

DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT
of
LAND NORTH OF ALREWAS,
STAFFORDSHIRE

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Desk-based assessment of land to the north of Alrewas, Staffordshire

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Summary

An archaeological desk-based assessment was undertaken at the land to the north of Alrewas, Staffordshire (NGR: SK 175 155) in relation to proposed residential development of the southern part of the site.

This report describes and assesses the significance of the heritage assets (and potential heritage assets) that are potentially affected by the application. The setting of heritage assets is considered. The potential impact of the application, and the need for further on-site evaluation, is assessed.

The proposed development is set within a complex prehistoric landscape focused on the confluence of the Rivers Trent, Tame and Nene. This area has been investigated extensively largely as a result of large scale gravel extraction and a wide variety of sites and monuments have been recorded from the prehistoric and Roman periods.

Aerial photographs of the southern half of the proposed development site have revealed the presence of two groups of cropmarks. The first of these is a combination of enclosure, field system and a trackway which is likely to be prehistoric in origin. The second cropmark group comprises a ring ditch and enclosure that are likely to have been constructed between the Early Bronze Age and Romano-British periods.

The site lies to the south of a well-preserved complex of earthworks related to a medieval manor (Wychnor Hall) and associated settlement, which is a scheduled ancient monument. The proposed development is not considered to significantly affect the setting of this complex.

Cartographic evidence shows that the site has changed little in the last 200 years. Medieval strip field agriculture associated with Alrewas is reflected in the survival of several long narrow fields in the part of the site adjacent to the village. Ridge and furrow of medieval or post-medieval date is present and in one of the northern fields is particularly prominent. Development of the site may have an impact on the association with this historic landscape and the village.

The western edge of the site lies within the Conservation Area for the settlement of Alrewas (DST 5655) and the Trent and Mersey Canal (DST5720). The proposed development will affect the setting of both the canal and the historic core of the village.

A 20th century house with associate outbuildings is located in the southeast corner of the proposed development. It is thought that the construction of these buildings would have caused only minimal disturbance to underlying archaeological deposits.

A large gas pipeline which transects much of the northern half of the site is likely to have truncated and destroyed any archaeological deposits along its route.

It is recommended that prior to development of the site, an archaeological evaluation is undertaken to establish the presence, extent and nature of buried archaeological deposits within the southern part of the site.

Report

1. **Background**

1.1 **Reasons for the project**

A desk-based assessment was undertaken at site north of Alrewas, Staffordshire (NGR: SK 175 155). It was undertaken on behalf of Andy Faizey of Lioncourt Homes, who intend to construct a combination of residential properties and wetland habitats for which a planning application is in preparation.

The proposed development site is considered to include potential heritage assets with archaeological interest, the significance of which may be affected by the application.

The project conforms to a project proposal (including detailed specification) that was produced by Worcestershire Historic Environment and Archaeology Service (HEAS 2012).

The project also conforms to the *Standard and guidance for archaeological desk-based assessment* (IfA 2008).

1.2 **Aims**

The general aims of this desk-based assessment are to:

- describe and assesses the significance of the heritage assets within the application site;
- establish the nature, importance and extent of the heritage assets;
- assess the impact of the application on the heritage assets.

1.3 **Methods**

1.3.1 **Documentary research**

All relevant information on the history of the site and past land-use was collected and assessed. Records of known archaeological sites and monuments were obtained from Staffordshire Historic Environment Record (HER). Historic maps and published sources were consulted at Stafford Record Office on the 25th January 2012 and on the 9th November 2012.

The results are mapped on Figures 4 & 5 and the details of individual features of the historic environment are given in Appendix 1. Event records have been omitted where this would repeat information in other record types, and would not materially affect the assessment. HER references have been used throughout this assessment.

1.3.2 **List of sources consulted**

Cartographic sources

- Early 19th century parish map 'The Manor of Alrewas'
- 1840 Tithe map, Parish of Alrewas
- 1883 Ordnance Survey, 1st edition 1:2,500 (25")
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- Staffordshire County Council 2011 *Methodology for the refined HLC for Staffordshire*, Staffordshire County Council
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- Stubbs, N, and Hailwood, R, 2008 *The history of Alrewas; Updated edition*, Hailwood Enterprises, Alrewas
- University of Birmingham 2012 *Where Rivers Meet: Landscape, Ritual, Settlement and the Archaeology of River Gravels* [data-set]. York: Archaeology Data Service [distributor] (doi:10.5284/1000311): Site accessed 23 January 2012
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1.4 Hedgerows

The consideration of the application of the *Hedgerows Regulations 1997* is intended to be indicative rather than definitive. Searches relating to the information necessary for the regulations is restricted to those that are readily available. For instance, the Service will not usually have undertaken exhaustive searches of documents (particularly textual documents) held by a Records Office. Wildlife and landscape criteria are also beyond the scope of this archaeological project and have not been considered.

1.5 Other methods

A site visit was undertaken on 24th January 2012.

1.6 Impact assessment criteria

Table 1: Significance Criteria for Cultural Heritage Issues

<p>Major Beneficial: Demonstrable improvement to a designated heritage asset of the highest order (or its setting), or non-designated asset (or its setting) of archaeological interest of demonstrable significance equal to that of a scheduled monument. Designated assets will include scheduled monuments, grade I/II* listed buildings, grade I/II* registered parks and gardens, registered battlefields, protected wrecks or World Heritage Sites. Improvement may be in the asset's management, its amenity value, setting, or documentation (for instance enhancing its research value). It may also be in better revealing a World Heritage Site or Conservation Area's significance.</p>
<p>Beneficial: Demonstrable improvement to a designated heritage asset (or its setting), or non-designated asset (or its setting) of archaeological interest such that the level of improvement will demonstrably have a minor affect the area and its heritage resource, either at a local or regional level. For instance grade II listed buildings, Conservation Areas and undesignated heritage assets important at a sub-national level. Improvement may be in the asset's management, its amenity value, setting, or documentation (for instance enhancing its research value).</p>
<p>Not Significant: Impacts that have no long-term effect on any heritage asset.</p>
<p>Minor Adverse: Minor harm to a designated heritage asset (or its setting), or non-designated asset (or its setting) of archaeological interest such that the level of harm will demonstrably have a minor affect the area and its heritage resource, either at a local or regional level. For instance grade II listed buildings, Conservation Areas and undesignated heritage assets important at a sub-national level.</p> <p>Partial removal of a historically important hedgerow (after the Hedgerows Regulations).</p>

Moderate Adverse: Minor harm to a designated heritage asset (or its setting) of the highest significance, or non-designated asset (or its setting) of archaeological interest of demonstrable significance equal to that of a scheduled monument. For instance scheduled monuments, grade I/II* listed buildings, grade I/II* registered parks and gardens, registered battlefields, protected wrecks or World Heritage Sites.

Harm to a designated heritage asset (or its setting), or non-designated asset (or its setting) of archaeological interest such that the level of harm will demonstrably affect the area and its heritage resource, either at a local or regional level. For instance grade II listed buildings, Conservation Areas and undesignated heritage assets important at a sub-national level.

Removal of a historically important hedgerow (after the Hedgerows Regulations).

Major Adverse: Harm to a designated heritage asset (or its setting) of the highest significance, or non-designated asset (or its setting) of archaeological interest of demonstrable significance equal to that of a scheduled monument. For instance scheduled monuments, grade I/II* listed buildings, grade I/II* registered parks and gardens, registered battlefields, protected wrecks, World Heritage Sites or harm to a building or other element that makes a positive contribution to the significance of a Conservation Area as a whole.

Substantial harm to, or loss of, a designated heritage asset (or its setting), or non-designated asset (or its setting) of archaeological interest such that the level of harm or loss will demonstrably affect the area and its heritage resource, either at a local or regional level. For instance grade II listed buildings, Conservation Areas and undesignated heritage assets important at a sub-national level.

Severe Adverse: Substantial harm to, or loss of, a designated heritage asset (or its setting) of the highest significance, or non-designated asset (or its setting) of archaeological interest of demonstrable significance equal to that of a scheduled monument. For instance scheduled monuments, grade I/II* listed buildings, grade I/II* registered parks and gardens, registered battlefields, protected wrecks, World Heritage Sites or the loss of a building or other element that makes a positive contribution to the significance of a Conservation Area as a whole.

2. The application site

2.1 Location

The study area included the application site (Figures 2 and 3), although heritage assets were considered within 500m of the site in order to provide a broader understanding of the local context. In addition an extended area of search (1km) was made to encompass the settings of scheduled ancient monuments and Listed Buildings.

