

**The Manor, Farm Lane, Westmancote,  
Tewkesbury  
Worcestershire**

*Archaeological Watching Brief*



*for:*  
Mr Adam Drysdale

CA Project: CR0563  
CA Report: CR0563\_1  
WSM ref: WSM73774

July 2021



# The Manor, Farm Lane, Westmancote, Tewkesbury Worcestershire

## *Archaeological Watching Brief*

CA Project: CR0563  
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A	5 July 2021	Richard Scurr	Laurent Coleman	Final	-	Richard Young

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<b>Cirencester</b> Building 11 Kemble Enterprise Park Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 6BQ  t. 01285 771 022	<b>Milton Keynes</b> Unit 8, The IO Centre Fingle Drive, Stonebridge Milton Keynes Buckinghamshire MK13 0AT  t. 01908 564 660	<b>Andover</b> Stanley House Walworth Road Andover Hampshire SP10 5LH  t. 01264 347 630	<b>Suffolk</b> Unit 5, Plot 11 Maitland Road Lion Barn Industrial Estate Needham Market Suffolk IP6 8NZ  t. 01449 900 120
e. enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk			

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## SUMMARY

**Project name:** The Manor  
**Location:** Farm Lane, Westmancote, Tewkesbury, Worcestershire  
**NGR:** 394110 237873  
**Type:** Watching brief  
**Date:** 3 to 4 June 2021  
**Planning reference:** Wychavon District Council ref: 20/02087/HP  
**Location of Archive:** To be deposited with Tewkesbury Museum and the ADS  
**Site Code:** MFLW21

In June 2021, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the construction of a garage at The Manor, Farm Lane Westmancote, Tewkesbury, Worcestershire.

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

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. In June 2021, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief at The Manor, Farm Lane, Westmancote, Tewkesbury, Worcestershire (centred at NGR: 394110 237873; Fig. 1). The watching brief was undertaken for Mr Adam Drysdale.
- 1.2. Wychavon District Council (WDC) has granted planning permission for demolition of a single storey timber clad stable building and construction of a single storey clad three bay garage with associated hard and soft landscaping (WDC planning ref: 20/02087/HP). Condition 4 of this planning permission requires the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with an approved *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI).
- 1.3. The scope of this watching brief was defined in Pre Application Advice dated 25 June 2020. This advice was issued by Aidan Smyth, WDC and Malvern Hills (MH) Planning and Archaeology Advisor, the archaeological advisor to WDC. The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a WSI prepared by CA (2021) and approved by Aidan Smyth.
- 1.4. The watching brief was also undertaken in line with the *Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Projects in Worcestershire* (WCC 2019), *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2014; updated October 2020), *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) PPN 3: Archaeological Excavation* (Historic England 2015) and *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide* (Historic England 2015).

### The site

- 1.5. The development area is approximately 60m<sup>2</sup> in extent. It lies on the eastern side of The Manor which lies within residential properties alongside Farm Lane and an unnamed road to the south-east. The site previously comprised of a stable building, which has recently been demolished to make room for the proposed garage. The site lies at approximately 60m AOD, and is generally flat.
- 1.6. The underlying bedrock geology of the site is mapped as mudstone of the Charmouth Formation, which formed in the Jurassic Period (BGS 2021). The natural

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geological substrate identified during the course of the watching brief consisted of yellow-brown and blue-grey clay.

## 2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1. Remains of a deserted medieval village (DMV) (Worcs HER Ref: WSM 31180) are located on the slope above The Manor; earthworks representing the remains of a holloway, house platforms, a backlane and trackway have been identified which extend into an adjacent field. The Manor contains re-used architectural fragments, possibly derived from a chapel.
- 2.2. A further DMV (Worcs HER Ref: WSN 04630) is located to the south-west of Westmancote. This was identified as earthworks in 1957, but was ploughed level by 1965.

## 3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1. The general objectives of the watching brief were:
  - to monitor the development groundworks, and to identify, investigate and record any significant buried archaeological deposits/features thus revealed;
  - at the conclusion of the project, to produce an integrated project archive and a report setting out the watching brief results and the archaeological conclusions that can be drawn from the recorded data.
- 3.2. The specific objective of the watching brief was to investigate and record any remains associated with the adjacent DMV which may have been exposed by the development groundworks.

## 4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1. The watching brief comprised the observation by a competent archaeologist of all intrusive groundworks associated with the proposed development. These works comprised the reduction of the site area for a foundation slab (Fig. 2).
- 4.2. Records were maintained in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual*.
- 4.3. Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential and no deposits were identified that required sampling.

