed buildings within 500m of the site.

- 1.6 Recent research has highlighted the potential of the Head deposits some 90m east of the site to contain Palaeolithic evidence from Marine Isotope Stages 12 to 1 (Daffern and Russell unpublished). Unlocated Neolithic finds have been recovered from the parish (HER No. WSM 28760). Roman occupation dating from 2nd to 4th centuries has been recorded at Lower Portway Farm and the Main Street areas of the village, some 300m to the west of the site. This includes at least one building, burials, a corn drying oven, ditches and a possible road (HER No. WSM 28860 and WSM 34924; Riccoboni 2012). Early medieval evidence has been recovered to the north of Portway Farm (HER No. WSM 40026; Price and Watson 1984), under the later medieval and post-medieval settlement along Main Street (HER No. WSM 29775). To the north-east and south-west of the post-medieval settlement remains of ridge and furrow cultivation have been identified (HER No. WSM 49722 and WSM 06034).

Archaeological objectives

- 1.7 The objectives of the archaeological works were:
- to monitor groundworks, and to identify, investigate and record all significant buried archaeological deposits revealed on the site during the course of the development groundworks;
 - at the conclusion of the project, to produce an integrated archive for the project work and a report setting out the results of the project and the archaeological conclusions that can be drawn from the recorded data.

Methodology

- 1.8 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2014). An archaeologist was present during intrusive groundworks comprising ground reduction throughout the footprint of the new builds, as well as associated drives and service trenches (Fig. 2).
- 1.9 Written, graphic and photographic records were compiled in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (2013).

- 1.10 The archive and artefacts from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble and will be deposited with Worcestershire County Museum. A summary of information from this project set out within Appendix B will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

2. RESULTS (FIGS 2-3)

- 2.1 The natural clay substrate 102, was observed in the trench at an average depth of 0.5m bpgl. This was overlain by silt clay subsoil 101 and clay silt topsoil 100.
- 2.2 No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks. A single sherd of abraded Roman pottery was recovered from subsoil deposits.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 The watching brief identified no archaeological remains within the area of observed groundworks. The Roman pottery recovered indicates that there may be archaeological deposits in the vicinity of the site, however structural remains either do not extend as far as, or were not exposed by, the development, or they may have been removed by agricultural activity. Similarly there may have never been archaeological deposits on the site and the sherd of pottery has been transported to the site by alternative means such as manuring.

4. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Luke Brannlund. The report was written by Luke Brannlund. The illustrations were prepared by Leo Heatley. The archive has been compiled by Luke Brannlund, and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Richard Young.

5. REFERENCES

- BGS (British Geological Survey) *Geology of Britain Viewer*
<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> accessed 26 June 2014
- CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2014 *Land Adjacent 79 Winchcombe Road, Sedgeberrow, Worcestershire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief*

Daffern, N. and Russell, O. unpublished *NHPP Project: Putting the Palaeolithic in to Worcestershire's HER*

Price, E. A. and Watson, B. 1984 *A Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon Settlement at Sedgeberrow, West Midlands Archaeology*

Riccoboni, P. 2012 *An Archaeological Field Evaluation on Land off Main Road, Sedgeberrow, Worcestershire, John Moore Heritage Services*