2.2 Topography, geology and soils

The site lies to the immediate south of the River Trent. The west of the proposed development area is bounded by the Trent and Mersey Canal and to the south by the settlement of Alrewas. The east of the area of investigation is abutted by two large fields.

The underlying geology of the site is mapped as Mercia Mudstone overlain by Devonian sand and gravel deposits, in the northern half of the proposed development area these are in turn sealed and incised by later alluvial silts and sands (BGS 1976).

The gravels themselves are split into two distinct stratigraphic units, the 'Lower sands' (c.2m thick) and the 'Upper gravels' 3-4m thick (Ragg *et al* 1984; University of Birmingham 2012). These two deposits reflect riverine deposition of progressively increased energy, the latter being indicative of seasonal glacial wash with large quantities of material being deposited under braided river conditions.

3. Heritage assets

3.1 Palaeolithic

At Whitemoor Haye, located 1.5km to the south east, extraction of the gravels revealed shallow river channels that had scoured the underlying Mercia mudstone and organic material collected from these channels helped to produce a complex environmental picture of the landscape during the period leading up to the Late Glacial maximum 13,000 years ago. This rich assemblage included insect, plant and mammalian remains that evoke an image of typical 'mammoth steppe', with herds of large herbivores (such as woolly mammoth *Mammuthus primigenius*, horse *Equus ferus*, reindeer *Rangifer tarandus*, and bison *Bison priscus*) and the more solitary rhino (*Coelodonta antiquitatis*) drawn to the rich grazing grounds along the banks of a highly braided river system where they were hunted by predators such as wolf (cf. *Canis lupus*) (Hewson 2006).

The insect assemblage can help to refine this picture further with a large number of species noted that today are found in the high Arctic tundra or Alpine conditions (Coope and Smith 2003). These suggest a July mean temperature of around 10 degrees centigrade and a January mean temperature as low as -15 degrees. When combined with the plant macrofossils the insects help reveal an open landscape that comprised scrub vegetation comprising dwarf tree and shrub species set on a sandy and gravelly ground with broken grasslands located next to slow-flowing and vegetated waters.

To date no archaeological remains are known to have been found within this Pleistocene landscape although the presence of such abundant wildlife next to the banks of the Trent would have provided an ideal hunting ground.

No Palaeolithic remains are recorded within the subject site although there is a potential for the survival of evidence relating to this period within the Devensian gravel deposits.

3.2 Mesolithic

As the climate warmed the discharge of the river diminished (Davies 2004). With a reduction in the sediment supply the width of the active fluvial system narrowed and changed from a braided system to a single thread system which caused incision through the earlier Devensian deposits, essentially creating the birth of the River Trent.

As the anastomosing river system continued to mature, certain channels became the dominant water discharge routes, which in turn lead to the abandonment of earlier braided channels, which quickly became colonised with reed swamp followed by alder carr. As mentioned above the colonisation of the floodplain area by different plant species helped to anchor the river banks as root systems held the geology together whilst raising ground levels due to the development of peats and soils.

This stable river landscape would have provided rich resources for Mesolithic populations but at present the evidence of such groups remains minimal. Occasional struck flints have been noted on occasion but no significant concentrations have been noted to date. The best evidence to date is located 15km to the west of the area of investigation at Bower Farm near Rugeley (University of Birmingham 2012). The site comprised a cave shelter to the immediate south of the river that produced over 250 struck flints that included flakes and tools associated with blackened sand and burnt pebbles. This high tool/flake ratio led to the interpretation that the site was used as a seasonal camp, and given the easy access along the produce rich river valley corridor it is possible that the same population could well have used the resources available in the development area.

No heritage assets of Mesolithic date are recorded within the subject site.

3.3 The Early Neolithic

The early Neolithic provides the first evidence of a 'cultural' landscape with a possible causewayed enclosure identified by aerial photography (Palmer 1976; Hodder 1982) to the southwest of the current area of investigation (NGR: SK 153 143). It comprises three close-

set ditch circuits that encompass an area of roughly 4.15ha. It was thought that this enclosure along with a similar one seen at Mavesyn Ridware 11.3km to the west were the most northerly outliers of this predominately southern phenomenon. However, similar sites have since been found in Anglesey, the Isle of Man, Northern Ireland, the Lake District and Scotland (Oswald *et al* 2001).

No heritage assets of Early Neolithic date are recorded within the subject site.

3.4 **The later Neolithic and Early Bronze Age**

The later Neolithic and Early Bronze Age is typified by a wide range of features noted within the landscape, and thanks to mineral extraction many of these have been investigated by archaeological excavation.

As discussed above the area of investigation lies within a highly complex landscape that contains several foci of monuments. The large causewayed enclosure described above, thought to be the main foci of ritual activity in the early Neolithic seems to have lost its importance as the Neolithic progressed and activity seems to have shifted elsewhere to 'newer' hengiform site. The most famous of which is that located at Catholme Farm to the east of the development area and contains a 'Woodhenge' and 'Sunburst' henge complex (University of Birmingham 2012).

Much closer to the current study area, work undertaken during the development of the National Memorial Arboretum to the immediate southeast noted a large multiple ring ditch (Hewson 2006). Aerial photography (Leicester Museum 3325/6 and 3364/14) indicated that the monument comprised four concentric circles of ditches or pits, together with a centrally positioned pit. Work within this scheduled area in 1996 uncovered fragments of late Beaker pottery and subsequent archaeological investigation of this disturbance in 1997 produced an additional seven sherds (University of Birmingham 2012). Further archaeological investigations undertaken in the Arboretum recorded five further ring ditches, several of which contained cremation pits with in situ burnt bone, charcoal and prehistoric pottery (Coates 2002).

To the immediate south of the Arboretum to the southeast of the area of investigation, Whitemoor Haye gravel quarry have provided information on the landscape through complete excavations ahead of mineral extraction. This work has revealed a complex landscape with 'domestic' and 'agricultural' elements occurring in the southern part of the site and a distinct change to the north into burial mounds and 'ritual' monuments.

No heritage assets of definite late Neolithic or Bronze Age date are recorded within the subject site.

Oblique aerial photographs of the southern half of the subject site (EST2035) revealed the presence of at least two groups of features (Fig 4; Staffordshire HER 04201 and 04505). The first of these (Fig 4: Staffordshire HER 04201) is a combination of enclosure, field system, and a trackway, orientated northwest to southeast. Although it has not been excavated, this cropmark complex is likely to be prehistoric in origin based on its morphology. The second cropmark complex (Fig 4: Staffordshire HER 04505), to the east of the study area, comprises a ring ditch and enclosure. This occupation evidence is likely to date between the Early Bronze Age and Romano-British periods. In addition a linear feature was noted in the centre of the enclosure that may relate to it but this is merely speculative at present.

3.5 **The Iron Age**

The Iron Age is generally described as a period of enclosure creation as changes in farming techniques required 'individual ownership' of set elements within the landscape. The broad divisions created in the late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age being extrapolated and expanded upon. The most extensively studied evidence of this enclosure development in this area has been provided by the ongoing excavations at the Whitemoor Haye gravel quarry. This work has revealed two principal rectangular enclosures measuring 50m by 38m and 70m by 70m respectively. Both these enclosures contained roundhouses, four in the smaller one and six in the larger. As is typical during this period it is not thought that all these structures were in use at the same time, rather that individual structures were used for a relatively short period and

once the building started to deteriorate a new structure was constructed in the immediate vicinity. The roundhouses appeared to have been constructed in pairs of one large and one small, suggesting habitation plus ancillary structure (Coates 2002).

Rectangular enclosures typify the landscape of the Iron Age and numerous examples have been investigated nationwide, these features are generally interpreted as farmsteads. The boundary ditches are not substantial enough to provide a defensive deterrent, and in many instances would not have been capable alone of stopping animals from escaping, and instead are believed to have represented a symbolic boundary.

The area to the south of the Rivers Trent and Teme (including the proposed development area) as reconstructed through environmental remains at Whitemoor Haye suggests a patchwork quilt landscape that included areas of woodland, open grazing and marsh. This type of landscape would have provided the population with easy access to a wide range of raw materials and could have supported a diverse series of activities including collection of raw materials, hunting wild animals, fishing, animal husbandry and crop cultivation.

No heritage assets of definite Iron Age date are recorded within the subject site. However either of the two cropmark complexes (HER 04201 and 04505) noted above (Section 3.5) may contain elements of Iron Age date.

