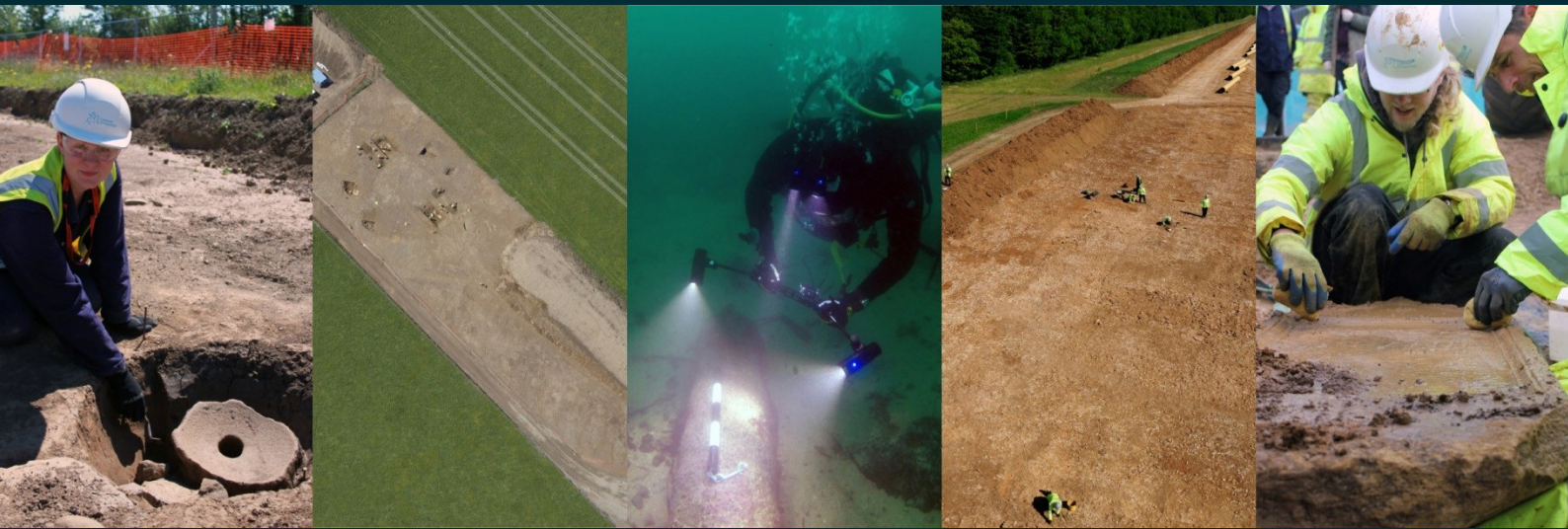


Land at Perryfields Road Phase III Bromsgrove Worcestershire

Archaeological Evaluation



for
Walker Troup Architects Ltd

on behalf of
BDHT

Worcs HER Event No: WSM67774
Project: 5322
CA Report: 16076

February 2016



Land at Perryfields Road Phase III Bromsgrove Worcestershire

Archaeological Evaluation

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Document Control Grid						
Revision	Date	Author	Checked by	Status	Reasons for revision	Approved by
A	8 February 2016	Peter Busby	Ian Barnes	Internal review	Client Comment	Laurie Coleman

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Fig. 1 Site location plan (1:25,000)

Fig. 2 Trench location plan (1:500) and representative trench photograph



SUMMARY

Project Name: Land at Perryfields Road Phase III
Location: Bromsgrove, Worcestershire
NGR: SO 95193 72000
Type: Evaluation
Date: 27 April 2015 and 8 February 2016
Worcestershire HER
Reference: WSM67774
Location of Archive: To be deposited with Worcestershire County Museum
Site Code: PER 15

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in April 2015 and February 2016 at Perryfields Road (Phase III), Bromsgrove, Worcestershire. A total of five trenches were excavated.

No features or deposits of archaeological interest were identified during evaluation, and no artefactual material was recovered.



