

**Kinwarton Farm Road
Alcester
Warwickshire**

Archaeological Watching Brief

for

CgMs Consulting

on behalf of

Northern Minerals and Estates Limited


CA Project: 4489
CA Report: 14024

January 2014

Kinwarton Farm Road
Alcester
Warwickshire

Archaeological Watching Brief

CA Project: 4494
CA Report: 14024

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date	20 January 2014
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date	20 January 2014
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signed	
date	14 February 2014
issue	01

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Fig. 2 Plan of observed groundworks (1:1000)



SUMMARY

Project Name: Kinwarton Farm Road
Location: Alcester, Warwickshire
NGR: SP 0954 5887
Type: Watching Brief
Date: 12 August 2013
Location of Archive: To be deposited with the Warwickshire Museum
Accession Number: To be confirmed
Site Code: KAK 13

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the construction of two industrial buildings and associated infrastructure at Kinwarton Farm Road, Alcester, Warwickshire.

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



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In August 2013 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief for CgMs Consulting, on behalf of Northern Minerals and Estates Limited at Kinwarton Farm Road, Warwickshire (centred on NGR: SP 0954 5887; Fig. 1). The watching brief was undertaken to fulfil a condition attached to planning consent (ref 12/01980/FUL) for the construction of two industrial buildings, laying of car parking and associated works.
- 1.2 The objective of the watching brief was to record all archaeological remains exposed during the development and was carried out in accordance with a detailed Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CgMs (2013) and approved by Anna Stocks Planning Archaeologist for Warwickshire County Council. The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (IfA 2009), the *Management of Archaeological Projects 2* (English Heritage 1991), the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (EH 2006).

The site

- 1.3 The site lies to the north of an existing industrial unit area, and is bordered to the north by rough scrub (Fig. 2). The site is essentially flat and lies at approximately 50m AOD.
- 1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as mudstone of the Mercia Mudstone Group of the Triassic Period, overlain by superficial deposits of Wasperton Sand and Gravel Member - sand and gravel of the Quaternary Period (BGS 2014). Natural clay substrate was encountered during the watching brief.

Archaeological background

- 1.5 There have been a number of archaeological evidence discovered within a 1 – 2 km radius of the site within Alcester, which includes possible settlement of Neolithic or Bronze Age date c. 1 km south of the site at Meeting Lane (MWA5495), and early Iron Age - Romano-British settlement c. 1 km to the south-west near Cold Comfort Lane, (MWA9042). Aerial photographs of the local landscape have identified a series of undated linear features and enclosures and a Roman double ditch enclosure between 500m and 1km west of the site (MWA 530, MWA6745-7), and it

was considered that the site had the potential to contain archaeological deposits of the late Prehistoric to Romano-British period (CgMs 2013).

- 1.6 A review of Historic Environment Record data confirms that the site is outside of significant areas of medieval or later activity, being predominantly in agricultural usage during those period.

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 (CgMs 2013). An archaeologist was present during ground reduction throughout the development area (see Fig. 2 for location and extent).
- 1.9 Graphic and photographic records were compiled in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (2007).
- 1.10 The archive from the watching brief is currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble and will be deposited with Warwickshire 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 (FIG. 2)

- 2.1 The natural geological substrate 1001 consisting of red/blue clay was exposed throughout the development area at a depths of between 0.8m and 3m below the

present ground level (bpgl). This was overlain in parts of the observation area by subsoil 1002, which was in turn overlain by buried topsoil 1003. A layer of modern hardcore/redeposited clay 1000 formed the existing ground surface.

- 2.2 Adjacent to the retaining wall (forming the northern and eastern boundary of the site) modern truncation up to 3m in depth was observed. Further to the south truncation was less intense, with the natural clay 1001 surviving at a depth of 0.8m bpgl, and sealed by subsoil 1002 which in turn was overlain by buried topsoil 1003.
- 2.3 No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks and, despite visual scanning of spoil, no artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 Despite the archaeological potential of the application area (see archaeological background above), the watching brief identified no archaeological remains within the area of observed groundworks. The absence of remains is attributable to previous significant ground reduction within the site boundary.

4. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Charlotte Haines. The report was written by Ian Barnes and the illustrations were prepared by John Bennett. The archive has been compiled by and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neil. The project was managed for CA by Ian Barnes.