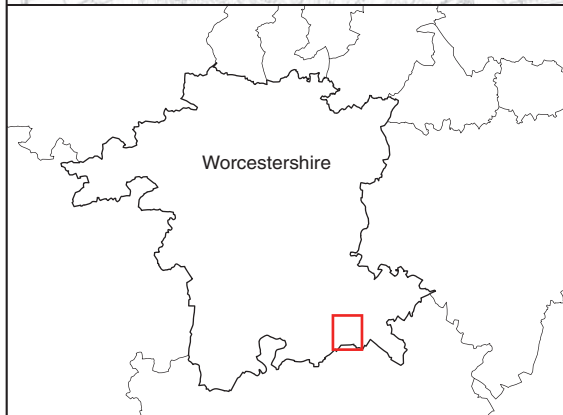
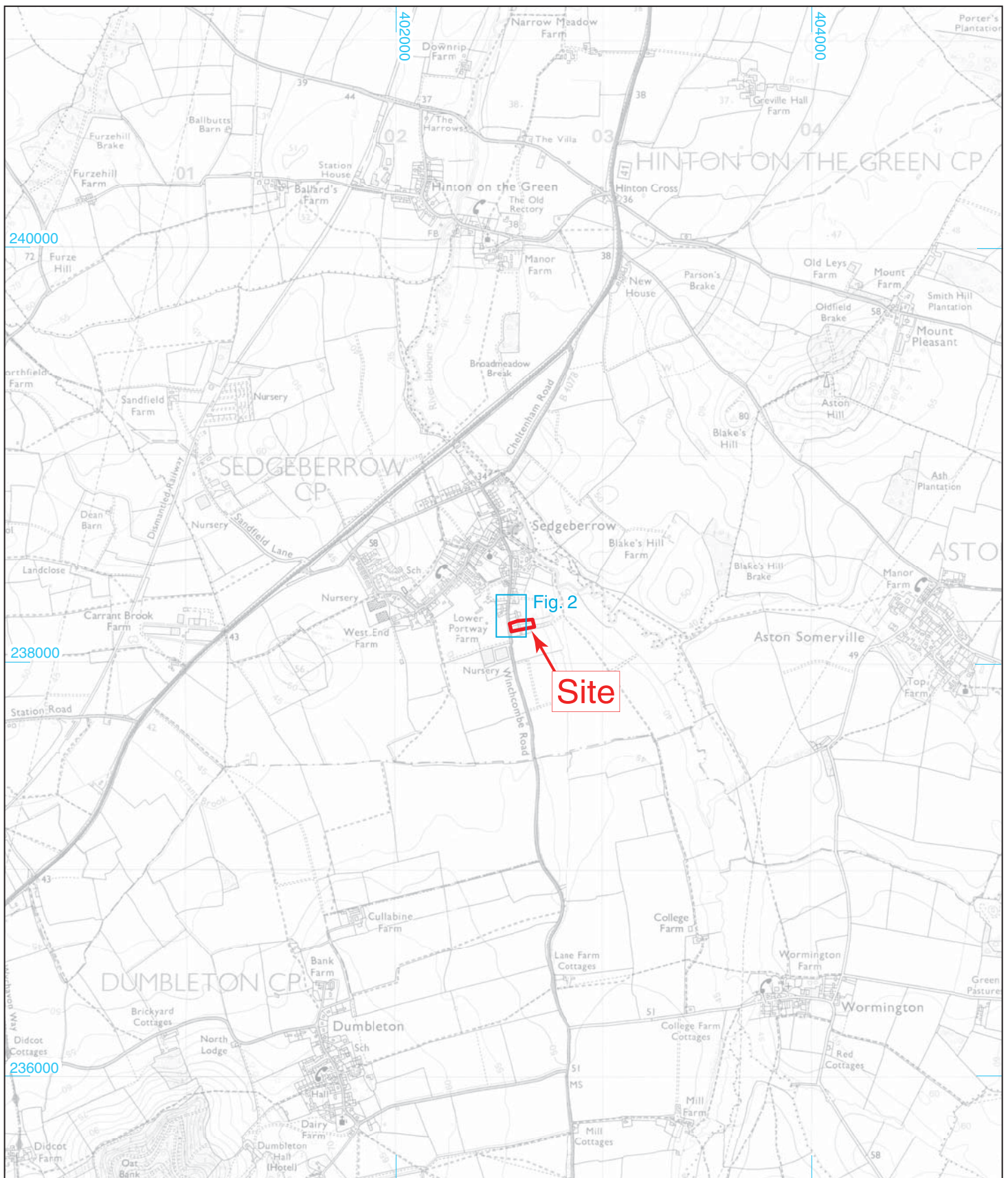


APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Context interpretation	Description	Depth /thickness (m)
1	100	Layer	topsoil	Mid grey-brown clay silt	0.2
1	101	Layer	subsoil	Light grey-brown silt clay	0.3
1	102	Layer	natural	Yellow-grey with orange/grey patches clay	n/a

APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Land Adjacent 79 Winchcombe Road, Sedgeberrow	
Short description	An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the construction of two domestic dwellings on land adjacent 79 Winchcombe Road, Sedgeberrow, Worcestershire. No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks. One abraded sherd of Roman pottery was recovered from the subsoil.	
Project dates	25-26 June 2014	
Project type	Watching Brief	
Previous work	None	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Land adjacent 79 Winchcombe Road, Sedgeberrow, Worcestershire	
Study area (M ² /ha)		
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	SP 0255 3829	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Worcestershire County Council	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Richard Young	
Project Supervisor	Luke Brannlund	
MONUMENT TYPE	None	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)	Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc)
Physical	Worcestershire County Museum	Pottery
Paper	Worcestershire County Museum	Site plan, trench sheet, photographic register
Digital	Worcestershire County Museum	digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2014 <i>Land adjacent 79 Winchcombe Road, Sedgeberrow, Worcestershire: Archaeological Watching Brief</i> . CA typescript report 14283		



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PROJECT TITLE

**Land adjacent 79 Wincombe Road
Sedgeberrow, Worcestershire**

FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

0 1km

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PROJECT NO. 4586 DATE 07/07/2014
DRAWN BY LJH REVISION 00
APPROVED BY LM SCALE@A4 1:25,000

FIGURE NO.

1



site boundary



Location of observed groundworks



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PROJECT TITLE

Land adjacent 79 Wincombe Road
Sedgeberrow, Worcestershire

FIGURE TITLE

**The site, showing location of
groundworks**