

**Fancutts Garage
High Street, Honeybourne
Worcestershire**
Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief



for
Sandpiper TKL Ltd

CA Project: 6738
CA Report: 18545

WCC Event Number: WSM70846

November 2018



Fancutts Garage High Street, Honeybourne Worcestershire

Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief

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Document Control Grid						
Revision	Date	Author	Checked by	Status	Reasons for revision	Approved by
A	26 November 2018	Monica Fombellida	Richard Young	Draft		Laurie Coleman
B	29 November 2018	Monica Fombellida	Richard Young	Final	Client comment	Laurie Coleman

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SUMMARY

Project Name: Fancutts Garage
Location: High Street, Honeybourne, Worcestershire
NGR: 411514 243885
Type: Evaluation and watching brief
Date: 22-24 October 2018
Planning Reference: Wychavon District Council ref. 17/00071/FUL
Location of Archive: To be deposited with Worcestershire County Museum Service
HER: WSM70846
Site Code: FGH18

An archaeological evaluation and watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in October 2018 on land at the site of the former Fancutts Garage, High Street, Honeybourne, Worcestershire. Four archaeological evaluation trenches were excavated and the excavation of ten geotechnical trial pits was monitored.

No archaeological features were encountered within the excavated trenches or the trial pits.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In October 2018 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation and watching brief for Sandpiper TKL Ltd. at the site of the former Fancutts Garage, High Street, Honeybourne, Worcestershire (centred at NGR: 411514 243885, Fig. 1). The archaeological evaluation and watching brief were undertaken to comply with a condition (Condition 11) placed upon planning consent granted by Wychavon District Council (WDC ref: 17/00071/FUL) for the erection of eight dwellings, access, landscaping and associated works.

1.2 Following consultation with Aidan Smyth, Wychavon District Council and Malvern Hills Planning and Archaeology Advisor, it was agreed the initial phase of archaeological works on the site would comprise monitoring of the excavation of geotechnical trial pits and the excavation of four archaeological evaluation trenches. The works followed a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2018a) and approved by Mr Smyth. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014), the *Standard and guidance: Archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2014) and the *Standards and guidelines for archaeological projects in Worcestershire* (WCC 2012).

The site

1.3 The site is approximately 0.32ha in extent and comprises the former garage buildings, an area of hardstanding and rough grassland. It is bounded to the north-east by Meadow View, to the south-east by the High Street, to the south-west by residential properties and to the north-west by agricultural land. The site lies at approximately 48m AOD and is broadly flat

1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Blue Lias Formation and Charmouth Mudstone Formation of the Jurassic and Triassic Periods, with superficial deposits of Head – Clay, Silt and Gravel formed in the Quaternary Period (BGS 2018). Clay natural substrate was identified in all the trenches and trial pits.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 No previous archaeological work has been undertaken within the site, however a number of archaeological investigations carried out in the vicinity of the site have identified Iron Age, Roman and medieval settlement remains in the wider landscape.

Prehistoric

- 2.2 The site is included within an area considered to have Palaeolithic potential (WSM56936) and an Historic Environment Assessment of South Worcestershire (WHEAS 2010) characterises the area around Honeybourne as having strong potential for the survival of later prehistoric archaeological remains.

Iron Age (700 BC – AD 43)

- 2.3 A pit containing abundant sherds of Middle Iron Age pottery accompanied by a possible stone pot boiler, was recorded during an evaluation at Station Road c. 250m north of the site (CA 2011, WSM46054), however no further features dating to the Iron Age were revealed during the subsequent excavation of the site (CA 2013, WSM49638).