3.6 **The Romano-British period**

It would appear from those sites that have undergone investigation in the local area that there was a hiatus between the end of the Iron Age and Romano-British period with farmsteads such as that described above being clearly abandoned before then becoming re-established at a later date.

The most prominent feature of this period in the vicinity lies to the immediate east of the proposed development where the modern A38 follows the line of the former Rykniel Street (Fig 4: HER 05155) that connected *Letocetum* (Wall) and *Derventio* (Little Chester). This road is thought to have been constructed in the 1st century AD (McKinley 2011), and current research believes that the route of Rykniel Street follows the boundary between the Cornovii and Corieltavi tribes and the road's abandonment period towards the end of the Iron Age may reflect tensions between the two tribes (Todd 1991). During the widening of the A38 for the modern dual-carriageway in 1990 a jar dating to c AD 200 was recovered (Staffordshire HER 01466).

To the immediate southeast of this at the National Memorial Arboretum, cropmark evidence from aerial photographs noted several linear features and rectangular enclosures (Staffordshire HER 01390). Although not excavated they are believed on morphological grounds to be a small Romano-British settlement.

The excavations at Whitemoor Haye revealed an area that was segregated with a series of enclosures that are interpreted as a combination of livestock enclosures and farmsteads. Further to the east a driveway is known to run roughly north to south, and probably served a number of farms allowing movement of animals between water meadows and individual farmsteads. Excavations also revealed the presence of earlier pit alignments that suggest that this route may have already been in place in the landscape and was adapted and expanded by during the Roman occupation (University of Birmingham 2012).

No dated Roman evidence is recorded as existing within the subject site although it is possible that the occupation of probable enclosures indicated by the two cropmark complexes (HER 04201 and 04505), noted above (Section 3.5), may extend into this period.

3.7 **The Anglo-Saxon and medieval periods**

The origins of the settlement at Alrewas lie in the early medieval period. The focus of the settlement was the church, which is documented as being founded in 822 (Stubbs 1987). Two theories regarding the origins of the name are currently known, the first coming from the Anglo-Saxon 'Alder-Wash' translated as swamp of Alders whilst the second comes from the Anglo-Saxon 'Alder-was' meaning a place of Alders that floods easily but drains quickly (D Miller pers comm). It is likely that settlement was largely in the form of dispersed farmsteads

prior to and after the foundation of the church, and the settlement developed into a nucleated focus along a road axis in the 10th century.

A considerable number of houses from the medieval period survive within the village, a proportion of which are listed. It is thought that the village contracted following the epidemics and famines of the 14th century but expanded soon after (Stubbs and Hailwood 2008). Earthwork remains of ridge and furrow can still be seen in many of the fields (Staffordshire HER 04201 and 20191), most notably in the southeast corner of the development site to the immediate west of the southern large field (HER 20191). A further area of earthworks within the subject site (and visible on the current Google Earth image) lying adjacent and parallel to the River Trent are likely to represent ridge and furrow. The Tithe Award plan for the parish of Alrewas (1840) shows the characteristic long strip fields orientated roughly north to south along the entire southern side of the subject site. The majority of these divisions have been removed but a fragment of these long narrow fields survives to the south of the site in which a slight curve typical of strip field agriculture is evident.

Earthworks relating to the deserted medieval village and manor of Wychnor survive on the northern side of the River Trent. This settlement comprised a manor house (Wychnor Hall, demolished in 1535) that was surrounded by a moat on three sides, a main street that contained raised platforms on either side for the inhabitants of the village and two fishponds that would have helped to feed the manor. These earthworks which are designated as a scheduled monument (SM 22436), are still clearly visible (DST 5346: Staffordshire HER 00918; 04916 & 50233).

A silver penny (Staffordshire HER 60772) dated to 1281 (Edward 1) that was minted in Lincoln and a medieval stirrup mount (Staffordshire HER 04918) were found in the large field immediately east of the site by a metal detectorist in the early 1990s.

3.8 **The post-medieval and modern periods**

The post-medieval and modern periods are typified in this area by the development of trade routes for the movement of goods from the heavily industrialised areas of the Midlands to the rest of the country. The route of the A38 as mentioned above follows the route of the former Roman road and as such this major trunk road was already present and maintained throughout this period, being expanded into a dual-carriageway in the latter half of the 20th century.

The Trent and Mersey canal (DST 5720) was built during the mid-1700s was finally opened in May 1777, designed and constructed by the engineer James Brindley to link the trade routes of the Rivers Trent and Mersey in order to allow quicker movement of materials between two of the major industrial centres of the time. Originally called the 'Grand Trunk Canal' the development followed the passing of an act of parliament in 1766 (*An Act for making a navigable Cut or Canal from the River Trent, at or near Wilden Ferry, in the county of Derby, to the River Mersey, at or near Runcorn Gap*). The canal forms the western and northern boundaries of the proposed development. The canal appears to have been built with much of the spoil produced being spread on the southern bank and within the area of investigation. The main feature immediately next to the site is that of Alrewas Lock 12 (Staffordshire HER 02905), a small lock that is capable of taking one narrowboat at a time. The lock itself is constructed from a combination of stone and brick.

The earthwork remains of water meadows (Staffordshire HER 54355) have been identified in a survey carried out on the northern side of the River Trent. It is possible that similar remains might survive within the subject site.

The growth of the village of Alrewas in the 20th century has been quite minimal compared with many of the other local settlements and encroachment into the fields from the historic core has only subsumed a single line of fields. At the turn of the century the northern extent of the village lay along the current Park Road (with the single exception of Essington House Farm in the north-west corner of Park Road which is now abandoned), and this remained so until the latter half of the 20th century. Although it is not known how and over what space this development took place the nature of the buildings suggests that it occurred over a number of smaller discrete developments as opposed to a single large scale construction of domestic

properties. A single property including associate outbuildings was constructed within the study area during the 20th century, and at the time of the site visit this property appeared to be lived in. Study of mapping shows that this property was constructed in open fields and no earlier property is known to exist on the same plot.

3.9 **Map regression**

The earliest map which depicts the site in detail is an early 19th century plan of the Manor of Alrewas (Figure 6). This shows a pattern of fields within the development site broadly similar to the existing outline comprising a series of long enclosed strip fields in the southern part of the site to the north of Dark Lane and larger irregular fields adjacent to the river in the north. The row of former strip fields does, however, continue as far as the current A38 to the east, whereas this has now been amalgamated into a single field but the majority of this lies outside the development site. Slight differences include a rectangular field in the centre of the site labelled as parcel 40 which does not survive and a small enclosed area to the west labelled 38. Furthermore a surviving field boundary bisecting this parcel (Hedge 5 in section 4.3 below) is not present.

On the 1844 tithe enclosure award (Fig 7) the field boundaries depicted are almost unchanged. All of the parcels depicted within the site are listed in the schedule as pasture or meadow, apart from parcel 378 which is arable and parcel 381 in the south-western corner of the site, which is listed as house, outbuilding, gardens and croft although no such structure is depicted on the plan or indeed on the earlier map so it seems likely that this is a reference to buildings shown in parcel 382 to the west. Field 381 lies only partially within the application site. Parcels 401-404, all long thin enclosed strip fields could not be located on the schedule but are likely to have been agricultural.

On the 1st edition 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map of 1883 (Fig 8) the landscape is similar although the rectangular boundary referred to above is not present and the boundary referred to as Hedge 5 above is shown partly present. The field in the south western corner of the site (parcel 381 on the Tithe map) is depicted as an orchard. The fields to the east of the development site have, by this time been amalgamated into two parcels.

The Ordnance Survey edition of 1901 (1:2500) shows no change apart from the orchard to the south-west which has disappeared by this time.

On Ordnance Survey edition of 1923 the orchard is once again depicted although it does not extend to the field boundary at the east of the field. The boundary referred to above (Hedge 5) now extends to the south in its current position.

On the 1st Imperial edition of 1954 (1:10560) a building, still surviving as a derelict house, is shown in a narrow field to the south but otherwise the landscape is unchanged.

The Google Maps satellite image of the site (accessed 15th November 2012) shows the site little changed from 1954 except for the loss of the orchard in the south-western field and amalgamation of fields to the east resulting in the loss of a small stretch of hedge to the south east of the development site. Outbuildings are shown to the south of the (now derelict house) shown on the 1954 map.

3.10 **Current land-use**

The site is currently in use mainly as a series of pasture fields while a buried large gas main crosses the site from northwest to southeast, a house with associate outbuildings is currently lived in and located in the southeast corner of the proposed development.