5. REFERENCES

- BGS (British Geological Survey) 2014 *Geology of Britain Viewer* http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geology_viewer_google/googleviewer.html Accessed 24 January 2014

CgMs Consulting 2013 *Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Works: Proposed Industrial Units, Land off Kinwarton Farm Road, Kinwarton*

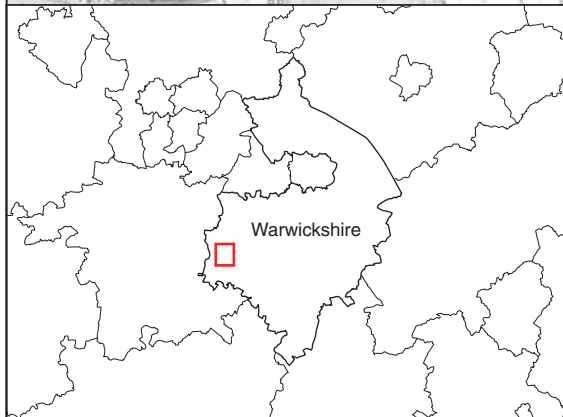
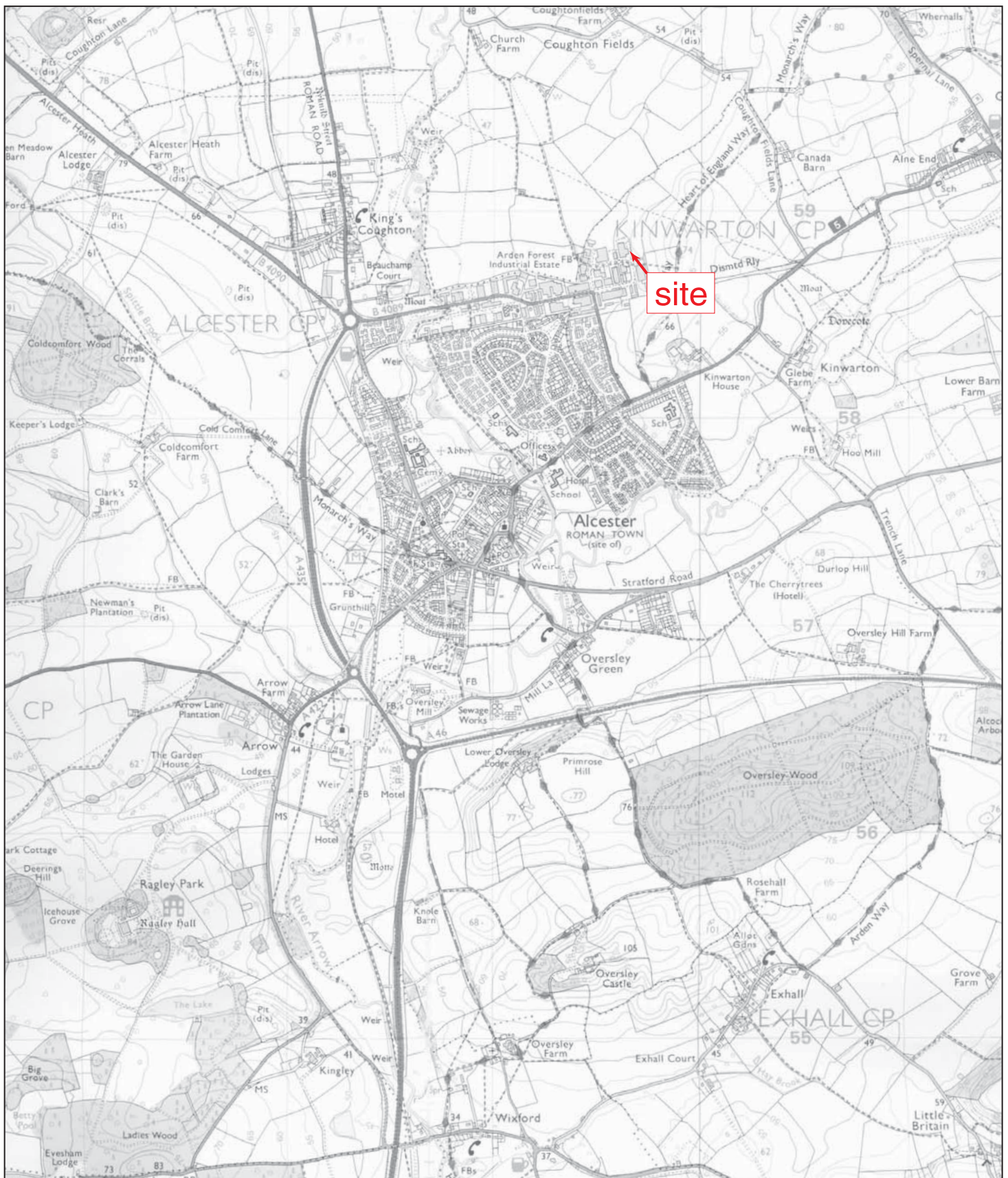


APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth /thickness (m)	Spot-date
1	1000	Layer	Modern redeposited material	Hardcore/made ground			0.5	
1	1001	Layer	Natural	Red clay with light blue patches			>0.5	
1	1002	Layer	Subsoil	Mid grey brown clay			0.3	
1	1003	Layer	Buried topsoil	Very dark grey brown silty clay			0.3	

APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Kinwarton Farm Road, Alcester, Warwickshire	
Short description	An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the construction of two industrial buildings and associated infrastructure at Kinwarton Farm Road, Alcester, Warwickshire. No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks, and no artefactual material was recovered.	
Project dates	12 August 2013	
Project type	Watching Brief	
Previous work	None	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Kinwarton Farm Road, Alcester, Warwickshire	
Study area (M ² /ha)	1ha	
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	SP 0954 5887	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Warwickshire County Council	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Ian Barnes	
Project Supervisor	Charlotte Haines	
MONUMENT TYPE	None	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical		
Paper	Warwickshire Museum	Trench recording forms; Permatrace plans
Digital	Warwickshire Museum	Digital photographs
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2013 <i>Kinwarton Farm Road, Alcester, Warwickshire: Archaeological Watching Brief</i> . CA typescript report 14024		



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PROJECT TITLE
 Kinwarton Farm Road, Alcester,
 Warwickshire

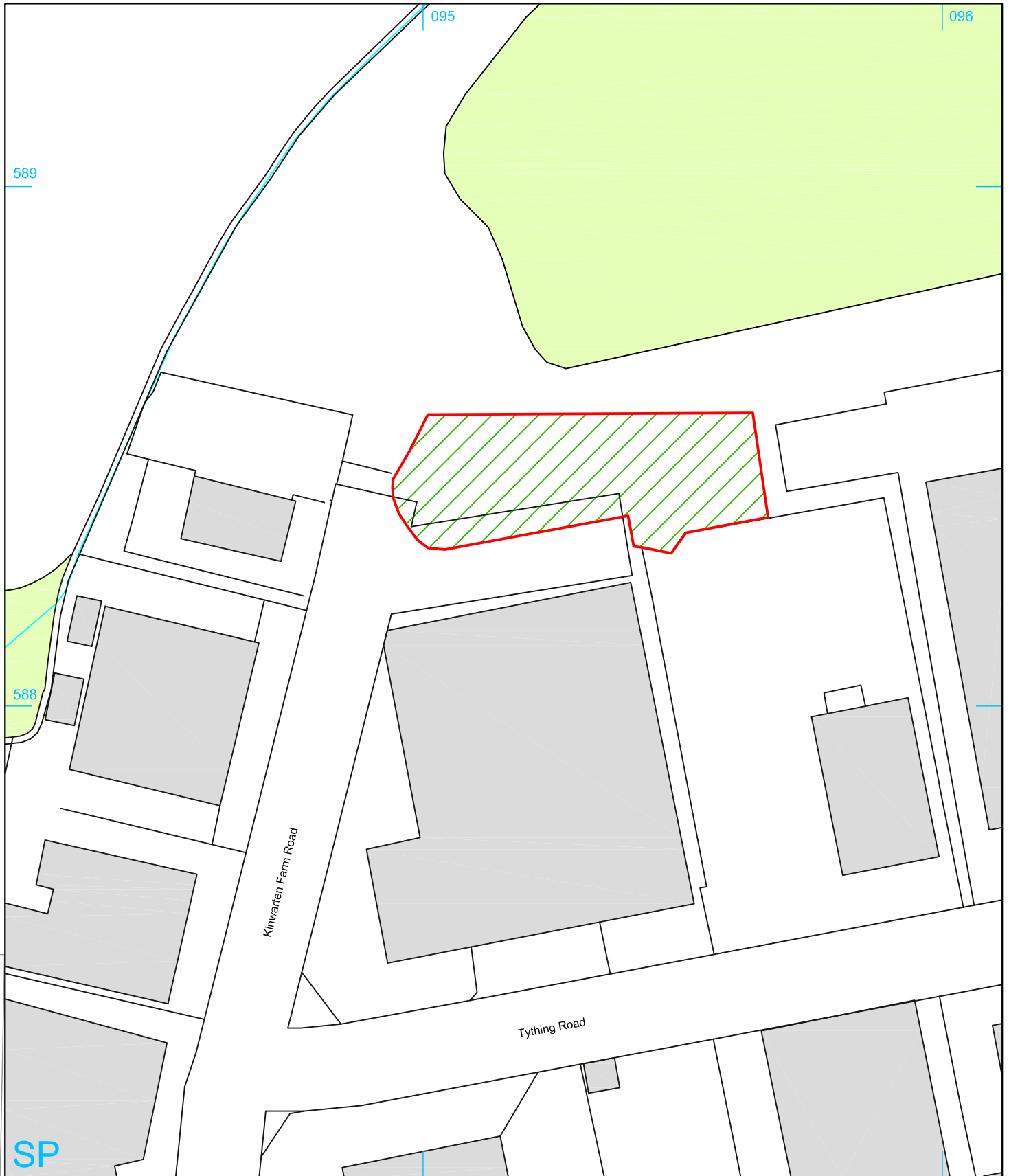
FIGURE TITLE
 Site location plan





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PROJECT NO. 4489 DATE 11-02-2014
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FIGURE NO.
1



-  site
-  area of observed ground reduction



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Kinwarten Farm Road, Alcester,
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FIGURE TITLE

The site, showing area of observed
 groundworks

PROJECT NO.	4489	DATE	11-02-2014	FIGURE NO.
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