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In April 2015 and February 2016 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for Walker Troup Architects Ltd, on behalf of BDHT, at Perryfields Road Phase III, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire (centred at NGR: SO 95193 72000; Fig. 1). The evaluation was undertaken to support a planning application to be submitted to Bromsgrove District Council (BDC) for a residential development and associated infrastructure.
- 1.2 The *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2015) after consultation with Aisling Nash, Environmental Advisor Worcestershire County Council, the archaeological advisor to the BDC. Aisling Nash subsequently approved the WSI. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014), and the *Requirements and guidelines for archaeological projects in Worcestershire* (WHEAS 2003).

The site

- 1.3 The proposed development area is approximately 0.3ha in extent, and comprises agricultural land to the south of Perryfields Road. Immediately prior to this phase of work, the site had been used as a works compound. The site lies at approximately 100m AOD and is on a gentle south facing slope.
- 1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Bromsgrove Sandstone Formation of the Triassic era with no overlying superficial deposits (BGS 2015). The natural substrate encountered during the evaluation comprised clayey sand.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 A Historic Environment Record (HER) search was undertaken, in addition to reviews of public domain data. Hereafter, WSM references indicate data from the HER.
- 2.2 Limited archaeological information is recorded on the HER from any time period pertaining to the site and immediate vicinity. A palaeochannel is noted c.200m to the northwest of the site (WSM56631 and WSM566332). A Neolithic picrite battle axe (WSM09396) was found 250m north of the site.

- 2.3 The site is known to lie within the hinterland of the medieval market town of Bromsgrove. An archaeological evaluation of adjoining land to the south identified a post-medieval boundary ditch and two plough furrows (WSM39896; CA 2008). An archaeological evaluation completed directly to the east identified a ditch that followed the alignment of a field boundary depicted on the 1885 Ordnance Survey Map, though no earlier archaeological evidence was identified (CA 2014). Fockbury Mill Farmhouse, a 17th century farmhouse, lies c.500m to the north (WSM01237).
- 2.4 A geophysical survey completed to the north identified a number of possible archaeological features, including a sub-rectangular ditch which were interpreted as being of later prehistoric or Romano-British date (Northamptonshire Archaeology 2013).

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The objectives of the evaluation were to provide information about the archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality, in accordance *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014). This information will enable BDC to identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset, consider the impact of the proposed development upon it, and to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the development proposal, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of five trenches in the locations shown on the attached plan (Fig. 2). The trenches varied in length from 12.6m to 20.9m. All trenches were located within the footprints of the proposed buildings, but their location and length was varied from those agreed in the WSI to avoid spoil heaps and buried services. Trenches were set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using Leica GPS and surveyed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 4 *Survey Manual*.

- 4.2 All trenches were excavated by mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket. All machine excavation was undertaken under constant archaeological supervision to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the natural substrate, whichever was encountered first. Where archaeological deposits were encountered they were excavated by hand in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual*.
- 4.3 Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential in accordance with CA Technical Manual 2: *The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites*: no deposits were identified that required sampling. All artefacts were 20th century and not retained.
- 4.4 The archive from the evaluation is 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.

5. RESULTS (FIG. 2)

- 5.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts are to be found in Appendix A.
- 5.2 A broadly similar stratigraphy was recorded across the site. The natural substrate, which was encountered between 0.26m and 0.92m below present ground level (bpgl), comprised clayey sand. In Trenches 1 and 2, the natural substrate was truncated (as evidenced by machine bucket marks) and disturbed by modern services trenches. The natural substrate was overlain in Trenches 3, 4 and 5 by a silty clay relict plough soil (301, 401 and 502 respectively), typically 0.55m in thickness. It contained late 19th-20th century ceramics (not retained). This was in turn sealed by c.0.26m-0.45m of topsoil (Trenches 4 and 5: 400 and 501 respectively) or made ground (Trenches 1, 2 and 3).