4. **Summary of significance**

4.1 **Designated heritage assets**

The western edge of the site lies within the Conservation Area for the settlement of Alrewas (DST 5655) and the Trent and Mersey Canal (DST5720).

The earthwork remains of Wychnor Hall and associated settlement which lies on the opposite bank of the River Trent is a scheduled monument (SM 22436) which is visible from the site.

There are 46 listed buildings listed within the HER search area (1km from the centre of the proposed development at 417528, 315450) in the settlement of Alrewas and four on the north side of the river in the vicinity of the settlement of Wychnor.

4.2 **Assessment of significance**

The desk-based assessment has provided evidence about sites with archaeological interest within the application area. As a result, an assessment of the significance of these sites can be made in terms of the nature, importance and extent of the archaeological interest.

Nature of the archaeological interest in the site

Environmental and faunal remains from the site of Whitemoor Haye to the south-east of Alrewas have been used to reconstruct a detailed assessment of the local landscape in the late Devensian period. It is possible that similar remains survive within the Devensian gravels which cover the southern side of the subject site although quite probably deeply buried and unlikely to be disturbed by relatively shallow earthworks related to the proposed construction.

Research and fieldwork undertaken within this area demonstrates that the development site lies within an important and complex landscape of later prehistoric settlement and monuments based around the valleys of the Rivers Trent, Nene and Tame. Cropmarks identified from aerial photographs have been identified in the southern half of the site on the gravel terrace. These appear to represent at least two enclosures or small farmsteads with associated trackways and traces of a field system. Below ground these are likely to survive as a series of ditches and other cut features containing cultural material.

Furthermore work at Whitemoor Haye to the immediate south-east has shown that complex features may survive with minimal or no cropmark evidence being visible at surface level (R Jackson pers comm), and therefore the cropmarks may not represent a complete indication of the surviving archaeological evidence on the site. The intensive nature of past occupation within the local area would suggest that the likelihood of complex activity within the proposed development boundary must be considered high.

The presence of Roman Rykniel Street to the east of the site and the discovery of a burial urn adjacent is evidence that the area was occupied in the Roman period. This is further attested by considerable Romano-British activity recorded at Whitemoor Haye. It is possible that the cropmarks identified in the southern part of the site are Romano-British in date.

No clear picture of early medieval landscape and settlement can be outlined from the available evidence, although the nucleated settlement around the church at Alrewas probably developed by the late Anglo-Saxon period. The study area would certainly have formed part of the agricultural fields of the settlement from the 9th and 10th centuries, if not earlier. It is considered unlikely that buildings or structures post-dating the Roman period lie within the study site. However some elements of the early medieval field system may survive.

Evidence of medieval ridge and furrow cultivation survives within the study area and indicates that the medieval land use was arable open fields, particularly in the land immediately to the north of Dark Lane. This characteristically medieval system of open field strip farming is also visible in the historic map evidence for the site through the slightly curved and, in places, 'dog-leg' system of post-medieval enclosed field boundaries. This area, containing the type of enclosure termed 'Piecemeal Enclosure' by the Staffordshire Historic Landscape Characterisation project, would probably have been enclosed between the early 16th and 18th century (Staffordshire County Council 2011, 9). From the early 19th century parish and tithe maps through later Ordnance Survey mapping, it is clear that this enclosure system survived relatively unchanged until the later 20th century. The only significant alteration was in the far eastern part of the site boundary, where two boundaries marking a strip field were removed at some point between the mid 1950's and 1973 in order to create a larger arable field. The survival of ridge and furrow demonstrates that the predominant land use from the post-medieval period onwards was pasture and that there has been minimal loss of the historic character of the enclosed landscape within the past 250 years.

The Trent and Mersey Canal bounds the site to the west. The subject site is important in the setting of this stretch of the canal.

Relative importance of the archaeological interest in the site

Cropmarks within the site are likely to represent a field system and enclosures of late prehistoric or Roman date. This type of site is relatively common on gravel terraces within the Trent Valley but forms a part of a much larger landscape system. The site has the potential to contribute to major studies of the prehistoric landscape.

Relict strip fields preserved by later enclosure and earthwork remains of strip fields in the form of ridge and furrow are also relatively common landscape features although their significance is enhanced by association with the village of Alrewas.

Physical extent of the archaeological interest in the site

At present the known archaeological activity within the proposed development is concentrated in the southern half of the site but this may not be a true reflection of the buried archaeological deposits. The lack of evidence may in part be to do with its location within the river valley where large amounts of alluvial material can overlie and mask archaeological deposits. The dumping of spoil during the construction of the Trent and Mersey canal may also have masked archaeological features. At Whitemoor Haye quarry complex extensive archaeological deposits were revealed by excavation although relatively few cropmarks were noted prior to fieldwork, and archaeologically significant deposits were buried by up to nearly 0.6m of overburden (Coates 2002).

Much of the proposed development site contains evidence for medieval and post-medieval field systems.

4.3 **Hedgerows (Fig 3)**

The *Hedgerow Regulations* 1997 sets out the archaeological and historical criteria for determining 'Important' hedgerows (wildlife and landscape criteria are beyond the scope of this report). The hedge must fulfil the first criterion in Table 2 and at least one of the succeeding criteria.

Hedge/criteria	Hedge 1	Hedge 2	Hedge 3	Hedge 4	Hedge 5
Hedge has existed for 30 years or more	Yes – shown on map of 1840.	Yes – shown on map of 1840.	Yes – shown on map of 1840.	Yes – shown on map of 1840.	Yes – shown on map of 1840.
On parish boundary (pre-1850)	No	No	No	No	No
Incorporates a feature which is part of a scheduled ancient monument*	No	No	No	No	No
Incorporates a feature which is part of a site registered with the HER/SMR (pre-24 March 1997)*	No	No	No	No	No
Marks the boundary of a pre-1600 AD estate or manor registered with the HER/SMR (pre-24 March 1997), or is visibly related to a building or other feature of such an estate or manor	No	No	No	No	No
Marks the boundary of a pre-1600 AD estate or manor in a document held by a Record Office (pre-24 March 1997), or is visibly related to a building or other feature of such an estate or manor	No – none known	No – none known	No – none known	No – none known	No – none known
Recorded in a document held by a Record Office (pre-24 March 1997) as an integral part of a field system predating the Inclosure Acts, or is part of, or visibly related to, any building or other feature associated with such a system (the system must be substantially complete) or part of a historic landscape characterisation adopted for development control purposes pre-24 March 1997)	No – none known	No – none known	No – none known	No – none known	No – none known

Hedge/criteria	Hedge 6	Hedge 7	Hedge 8	Hedge 9	
Hedge has existed for 30 years or more	Yes – shown on map of 1744.	Yes – shown on map of 1744.	Yes – shown on map of 1744.	Yes – shown on map of 1744.	
On parish boundary (pre-1850)	No	No	No	No	
Incorporates a feature which is part of a scheduled ancient monument*	No	No	No	No	
Incorporates a feature which is part of a site registered with the HER/SMR (pre-24 March 1997)*	No	No	No	No	
Marks the boundary of a pre-1600 AD estate or manor registered with the HER/SMR (pre-24 March 1997), or is visibly related to a building or other feature of such an estate or manor	No	No	No	No	
Marks the boundary of a pre-1600 AD estate or manor in a document held by a Record Office (pre-24 March 1997), or is visibly related to a building or other feature of such an estate or manor	No – none known	No – none known	No – none known	No – none known	
Recorded in a document held by a Record Office (pre-24 March 1997) as an integral part of a field system predating the Inclosure Acts, or is part of, or visibly related to, any building or other feature associated with such a system (the system must be substantially complete) or part of a historic landscape characterisation adopted for development control purposes pre-24 March 1997)	No – none known	No – none known	No – none known	No – none known	

* can be wholly or partly within, or adjacent to, such sites, and must be associated with such sites.

Table 2. Importance of hedgerows.

5. The potential impact of the application

This desk-based assessment, and the information provided by the Client, allows an assessment to be made of the potential impact of the proposed development on the archaeological interest in the site.

Sub-surface archaeology

At present significant archaeologically significant assets are only known to be present in the southern half of the site, but as mentioned above this may not be a true reflection of the activity present due to masking by natural or human processes. The construction of domestic properties and associated landscaping and services will have a **Minor or Major Adverse** impact dependent on the nature of the archaeological site. Further archaeological information is required to reach a clear understanding of the impact of the development on the archaeological interest of the site.