Roman (AD 43 to AD 410)

- 2.4 The site lies approximately 160m to the west of Weston Road which is believed to follow the approximate line of Roman Ryknild Street (WSM30300) and an evaluation carried out c. 120m to the east of the site on land immediately to the west of Weston Road in 2015 identified a 12m long section of a Roman Road surface (WAAS 2015, WSM66927). The Worcestershire Historic Environment Record (HER) maps the line of a further postulated Roman Road extending on a south-west/north-east alignment across the site (WSM30628; see Fig. 2) to join Ryknild Street to the north-east of the site.
- 2.5 Several Roman find spots including that of coins and a brooch are recorded within the village of Honeybourne (WAAS 2015). Archaeological excavations have uncovered evidence for Roman settlement approximately 250m to the north of the site (CA 2013, WSM49638), and on the course of the Honeybourne to Wormington gas pipeline, approximately 1km south-west of the site (Hart and McSloy 2012, WSM42095). Roman drainage ditches and postholes have also recently been recorded at Stratford Road c. 400m north-east of the site (CA 2018b, WSM316608).

Medieval (AD 1066 to AD 1539)

- 2.6 Two deserted medieval villages lie in the vicinity of Honeybourne, one is located c. 500m north-east of the site (WSM02831) and the other c. 1.2km to the south-east (WSM02828). The latter represent the remains of 'Ponden' and is a Scheduled Monument (SM1301404). St Egwins Church (WSM02825) which was dedicated in 1295 lies approximately 400m to the north-east of the site (WAAS 2015). The earthwork remains of ridge and furrow cultivation, of probable medieval date, are recorded surrounding the historic core of the village.

Post-medieval/Modern (AD 1540 to present)

- 2.7 Post-medieval Honeybourne is focused along the High Street. Grade II listed 33 and 35 High Street comprising two timber-framed 17th-century houses and a former shop lie immediately adjacent to the south-east corner of the site (WSM 32438). The site is depicted as largely open ground with a range of buildings towards the High Street on the 1885 Ordnance Survey County Series map. It remains largely unchanged in subsequent editions; the only notable development being the replacement of previous structures along the north-eastern site boundary to allow for the construction of the extant garage building between 1955 and 1971.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The objectives of the evaluation and watching brief 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 with *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014), the evaluation has been designed to be minimally intrusive and minimally destructive to archaeological remains. The information gathered will enable WDC 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 *Revised National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2018).

4. METHODOLOGY

Evaluation excavation and recording

- 4.1 The evaluation comprised the excavation of four trenches (Trenches 1-4) in the location shown on Fig. 2. All trenches measure 20m long, 1.8m width and an average of 0.6m deep. The trench locations carried slightly from that depicted in the WSI due to the presence of spoil heaps, shrubs and trees, and away from live services. Each trench moved no more than 10m and an even spread of trench across the area not subjected to modern disturbance was still achieved. The postulated route of the Roman road was also still targeted. The final 'as dug' trench plan was recorded with GPS and surveyed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 4 *Survey Manual*.

Watching Brief excavation and recording.

- 4.2 The watching brief comprised the monitoring of the excavation of ten trial pits (Trenches 5-14) in the location shown on Fig. 2. The pits measured an average of 1.8m to 3m long, 0.7m wide, and up to 2m deep. The final 'as dug' trench plan was recorded with GPS and surveyed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 4 *Survey Manual*.
- 4.3 All trenches and trial pits 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*.
- 4.4 The archive from the archaeological evaluation and watching brief is currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble and will be deposited with Worcestershire County Museum Service. 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 (FIGS 2-3)

- 5.1 The following is a brief description of the contexts observed on site. For a detail measurements and description refer to Appendix A.

Archaeological Evaluation: Trenches 1-4

- 5.2 The natural clay substrate was encountered c. 0.6m below present ground level (bpgl) in all four trenches. This was directly overlain by up to 0.5m of modern made ground, which contained a number of modern artefacts, including plastic and glass, which were not retained. This made ground was sealed by modern topsoil. A single land drain was observed in both Trenches 3 and 4 (see Fig. 2).

Watching Brief: Trenches 5-14

- 5.1 The natural clay substrate was encountered c. 0.6m bpgl. This was directly overlain by up to 0.5m of modern made ground, which was sealed by modern topsoil.

6. DISCUSSION

- 8.1 Despite the archaeological potential of the site (see archaeological background above) no archaeological remains were observed during the works. The presence of modern made ground directly overlaying the level upper surface of the natural substrate suggests the site has been subjected to truncation in the modern period, most likely during the construction of the garage buildings in the 20th century.

7. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Monica Fombellida. The report was written by Monica Fombellida. The illustrations were prepared by Tom Brown. The archive has been compiled and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Richard Young.

10. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2016 *Geology of Britain Viewer*
<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> Accessed 9 October 2018

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2011 *Land at Station Road, Honeybourne, Worcestershire: Archaeological Evaluation. CA report 11292*

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2013 *Land at Station Road, Honeybourne, Worcestershire:*

*Archaeological Excavation. CA Report: **13545***

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2018a *Fancutts Garage, High Street, Honeybourne, Worcestershire. Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief.*

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2018b *Plots at St Ecgwins Gardens, Stratford Road, Honeybourne, Worcestershire: Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample CA Report **18365***

Hart, J and McSloy, E.S 2012 'Roman Occupation in the Vale of Evesham: the archaeology of the proposed Honeybourne to Wormington Natural Gas Pipeline 2006-07', in Transactions of the Worcestershire Archaeological Society 3(23) 1–28

Worcestershire Archaeology and Archive Service (WAAS) 2015 *Archaeological Works at Grange Farm, Honeybourne, Worcestershire* WAAS Report ref: **2196**

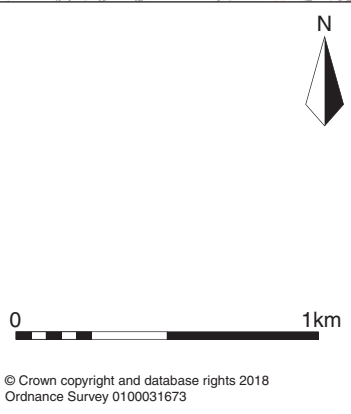
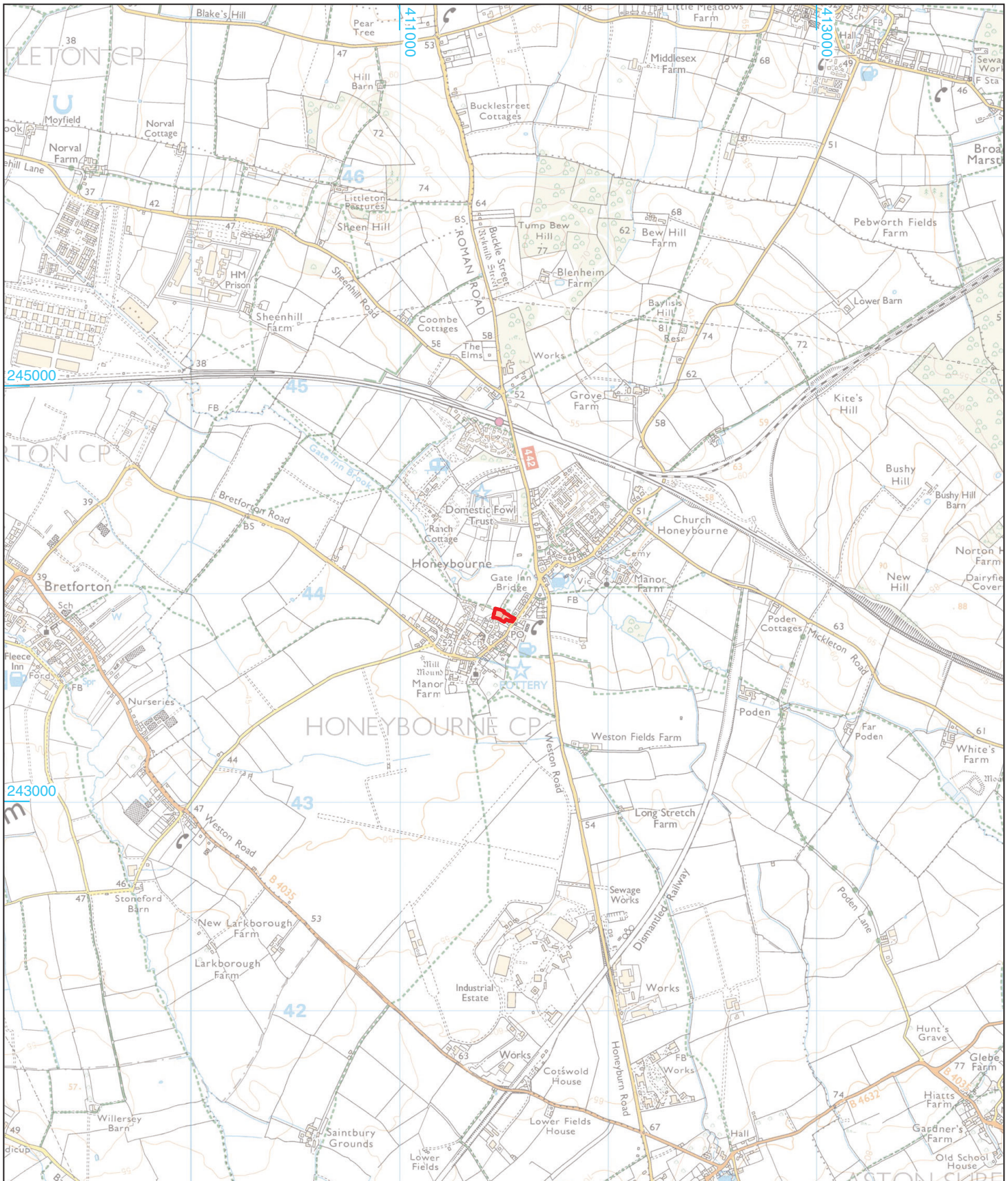
WHEAS (Worcestershire Historic Environmental and Archaeology Service) 2010 *Historic Environment Assessment for the South Worcestershire Joint Core Strategy Area*

APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)
1	100	Layer	Soil	Dark grey brown silt	20	1.8	0.1
1	101	Layer	Made ground	Medium brown grey silt clay	20	1.8	0.51
1	102	Layer	Natural	Light brown yellow gravelly sand	20	1.8	>0.01
1	103	Layer	Modern disturbance	Mid brown grey silt mixed with CBM and animal bones	>1.8	>1.8	>0.62
2	200	Layer	Soil	Dark grey brown silt	20	1.8	0.2
2	201	Layer	Made ground	Medium brown grey silt clay	20	1.8	0.3
2	202	Layer	Natural	Light brown yellow gravelly sand	20	1.8	n/a
2	203	Layer	Modern disturbance	Mid brown grey silt mixed with CBM	>2.3	>2.8	>0.5
3	300	Layer	Soil	Dark grey brown silt	20	1.8	0.27
3	301	Layer	Made ground	Medium brown grey silt clay	20	1.8	0.3
3	302	Layer	Natural	Light brown yellow gravelly sand	20	1.8	n/a
3	303	Layer	Gravelly surface	Dark grey silt with small stones	20	1.8	0.1
4	400	Layer	Soil	Dark grey brown silt	20	1.8	0.18
4	401	Layer	Made ground	Medium brown grey silt clay	20	1.8	0.26
4	402	Layer	Natural	Light brown yellow gravelly sand	20	1.8	n/a
4	403	Layer	Gravelly surface	Dark grey silt with small stones	20	1.8	0.1
5	500	Layer	Soil	Dark grey brown silt	1.8	0.6	0.12
5	501	Layer	Made ground	Medium brown grey silt clay	1.8	0.6	>0.5
6	600	Layer	Soil	Dark grey brown silt	2.1	1	0.1
6	601	Layer	Made ground	Medium brown grey silt clay	2.1	1	0.5
6	602	Layer	Natural	Light brown yellow gravelly sand	2.1	1	>1.4
7	700	Layer	Soil	Dark grey brown silt	1.8	0.5	0.1
7	701	Layer	Made ground	Medium brown grey silt clay	1.8	0.5	0.35
7	702	Layer	Natural	Light brown yellow gravelly sand	1.8	0.5	>0.05
8	800	Layer	Soil	Dark grey brown silt	1.8	0.5	0.1
8	801	Layer	Made ground	Medium brown grey silt clay	1.8	0.5	0.4
8	802	Layer	Natural	Light brown yellow gravelly sand	1.8	0.5	>1.6
9	900	Layer	Soil	Dark grey brown silt	3	0.7	0.2
9	901	Layer	Made ground	Medium brown grey silt clay	3	0.7	0.5
9	902	Layer	Natural	Light brown yellow gravelly sand	3	0.7	>1.3
10	1000	Layer	Soil	Dark grey brown silt	3	0.76	0.2
10	1001	Layer	Made ground	Medium brown grey silt clay	3	0.76	0.4
10	1002	Layer	Natural	Light brown yellow gravelly sand	3	0.76	>1.4
11	1100	Layer	Soil	Dark grey brown silt	2.1	0.67	0.2
11	1101	Layer	Made ground	Medium brown grey silt clay	2.1	0.67	0.4
11	1102	Layer	Natural	Light brown yellow gravelly sand	2.1	0.67	>1.4
12	1200	Layer	Soil	Dark grey brown silt	2.2	0.7	0.2
12	1201	Layer	Made ground	Medium brown grey silt clay	2.2	0.7	0.4
12	1202	Layer	Natural	Light brown yellow gravelly sand	2.2	0.7	>1.4
13	1300	Layer	Soil	Dark grey brown silt	2.2	0.7	0.2
13	1301	Layer	Made ground	Medium brown grey silt clay	2.2	0.7	0.4
13	1302	Layer	Natural	Light brown yellow gravelly sand	2.2	0.7	>1.4
14	1400	Layer	Soil	Dark grey brown silt	2.7	0.7	0.23
14	1401	Layer	Made ground	Medium brown grey silt clay	2.7	0.7	0.37
14	1402	Layer	Natural	Light brown yellow gravelly sand	2.7	0.7	>1.4

APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS				
Project Name	Fancutts Garage, High Street, Honeybourne, Worcestershire			
Short description	An archaeological evaluation and watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in October 2018 on land at the site of the former Fancutts Garage, High Street, Honeybourne, Worcestershire. Four archaeological evaluation trenches were excavated and the excavation of ten geotechnical trial pits was monitored. No archaeological features were encountered within the excavated trenches or the trial pits.			
Project dates	22-24 October 2018			
Project type	Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief			
Previous work	No previous work			
Future work	Unknown			
PROJECT LOCATION				
Site Location	High Street, Honeybourne			
Study area (M ² /ha)	0.32ha			
Site co-ordinates	411514 243885			
PROJECT CREATORS				
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology			
Project Brief originator	n/a			
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology			
Project Manager	Richard Young			
Project Supervisor	Monica Fombellida			
MONUMENT TYPE				
	n/a			
SIGNIFICANT FINDS				
	n/a			
PROJECT ARCHIVES				
Paper	Worcestershire Service	County	Museum	Trenches record sheets, photo registers
Digital	Worcestershire Service	County	Museum	Digital photos, plans
BIBLIOGRAPHY				
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2018 <i>Fancutts Garage, High Street, Honeybourne, Worcestershire. Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief</i> , CA report 18545				