6. DISCUSSION

- 6.1 No features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance were identified during the evaluation. In the southern portion of the site (Trenches 3, 4 and 5), the

relict plough soil contained no artefacts, and therefore could not be determined to be of any specific date. In the northern part of the site (Trenches 1 and 2), extensive modern activity has removed the relict plough soil.

8. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Peter Busby and Sian Reynish, assisted by Claudia Jorge and Ronan Mooney. The report was written by Peter Busby. The illustrations were prepared by Lucy Martin. The archive has been compiled by Peter Busby, and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Ian Barnes.

9. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2016 *Geology of Britain Viewer* http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geology_viewer_google/googleviewer.html Accessed 87 February 2016

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2008 *Perryfields Road, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire: Archaeological Evaluation*, CA Report No. **08218**

CA 2014 *Land at Perryfields Road Phase II, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire: Archaeological Evaluation*, CA Report No. **14143**

CA 2015 *Land at Perryfields Road Phase III, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief*

Northamptonshire Archaeology 2013 *Archaeological geophysical survey of land off Perryfields Road, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire*, Report No. **13/54**

WHEAS (Worcestershire Historic Environment and Archaeological Service) 2014 *"Requirements for an Archaeological Evaluation at Site A, Perryfields, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire."* Archive and Archaeology Service, Worcestershire County Council