Setting of historic assets

The proposed development may affect the setting of a number of heritage assets within the surrounding area. For the purposes of this work, setting, as defined by English Heritage guidance on the setting of heritage assets (2011), is considered to be the surroundings from which an 'asset can be experienced or that can be experienced from or with the asset' (English Heritage 2011, 4). This setting, or elements of it, can make a positive, negative or neutral impact upon the asset and is not solely based on visual or aesthetic considerations, incorporating environmental factors (eg noise, dust and vibration), spatial associations and the understanding of the historic relationship between places as well (English Heritage 2011, 5).

The impact upon the setting of the majority of the heritage assets identified within the 1km radius from the centre of the development will not be visual. The site and its relationship from and towards these heritage assets will be screened by the existing wooded and hedgerow field boundaries to the north whilst to the south nineteenth and twentieth century housing already exists between the site and the historic core of the village.

The proposed development is for northward expansion of the village including areas to the west within the Conservation Areas of Alrewas and the Trent and Mersey Canal which are currently pasture fields. Land adjacent to the canal within the existing settlement is established and development of land to the east of the canal would represent an extension to the existing settlement on this side. Development within these conservation areas may have a **minor adverse to not significant** effect on the setting of the canal, associated features (DST4512, DST3194) and the historic core of the village.

The river valley to the north of Alrewas is largely level and views between the site and recorded assets at Wychnor (SM 22436, DST3196, DST3197) are interrupted by substantial hedgerows. Development of the southern part of the site will not therefore have a significant visual effect on the setting of these assets.

Development of the southern part of the site may have a negative effect on the setting on a Grade II listed building at 25 Dark Lane. The house lies on the very northern edge of the modern village and its current setting on three sides is a built up village and on the fourth, open fields. Development of these fields may have a **minor adverse** effect on the setting of this building by altering views to and from pasture fields to the north.

Visually, the development will also impact upon the setting of both All Saint's and St Leonard's church, albeit only if viewed from the top of the church towers. However, as modern development, in the form of housing and roads, plus the intrusive nature of the canal built in the 18th century, have already altered the historic landscape associated with the buildings, the additional visual impact of the current development proposal is considered to be **not significant**.

The proposed development may affect the setting of a number of other heritage assets through alteration of the landscape in this area and its impact upon the spatial association and historic relationship between places. Assets to the north of the river are unlikely to have had a strong historic association with the landscape to the south of the river due to the presence of the river as a physical boundary. However loss of long narrow fields to the south of the site may have a

minor adverse affect on the relationship between assets within the village and the historic landscape as these enclosed fields reflect the former outline of medieval strip field agriculture associated with the settlement. Retention of field boundaries within the development will offset this effect to some extent and the use of one parcel as a green space may have a **moderate beneficial** effect through its use as an amenity.

6. Recommendations

The desk-based assessment has identified that the disturbance of known or unknown archaeological features and deposits is likely, and that these features and deposits are likely to be Prehistoric or Romano-British in date.

As such it is recommended that before intrusive construction works begin, an archaeological evaluation should be undertaken in those areas that will be affected to ascertain the complexity, preservation, presence or absence of archaeology and relative depths below the present ground surface. It is recommended that trenches be placed in the proposed location of the new pond and wetlands habitat, along the current edge of the Trent and Mersey canal and across the area of proposed housing, over not just the known cropmarks but also in areas currently thought to be blank.

Any site investigation works or watching briefs required, would be concluded by production of an archaeological report (and appropriate publication) to be deposited for public consultation and a project archive to be deposited at a local museum.

7. Publication summary

The Service has a professional obligation to publish the results of archaeological projects within a reasonable period of time. To this end, the Service intends to use this summary as the basis for publication through local or regional journals. The client is requested to consider the content of this section as being acceptable for such publication.

An archaeological desk-based assessment was undertaken at the land to the north of Alrewas, Staffordshire (NGR: SK 175 155) in relation to proposed residential development of the southern part of the site.

This report describes and assesses the significance of the heritage assets (and potential heritage assets) that are potentially affected by the application. The setting of heritage assets is considered. The potential impact of the application, and the need for further on-site evaluation, is assessed.

The proposed development is set within a complex prehistoric landscape focused on the confluence of the Rivers Trent, Tame and Nene. This area has been investigated extensively largely as a result of large scale gravel extraction and a wide variety of sites and monuments have been recorded from the prehistoric and Roman periods.

Aerial photographs of the southern half of the proposed development site have revealed the presence of two groups of cropmarks. The first of these is a combination of enclosure, field system and a trackway which is likely to be prehistoric in origin. The second cropmark group comprises a ring ditch and enclosure that are likely to have been constructed between the Early Bronze Age and Romano-British periods.

The site lies to the south of a well-preserved complex of earthworks related to a medieval manor (Wychnor Hall) and associated settlement, which is a scheduled ancient monument. The proposed development is not considered to significantly affect the setting of this complex.

Cartographic evidence shows that the site has changed little in the last 200 years. Medieval strip field agriculture associated with Alrewas is reflected in the survival of several long narrow fields to the south of the site. Ridge and furrow of medieval or post-medieval date is present and in one of the northern fields is particularly prominent. Development of the site may have an impact on the association with this historic landscape and the village.

The western edge of the site lies within the Conservation Area for the settlement of Alrewas (DST 5655) and the Trent and Mersey Canal (DST5720). The proposed development will affect the setting of both the canal and the historic core of the village.

A 20th century house with associate outbuildings is located in the southeast corner of the proposed development. It is thought that the construction of these buildings would have caused only minimal disturbance to underlying archaeological deposits.

A large gas pipeline which transects much of the northern half of the site is likely to have truncated and destroyed any archaeological deposits along its route.

It is recommended that prior to development of the site, an archaeological evaluation is undertaken to establish the presence, extent and nature of buried archaeological deposits within the southern part of the site. Acknowledgements

The Service would like to thank the following for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project, Andy Faizey, Lioncourt Homes and Suzy Blake, Staffordshire County Council.

8. **Personnel**

The assessment was undertaken by Jonathan Webster. The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Tom Rogers. Illustrations were prepared by Carolyn Hunt and Steve Rigby.

Figures

Plates



Plate 1. Vestige of former medieval strip field boundaries. Looking west



Plate 1. Visible ridge and furrow. Looking south

Appendix 1 Heritage assets registered with the Historic Environment Record (those within the application site are indicated in bold)

Events

HER number	Site name	Grid reference	Record type	Description
EST1146	Land adjacent to Church Cottage, Wychnor	SK 17699 16146	Archaeological evaluation	Birmingham University Field Unit archaeological evaluation
EST1147	Land adjacent to Church Cottage, Wychnor	SK 17699 16146	Archaeological watching brief	Birmingham University Field Unit archaeological watching brief
EST1148	Cunnery Farm, Wychnor	SK 1786 1616	Archaeological watching brief	Birmingham University Field Unit archaeological watching brief
EST1308	Hill farm, Wychnor	SK 1750 1625	Building recording	Archaeological assessment of farmhouse and farm buildings by Bob Meeson (Historic buildings consultant)
EST1333	Hill Farm, Wychnor	SK 17619 16303	Archaeological evaluation	Marches Archaeology archaeological evaluation
EST1370	St Leonard's Church, Wychnor	SK 1768 1607	Building recording and archaeological watching brief	Bob Meeson (Historic Buildings Consultant) Archaeological assessment and watching brief
EST1391	Land adjacent to All Saint's Church, Alrewas	SK 1686 1521	Archaeological evaluation	Stoke-on-Trent Archaeology archaeological evaluation
EST1394	Hill Farm, Wychnor	SK 1766 1628	Archaeological excavation and watching brief	Marches Archaeology archaeological excavation and watching brief
EST1415	St Leonard's House, Wychnor	SK 1780 1612	Archaeological watching brief	Birmingham University Field Unit watching brief for new ménage
EST1428	Land surrounding a barn, Wychnor	SK 1762 1630	Geophysical survey	Stratascan geophysical survey
EST1454	Alrewas Quarry, Alrewas	SK 1787 1476	Archaeological evaluation	Staffordshire County Council archaeological evaluation
EST1596	Willowbrook Farm, Alrewas	SK 1829 1521	Excavation	Staffordshire County Council Development Services Department excavation of barrow and possible Neolithic/Bronze Age