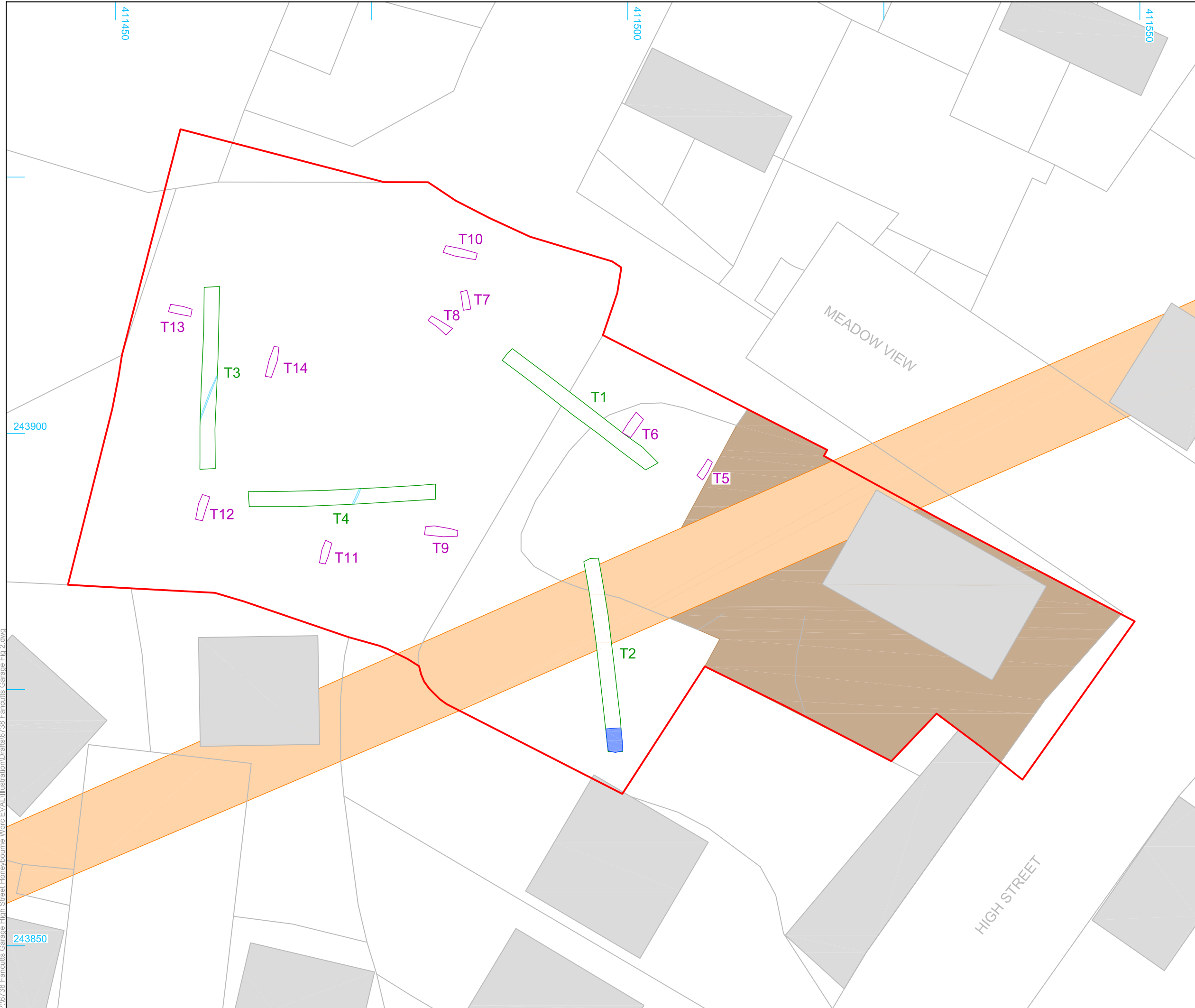

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PROJECT TITLE
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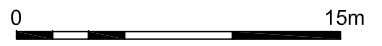
FIGURE TITLE
 Site location plan

DRAWN BY	TB	PROJECT NO.	6738	FIGURE NO.	1
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	01.11.18		
APPROVED BY	RY	SCALE@A4	1:25,000		

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- site boundary
- evaluation trench
- trial pit
- field drain
- modern
- postulated route of roman road
- hardstanding



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PROJECT TITLE
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FIGURE TITLE
 Trench location plan

DRAWN BY	TB	PROJECT NO.	6738	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	01.11.18	2
APPROVED BY	RY	SCALE@A3	1:350	

P:\6738 Fancutt's Garage High Street Honeybourne Work EVAL Illustration\Drafts\6738 Fancutt's Garage Fig 2.dwg



Trench 1, looking north-east (1m scale)



Trench 4, sample section, looking south (1m scale)



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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

Photographs

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FIGURE NO.

3

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