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- 4.4. CA will make arrangements with Tewkesbury Museum for the deposition of the project archive. A digital archive will also be prepared and deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS). The archives (museum and digital) will be prepared and deposited in accordance with *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (ClfA 2014; updated October 2020).
- 4.5. A summary of information from this project, as set out in Appendix B, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

## 5. RESULTS

- 5.1. The general stratigraphic sequence identified during the course of the watching brief was broadly uniform. The natural geological substrate (1005 and 1006) was identified in the north-eastern part of the trench at an average depth of 0.94m below present ground level (bpgl). This was overlain by made-ground/levelling deposit 1001, measuring at least 0.62m in thickness, which probably related to terracing/levelling of the area for the construction of the stables that previously occupied the site. The made-ground was in turn overlain by 0.32m of concrete 1007.
- 5.2. No features or significant deposits of archaeological interest were observed and no artefactual material was recovered.

## 6. DISCUSSION

- 6.1. 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 archaeological deposits may indicate that the archaeological remains associated with the DMV do not extend as far as the area of observed groundworks area, that archaeological remains associated with the DMV may have been removed during the previous levelling works for the former stable building and/or that they may be masked by made-ground/levelling deposits.

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## 7. CA PROJECT TEAM

7.1. Fieldwork was undertaken by Richard Scurr. This report was written by Richard Scurr. The report illustrations were prepared by Ryan Wilson. The project archive has been compiled by Richard Scurr, and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Laurent Coleman.

## 8. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2021 *Geology of Britain*

Viewer <https://www.bgs.ac.uk/map-viewers/geology-of-britain-viewer/>

Accessed 4 June 2021

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2021 *The Manor, Farm Lane, Westmancote, Tewkesbury, Worcestershire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief*