				building
EST1863	Wychnor Manor Stables, Wychnor	SK 1770 1618	Archaeological watching brief	Benchmark Archaeology watching brief
EST2035	Alrewas Meadows, Alrewas	SK 1695 1585	Archaeological earthwork survey	Benchmark Archaeology earthwork survey
EST219	Westgate House, Alrewas	SK 1670 1520	Archaeological evaluation	Staffordshire County Council Development Services Department archaeological evaluation
EST2226	Wychnor deserted medieval village	SK 1752 1614	Archaeological earthwork survey	Earthwork survey of DMV carried out by persons unknown
EST39	Cropmarks east of Alrewas station, Alrewas	SK 18322 14732	Archaeological excavation	Archaeological excavation of cropmarks by persons unknown
EST594	Church Cottage, Wychnor	SK 1768 1610	Archaeological watching brief	Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit watching brief
EST741	Landscape around confluence of the Rivers Trent, Tame and Nene	SK 1907 1399	Archaeological assessment	Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit assessment and report (Where Rivers Meet)
EST776	Willowbrook Farm, Alrewas	SK 1844 1538	Archaeological assessment	Tempus Reparatum Archaeological and Historical Associates assessment
EST777	Willowbrook Farm, Alrewas	SK 1844 1538	Archaeological evaluation	Tempus Reparatum Archaeological and Historical Associates archaeological evaluation
EST778	Willowbrook Farm, Alrewas	SK 1844 1538	Archaeological excavation	Staffordshire County Council archaeological excavation
EST781	Redland Readymix Site, Alrewas	SK 17996 14863	Archaeological evaluation	Tempus Reparatum Archaeological and Historical Associates archaeological evaluation
EST790	Whitemoor Haye Quarry, Alrewas	SK 1778 1462	Archaeological excavation and watching brief	Phoenix Consulting Archaeology Limited archaeological excavation and watching brief
EST849	Site of the Recycling unit, Alrewas Quarry, Alrewas	SK 17931 14845	Archaeological evaluation	Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit evaluation

EST1666	Wychnor Hill Farm, Wychnor	SK 1751 1633	Archaeological watching brief	Bob Meeson (Historic Buildings Consultant) archaeological watching brief
EST1958	Trent and Nene Valleys	SK 0731 3480	Archaeological assessment	Nottingham University assessment on the performance of geophysical survey

Landscape

HER number	Status	Site name	Grid reference	Record type	Description
DST5346	Scheduled Monument - 1009032	Wychnor deserted Medieval Village	Centered SK 1777 1609 (MBR: 687m by 834m)	Scheduled Monument	Deserted village, Moated site, Moated enclosure and two fishponds
DST5655	Conservation area preferred ref 011	Alrewas	Centred SK 1695 1524 (MBR: 972m by 790m)	Conservation area	Existing village
DST5720	Conservation area preferred ref 083	Trent and Mersey Canal	Centred SK 0491 3408 (MBR: 43885m by 41699m)	Conservation area	Canal

Monuments

HER number	Status	Site name	Grid reference	Record type	Description
00128-MST128	Scheduled Monument - 1009032	Wychnor deserted settlement	SK 1778 1625	Documentary evidence Earthwork	Settlement mentioned in Domesday survey of 1086AD. Earthworks show clearly house platforms and former road system
00207-MST207	Scheduled Monument – 91362 (Revoked)	Features at Alrewas Station, Alrewas	SK 1790 1472	Cropmarks	Neolithic Cursus, EBA to AS enclosure and RB to Med round barrow

00918-MST916	Scheduled Monument - 1009032	Wychnor Moated Manor	SK 1753 1583	Earthwork	Former manor site associated with DMV. Abandoned in 16 th century and partially damaged during construction of canal.
00920-MST918		Wychnor Bridges, Alrewas	SK 1831 1581	Documentary evidence Extant structure	Site of River Trent crossing known to be in use from mid 13 th century. New bridge built after flood of 1795AD
01351-MST1343		Features west of Alrewas	SK 1751 1445	Cropmark	Linear feature and trackway of unknown date
01353-MST1345		Feature north of barley Green lane, Alrewas	SK 1788 1435 (MBR: 680m by 450m)	Cropmark	Linear feature of unknown date
01388-MST1380		Feature east of Alrewas	SK 1849 1499	Cropmark	Ring ditch of Bronze Age date
01390-MST1382		Possible settlement east of Alrewas Station	SK 1835 1456 (MBR: 703m by 930m)	Cropmark	Cropmarks of several linear features and rectangular enclosures thought to relate to Romano-British settlement.
01466-MST1458		Willowbrook Farm, Alrewas	SK 181 155	Findspot	Romano-British jar c.200AD
01467-MST1459		Features, Wychnor Bridges, Alrewas	SK 1843 1525 (MBR: 402m by 311m)	Cropmark	Ring ditch dating between late Neolithic and late Bronze Age. Ridge and furrow from between Norman and Victorian date
02341-MST2331		Alrewas	SK 171 151	Documentary evidence	Medieval borough dating from at least 1328AD
02903-MST2890	Associated with Conservation Area - 011	Kent's Bridge, Trent and Mersey canal, Alrewas	SK 1670 1504 (MBR: 34m by 18m)	Extant structure	Bridge built between 1771 and 1777AD
02904-MST2891	Associated with Conservation	Gallow's Bridge, Trent and Mersey	SK 1684 1518 (MBR: 4m)	Extant structure	Bridge built between 1771 and 1777AD

	Area - 011	canal, Alrewas	by 16m)		
02905-MST2892	Associated with Conservation Area - 011	Canal Lock, Trent and Mersey canal, Alrewas	SK 1714 1546 (MBR: 33m by 49m)	Extant structure	Lock built between 1771 and 1777AD
02906-MST2893	Associated with Conservation Area - 011	Cow Bridge, Trent and Mersey canal, Wychnor	SK 1766 1599 (MBR: 6m by 26m)	Extant structure	Bridge built between 1771 and 1777AD
03630-MST3404	Associated with Conservation Area - 011	Alrewas Mill	SK 1682 1545 (MBR: 124m by 119m)	Documentary evidence Extant building	Site of mill in use since Medieval period. Current Mill structure being Post-medieval in date
03730-MST3502		Wychnor Mill	SK 1814 1605 (MBR: 101m by 68m)	Documentary evidence	Documentary evidence suggests late 18 th century mill and weir
03855-MST3584		Wychnor	SK 174 160 (MBR: 498m by 498m)	Documentary evidence	Early medieval settlement
03978-MST3707		Alrewas Mill	SK 167 154	Findspot	Saxon dark blue glass ornament or item of jewellery
04009-MST3736		Feature, Wychnor	SK 1780 1615 (MBR: 54m by 49m)	Cropmark	Late Neolithic to Bronze Age ring ditch
04201-MST3925		Features, dark Lane, Alrewas	SK 1740 1530 (MBR: 206m by 215m)	Cropmarks	Enclosure, field system and trackway dating from between the Early Neolithic and Late Iron Age. Medieval ridge and furrow and Post-medieval field boundary
04279-MST4002	Associated with Scheduled Monument - 1009032	Feature at Wychnor Farm	SK 1779 1626 (MBR: 62m by 104m)	Cropmark	Enclosure dating between the Early Bronze Age to Romano-British
04505-MST4169		Features at Dark Lane,	SK 1760 1526	Cropmarks	Ring ditch dating between the Late

		Alrewas	(MBR: 121m by 137m)		Neolithic and Late Bronze Age. Enclosure of Early Bronze Age to Romano-British date and linear feature of unknown date
04510-MST4174		Features at Wychnor	SK 1767 1580 (MBR: 139m by 300m)	Cropmarks	Ring ditch dated between the Late Neolithic and Late Bronze Age and linear feature of unknown date
04916-MST4499		Possible weir, Trent and Mersey canal, Alrewas	SK 1743 1567 (MBR: 63m by 56m)	Timber Sub surface deposit	Timbers and deposits exposed for Post-medieval weir
04918-MST4501		Alrewas	SK 177 155	Findspot	Medieval stirrup mount
05155-MST4699		Ryknild Street (Knowle Hill to Catholme)	SK 1506 1166 (MBR: 7799m by 9944m)	Documentary evidence	Approximate course of Roman Road
05232-MST4766		Trent and Mersey canal (Litchfield Road to Woodend Farm)	SK 1701 1625 (MBR: 7677m by 5872m)	Extant structure	Canal built between 1766 and 1771
05443-MST4977		Dovecote, Alrewas	SK 166 151	Documentary evidence	Possible site of Post-medieval dovecote indicated by placename 'Dovecote Croft'
05444-MST4978		Tithe barn, Alrewas	SK 1691 1521 (MBR: 55m by 50m)	Conjectural evidence	Possible site of medieval or later Tithe barn
05452-MST4986		Water meadow, Alrewas	SK 1851 1549 (MBR: 242m by 266m)	Destroyed monument	Post-medieval water meadow removed for gravel extraction
05453-MST4987		Stack Stand, Wychnor	SK 1747 1613 (MBR: 26m by	Earthwork	Post-medieval platform