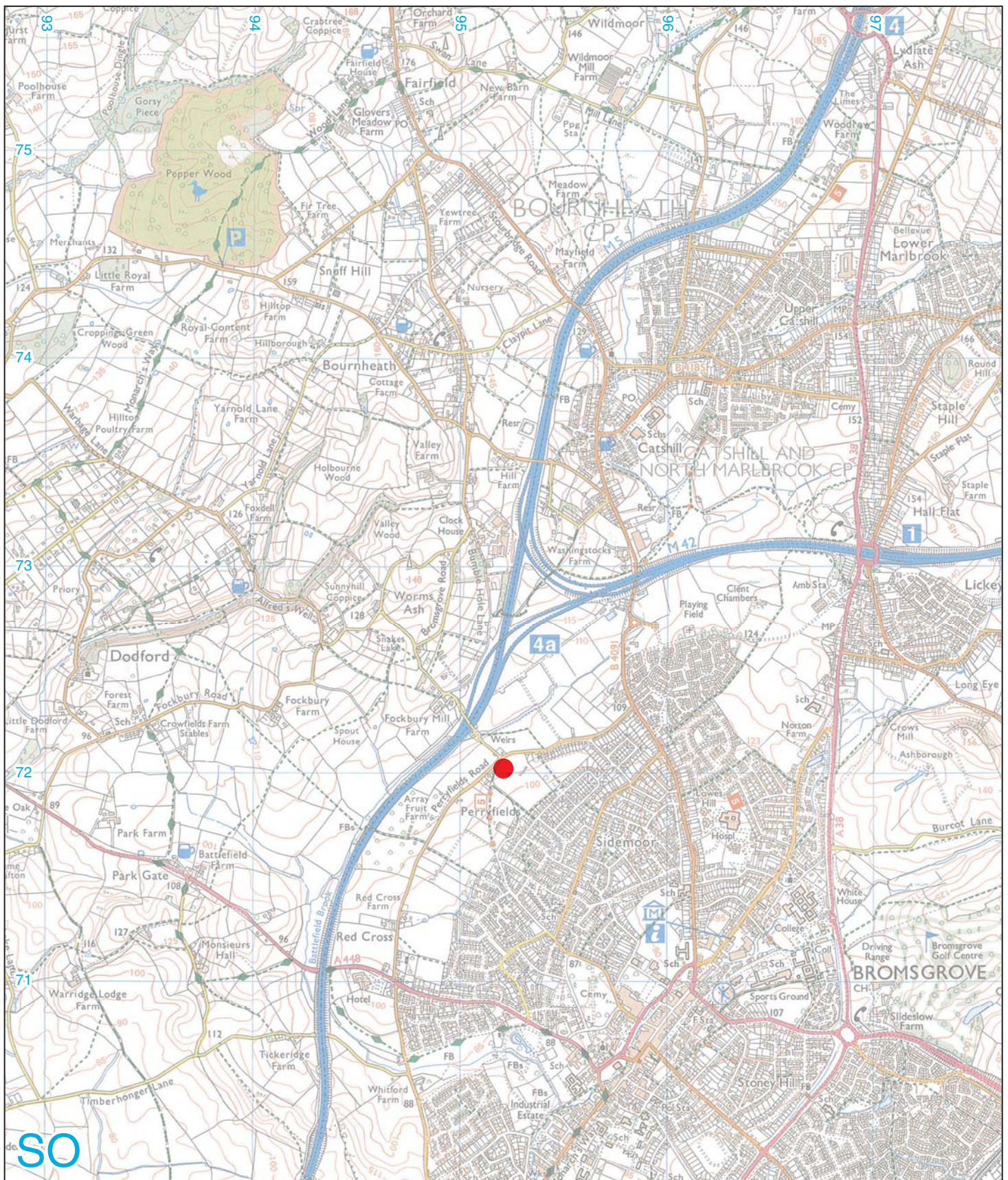


APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)
1	100	Layer	Made ground	Grey brown clay sand with 5% builders waste, plastic and crushed rock on a sheet of geo-textile	>17.2	>1.8	0.74
1	101	Layer	Natural	Red brown clay sand	>17.2	>1.8	>0.1
2	200	Layer	Made ground	As 100	>12.6	>1.8	0.56
2	201	Layer	Natural	As 101	>12.6	>1.8	>0.1
3	300	Layer	Made ground	As 100	>19	>1.8	0.3
3	301	Layer	Relict plough soil	Grey brown silt clay	>19	>1.8	0.55
3	302	Layer	Natural	As 101	>19	>1.8	>0.85
4	400	Layer	Top soil	Dark grey brown sand silt	>15	>1.8	0.45
4	401	Layer	Relict plough soil	As 301	>15	>1.8	0.51
4	402	Layer	Natural	As 101	>15	>1.8	>0.01
5	500	Layer	Made ground	Red brown clay silt	>15	>1.8	0.4
5	501	Layer	Top soil	As 400	>15	>1.8	0.26
5	502	Layer	Relict plough soil	As 301	>15	>1.8	0.56
5	505	Layer	Natural	As 101	>15	>1.8	>0.1

APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Land at Perryfields Road Phase III	
Short description	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in April 2015 and February 2016 at Perryfields Road (Phase III), Bromsgrove, Worcestershire. A total of five trenches were excavated. No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during evaluation, and no artefactual material was recovered.	
Project dates	27 April 2015 and 8 February 2016	
Project type	Field evaluation	
Previous work	Not known	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Bromsgrove, Worcestershire	
Study area (M ² /ha)	0.3ha	
Site co-ordinates	SO 95193 72000	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator		
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Ian Barnes	
Project Supervisors	Peter Busby and Sian Reynish	
MONUMENT TYPE		
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive	Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc)
Physical		None
Paper	Worcestershire County Museum	Trench sheets
Digital	Worcestershire County Museum	Digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2016 <i>Land at Perryfields Road Phase III, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire: Archaeological Evaluation</i> . CA typescript report 16076		



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PROJECT TITLE
 Land at Perryfields Road Phase III
 Bromsgrove, Worcestershire

FIGURE TITLE
 Site location plan

0 1km

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DRAWN BY	LM	PROJECT NO.	5322	FIGURE NO.
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SO

- site boundary
- evaluation trench
- modern



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PROJECT TITLE
**Land at Perryfields Road Phase III
 Bromsgrove, Worcestershire**

FIGURE TITLE
**Trench location plan and
 representative trench photograph**



DRAWN BY	LM	PROJECT NO.	5322	FIGURE NO.
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