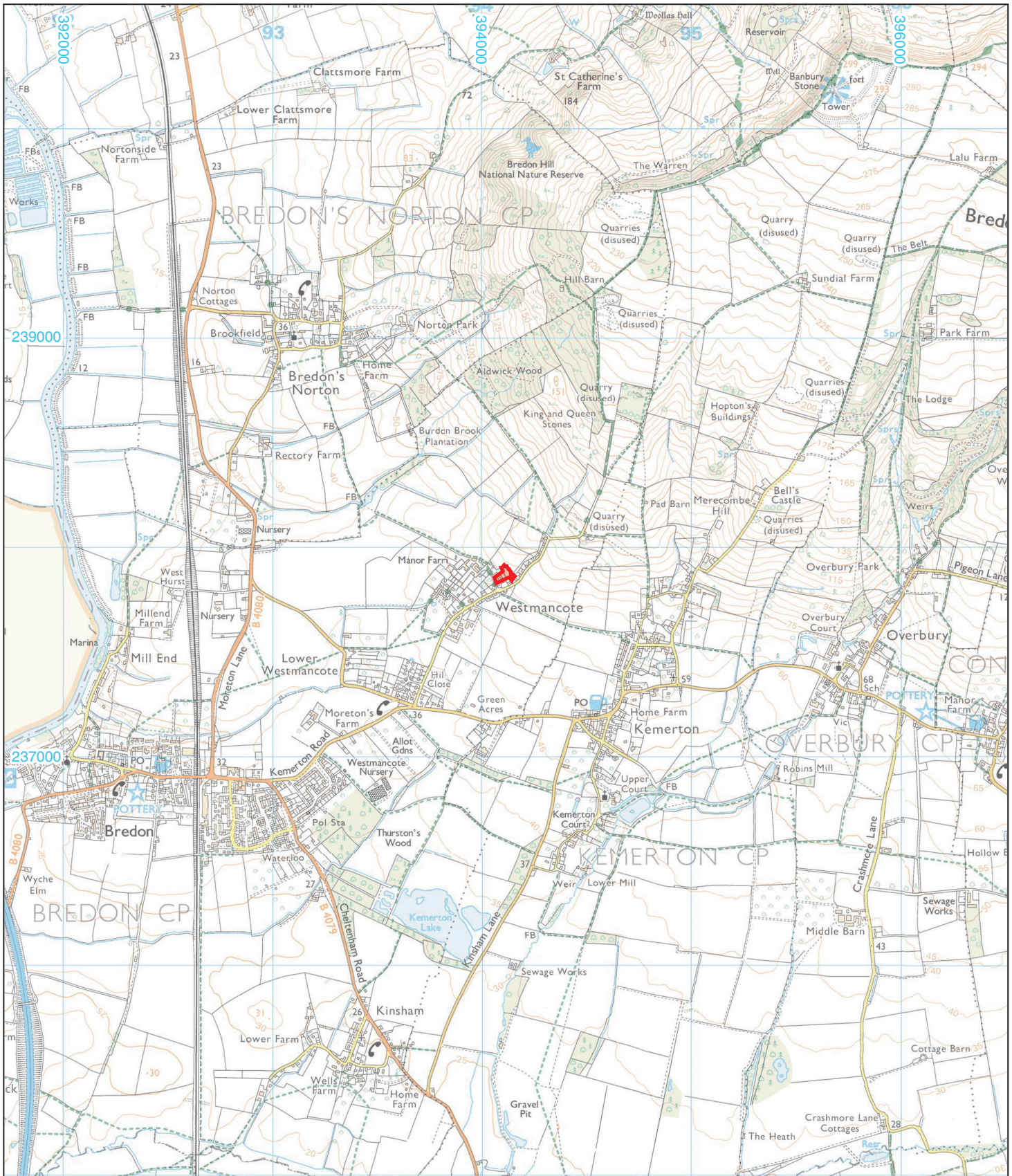


## APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Area	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth/thickness (m)
1	1000	Layer		topsoil	Dark grey brown silty clay, humic			0.25
1	1001	Deposit		Levelling Deposit	Dark brown garden soil mottled with re-deposited yellow brown clay			
1	1002	fill	1004	Fill of construction cut	Dark orange brown silty clay, coal and small sub-angular stone inc.	>6	>0.38	
1	1003	Structure		Concrete drain	Modern concrete pipe	>6	>0.38	
1	1004	cut		Construction cut for 1003	Linear, construction cut, unexcavated	>6	>0.38	
1	1005	Layer		Natural Substrate	Yellow brown clay, rare large sub-angular stones inc			0.94
1	1006	Layer		Natural Substrate	Blue grey clay, small seashell/limestone flakes inc			1.18
1	1007	Structure		Concrete Base	Modern concrete base			0.32

## APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project name	The Manor, Farm Lane, Westmancote, Tewkesbury, Worcestershire	
Short description	<p>In June 2021, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the construction of a garage at The Manor, Farm Lane Westmancote, Tewkesbury, Worcestershire.</p> <p>No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed, and no artefactual material was recovered.</p>	
Project dates	3 June 2021	
Project type	Watching Brief	
Previous work	None	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site location	Farm Lane, Westmancote, Tewkesbury, Worcestershire	
Study area (m <sup>2</sup> /ha)	60m <sup>2</sup>	
Site co-ordinates	394110 237873	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project brief originator	N/A	
Project design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Laurent Coleman	
Project Supervisor	Richard Scurr	
MONUMENT TYPE	none	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	none	
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)	Content
Paper	Tewkesbury Museum	Field recording sheets
Digital	Tewkesbury Museum	Digital Photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2021 <i>The Manor, Farm Lane, Westmancote, Tewkesbury, Worcestershire: Archaeological Watching Brief</i> CA typescript report <b>CR0563_1</b>		



 Site boundary



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Ordnance Survey 0100031673



Andover 01264 347630  
Cirencester 01285 771022  
Milton Keynes 01908 564660  
Suffolk 01449 900120  
www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk  
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