			32m)		
20190-MST5460		Feature at Alrewas	SK 1838 1531	Earthwork	Medieval ridge and furrow
20191-MST5461		Feature at Dark lane, Alrewas	SK 1758 1531 (MBR: 92m by 256m)	Earthwork	Medieval ridge and furrow
20193-MST5463		Water meadow, Wychnor	SK 1697 1590 (MBR: 911m by 502m)	Earthwork	Post-medieval water meadow
20199-MST5469		Feature at Alrewas	SK 1680 1486	Destroyed monument Earthwork	Medieval ridge and furrow
05538-MST6460		Medieval agricultural activity, Wychnor	SK 1767 1614 (MBR: 20m by 30m)	Sub surface deposit	Series of gullies, buried soils and pits
05622-MST6517		Pillbox, Wychnor	SK 1815 1605 (MBR: 3m by 4m)	Extant structure	Hexagonal concrete pillbox constructed between 1940 and 1941AD
50233-MST11336		Wychnor Manor fishponds	SK 1749 1575	Earthwork	Medieval fishponds related to former Manor house
50234-MST11337		Churchyard, St Leonard's Church, Wychnor	SK 1769 1607 (MBR: 45m by 36m)	Extant Structure	Churchyard established between 1100 and 1199AD
50772-MST12357		Pond, Hill farm, Wychnor	SK 1763 1633	Earthwork	Post-medieval pond
50773-MST12358		Hill Farm, Wychnor	SK 1762 1630	Sub surface deposit	Late 19 th early 20 th century forge with remains of hearth and deposits of iron waste, cinders and ash noted
51068-MST12728		Home Farm, Alrewas	SK 1700 1497 (MBR: 40m by 27m)	Extant structures	19 th Century brick built barn

51505-MST12916		Hill Farm, Wychnor	SK 17 16 (MBR: 17m by 55m)	Findspot	Medieval pottery and floor tile
51641-MST13057		Features at All Saints Church, Alrewas	SK 1686 1521 (MBR:44m by 48m)	Sub surface deposit	Ditches of unknown date
52592-MST14025		Farmstead southwest of All Saints Church, Alrewas	SK 1671 1523 (MBR: 98m by 44m)	Documentary evidence Extant structure	Post-medieval farmstead
52819-MST14253		Manor Farm, Alrewas	SK 1661 1505 (MBR: 51m by 61m)	Documentary evidence Extant structure	Post-medieval courtyard farmstead plan
52822-MST14256		Church Farm, Wychnor	SK 1772 1620 (MBR: 136m by 75m)	Documentary evidence Extant structure	Post-medieval farmstead
53112-MST14545		Home Farm, Main Street, Alrewas	SK 1700 1498 (MBR: 70m by 102m)	Documentary evidence Extant structure	Post-medieval multi-yard plan farmstead
60773-MST16993		Alrewas	SK 17 15	Findspot	Roman Republican denarius dating to 100BC
60772-MST17059		Wychnor	SK 17 15	Findspot	Medieval silver penny of Edward 1 minted in Lincoln in 1281
54355-MST18124		Water meadow south of Wychnor DMV	SK 1780 1583 (MBR: 786m by 365m)	Earthwork	Post-medieval water meadow

Historic buildings

HER number	Status	Site name	Grid reference	Record type	Description
08648-MST5158	Listed Building	St Leonards Church,	SK 1768 1607	Extant structure	Church thought to be of 12 th century foundation with 12 th

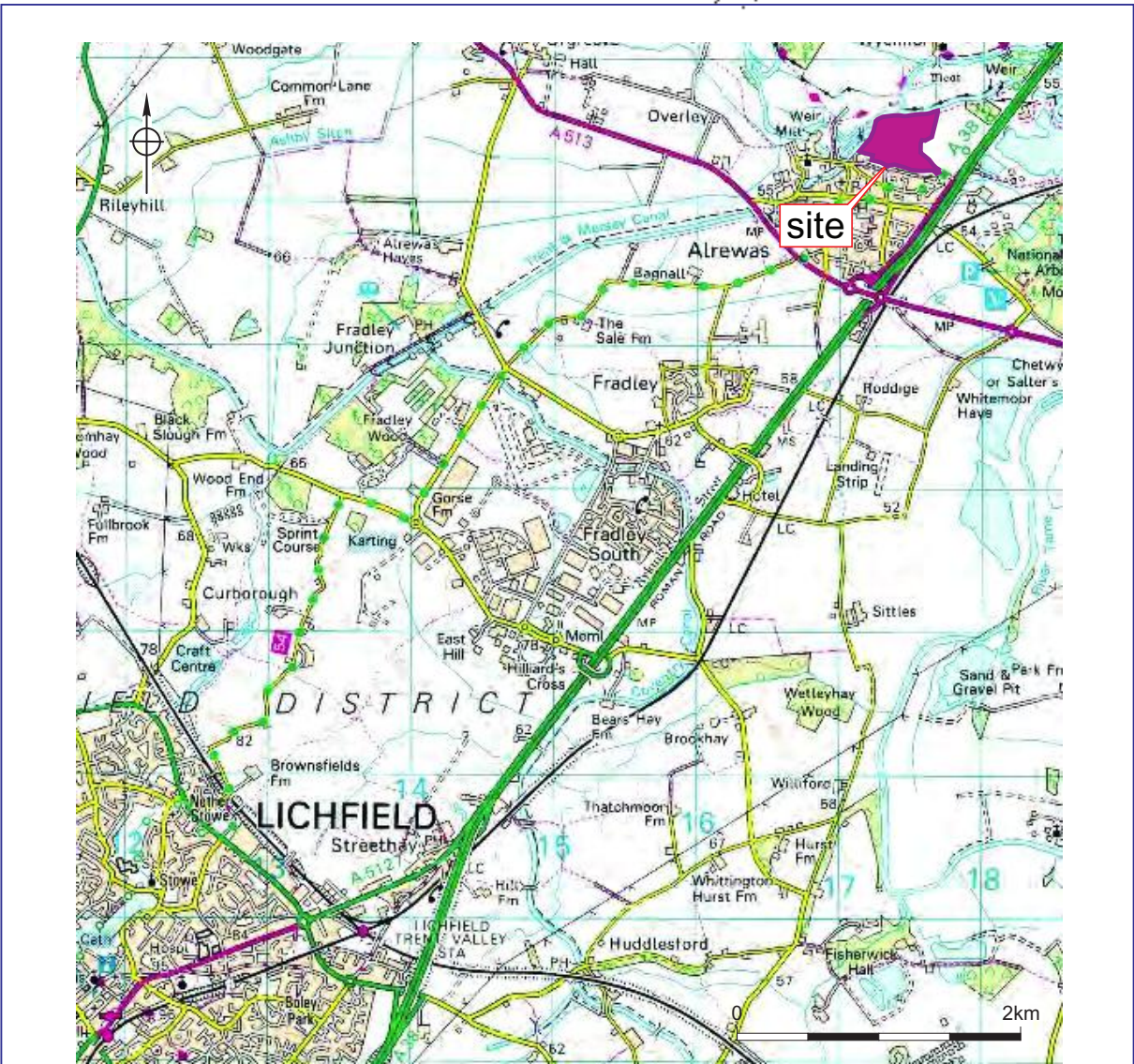
	(II*)	Wychnor			elements of building surviving. Building mainly 14 th century in construction
12498-MST5260	Listed Building (II)	All Saints Church, Alrewas	SK 1676 1526 (MBR: 35m by 23m)	Documentary evidence Extant structure	Listed parish church of 13 th century date that replaced earlier 9 th century foundation
12503-MST5261	Listed Building (II)	Westgate House, Alrewas	SK 1670 1522 (MBR: 26m by 14m)	Extant structure	Georgian date house that incorporates timber barn
13117-MST8696	Listed Building (II)	Church Farmhouse, Wychnor	SK 1774 1620 (MBR: 16m by 15m)	Extant structure	17 th century farmhouse with later refacing
13118-MST8697	Listed Building (II)	Wychnor Hill farmhouse	SK 1751 1624	Extant structure	19 th century farmhouse
12461-MST9102	Listed Building (II)	13 and 15 Church Road, Alrewas	SK 1678 1532 (MBR: 20m by 14m)	Extant structure	Listed 17 th century timber framed house with later 18 th century remodelling
12462-MST9103	Listed Building (II)	19 Church Road, Alrewas	SK 1671 1531 (MBR: 14m by 10m)	Extant structure	Red brick house c.1700AD
12463-MST9104	Listed Building (II)	21 Church Road, Alrewas	SK 1670 1531 (MBR: 13m by 8m)	Extant structure	18 th century red brick house
12464-MST9105	Listed Building (II)	Stable near 21 Church Road, Alrewas	SK 1668 1533 (MBR: 7m by 4m)	Extant structure	17 th century timber framed stable with later 18 th century brick extension
12465-MST9106	Listed Building (II)	Bridge Cottage, 4 Church Road, Alrewas	SK 1699 1524 (MBR: 16m by 16m)	Extant structure	17 th century timber and brick house
12467-MST9108	Listed Building (II)	25 Dark Lane, Alrewas	SK 1737 1521	Extant structure	16 th century house with later alterations