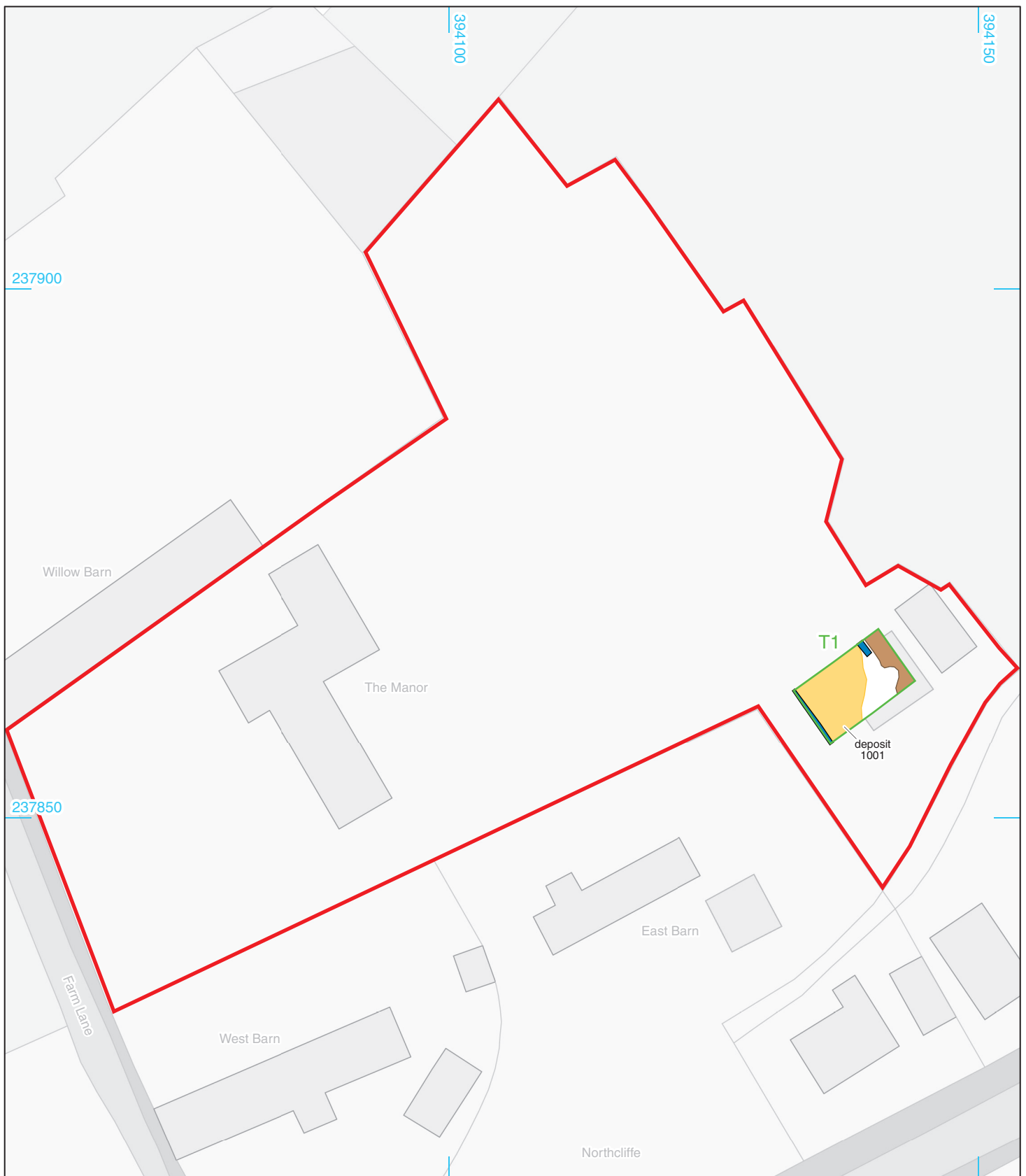
**PROJECT TITLE**

The Manor, Farm Lane, Westmancote,  
Tewkesbury, Worcestershire

**FIGURE TITLE**

Site location plan

DRAWN BY	RW	PROJECT NO.	CR0563	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	16/06/2021	1
APPROVED BY	RS	SCALE@A4	1:25,000	



- Site boundary
- Area of observed groundworks
- Modern feature
- Natural feature
- Deposit



Andover 01264 347630  
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 Milton Keynes 01908 564660  
 Suffolk 01449 900120  
[www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk](http://www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk)  
[enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk)

**PROJECT TITLE**

The Manor, Farm Lane, Westmancote, Tewkesbury, Worcestershire

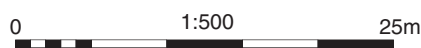
**FIGURE TITLE**

The site, showing area of observed groundworks

DRAWN BY RW PROJECT NO. CR0563  
 CHECKED BY DJB DATE 16/06/2021  
 APPROVED BY RS SCALE@A4 1:500

**FIGURE NO.**

**2**





The area of observed groundworks, looking north-east



The area of observed groundworks, looking north-west

#### **Andover Office**

Stanley House  
Walworth Road  
Andover  
Hampshire  
SP10 5LH

t: 01264 347630

#### **Cirencester Office**

Building 11  
Cotswold Business Park  
Cirencester  
Gloucestershire  
GL7 6BQ

t: 01285 771022

#### **Milton Keynes Office**

Unit 8 - The IO Centre  
Fingle Drive, Stonebridge  
Milton Keynes  
Buckinghamshire  
MK13 0AT

t: 01908 564660

#### **Suffolk Office**

Unit 5, Plot 11, Maitland Road  
Lion Barn Industrial Estate  
Needham Market  
Suffolk  
IP6 8NZ

t: 01449 900120

e: [enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk)