12468-MST9109	Listed Building (II)	Clematis Cottage, 9 Exchange Road, Alrewas	SK 1731 1509	Extant structure	17 th century timber framed house with thatched roof
12479-MST9115	Listed Building (II)	Willow Cottage, 55 Main Street, Alrewas	SK 1722 1504	Extant structure	16 th century timber framed and brick house
12480-MST9116	Listed Building (II)	69 Main Street, Alrewas	SK 1712 1505	Extant structure	17 th century timber framed and brick house with thatched roof
12481-MST9117	Listed Building (II)	The Tudor of Lichfield, 71 Main Street, Alrewas	SK 1711 1505 (MBR: 6m by 6m)	Extant structure	17 th century house
12482-MST9118	Listed Building (II)	Essington House, 85 Main Street, Alrewas	SK 1693 1506 (MBR: 18m by 11m)	Extant structure	17 th century house with 18 th century refurbishment
12483-MST9119	Listed Building (II)	113 and 115 Main Street, Alrewas	SK 1678 1507 (MBR: 18m by 13m)	Extant structure	17 th century house constructed of timber framed core with outer brick walls
12484-MST9173	Listed Building (II)	Thatch End, 131 Main Street, Alrewas	SK 1672 1507 (MBR: 14m by 12m)	Extant structure	17 th century cottage
12485-MST9174	Listed Building (II)	Gable End, 70 main Street, Alrewas	SK 1731 1498	Extant structure	17 th century house
12486-MST9175	Listed Building (II)	The White House, 76 Main Street, Alrewas	SK 1729 1498	Extant structure	Possible 15 th century timber framed cottage with thatched roof
12487-MST9176	Listed Building (II)	Shakespeare Cottage/78, 78a, 80 and 82 Main Street, Alrewas	SK 1726 1499 (MBR: 16m by 21m)	Extant structure	17 th century timber framed house with thatched roof
12488-MST9177	Listed Building (II)	86 and 88 Main Street, Alrewas	SK 1724 1501	Extant structure	17 th century timber framed house
12489-MST9178	Listed Building (II)	110 Main Street, Alrewas	SK 1711 1503 (MBR: 15m by	Extant structure	17 th century timber framed house with later 18 th century

			12m)		remodelling
12490-MST9179	Listed Building (II)	112 Main Street, Alrewas	SK 1710 1503 (MBR: 18m by 11m)	Extant structure	16 th or 17 th century timber framed house
12492-MST9180	Listed Building (II)	Home Farmhouse, Main Street, Alrewas	SK 1699 1503 (MBR: 23m by 13m)	Extant structure	18 th century red brick house
12494-MST9181	Listed Building (II)	138 and 140 Main Street, Alrewas	SK 1687 1505 (MBR: 14m by 6m)	Extant structure	17 th century timber framed house
12495-MST9182	Listed Building (II)	Old Eaves, 158 Main Street, Alrewas	SK 1677 1504 (MBR: 10m by 20m)	Extant structure	Mid 18 th century red brick house
12496-MST9183	Listed Building (II)	Alley Thatch, 166a Main Street, Alrewas	SK 1672 1503 (MBR: 11m by 9m)	Extant structure	17 th century timber framed house with thatched roof
12497-MST9184	Listed Building (II)	11 Mill End Lane, Alrewas	SK 1674 1521 (MBR: 20m by 7m)	Extant structure	17 th century timber framed house
12499-MST9185	Listed Building (II)	Church of All Saints, Alrewas	SK 1682 1529 (MBR: 10m by 10m)	Extant structure	Listed pair of ashlar chest tombs dedicated to Henry Smith (died 1795) and Elizabeth Smith (died 1788)
12500-MST9186	Listed Building (II)	Cobwebb Cottage, 25 Mill End Lane, Alrewas	SK 1667 1532 (MBR: 11m by 10m)	Extant structure	18 th century red brick house with thatched roof
12501-MST9187	Listed Building (II)	Riverway Cottage, Mill End Lane, Alrewas	SK 1665 1537 (MBR: 12m by 17m)	Extant structure	17 th century timber framed house
12502-MST9188	Listed Building (II)	37 Mill End Lane	SK 1664 1539	Extant structure	17 th century timber framed house with

			(MBR: 10m by 16m)		thatched roof
12504- MST9189	Listed Building (II)	Mill End House, 18 Mill End Lane, Alrewas	SK 1667 1524 (MBR: 11m by 17m)	Extant structure	16 th century timber framed house with thatched roof
12505- MST9190	Listed Building (II)	50 Mill End Lane, Alrewas	SK 1663 1537 (MBR: 10m by 17m)	Extant structure	17 th century timber framed cottage
12512- MST9196	Listed Building (II)	Fiddler's Rest, 20 Park Roas, Alrewas	SK 1715 1521 (MBR: 10m by 18m)	Extant structure	17 th century timber framed house with thatched roof and porch
12513- MST9197	Listed Building (II)	22 Park Road, Alrewas	SK 1717 1519 (MBR: 13m by 14m)	Extant structure	17 th century timber framed house
12514- MST9198	Listed Building (II)	Thatchover Cottage, 66 Park Road, Alrewas	SK 1736 1510 (MBR: 7m by 20m)	Extant structure	17 th century timber framed house with thatched roof and later 19 th century alterations
12515- MST9199	Listed Building (II)	74 Park Road, Alrewas	SK 1739 1509	Extant structure	17 th century timber framed house
12516- MST9200	Listed Building (II)	Jasmine Cottage, Post Office Road, Alrewas	SK 1706 1519 (MBR: 11m by 12m)	Extant structure	17 th century timber framed house with thatched roof
12517- MST9201	Listed Building (II)	2 Post Office Road, Alrewas	SK 1699 1507 (MBR: 17m by 20m)	Extant structure	19 th century red brick house
12521- MST9205	Listed Building (II)	Milepost, Tamworth Road, Alrewas	SK 18027 14593	Extant structure	19 th century cast iron milepost
12522- MST9206	Listed Building (II)	Park House, Alrewas	SK 1720 1514 (MBR: 19m by 20m)	Extant structure	Possible 15 th century house extended in both the 17 th and 19 th centuries. Originally timber framed much of it is now brick

12491-MST10413	Listed Building (II)	The George and Dragon, Alrewas	SK 1704 1502 (MBR: 16m by 19m)	Extant structure	Mid 18 th century red brick building with later extensions
13922-MST10519	Listed Building (II)	Manor Farmhouse, Alrewas	SK 1662 1503 (MBR: 23m by 26m)	Extant structure	17 th century red brick farmhouse with later 19 th century additions
13923-MST10520	Listed Building (II)	Cowhouse, Manor Farm, Alrewas	SK 1663 1506 (MBR: 11m by 32m)	Extant structure	17 th century red brick building
13924-MST10521	Listed Building (II)	Barn at Manor Farm, Alrewas	SK 1662 1507 (MBR: 30m by 14m)	Extant structure	17 th century timber framed barn with later 19 th and 20 th century alterations
13925-MST10522	Listed Building (II)	Stable, Manor farm, Alrewas	SK 1660 1505 (MBR: 18m by 37m)	Extant structure	18 th century yellow brick stable
14187-MST10967	Listed Building (II)	Milepost, Trent and Mersey canal, Wychnor	SK 1826 1609	Extant structure	1819AD dated cast iron milepost cast in foundry of Rangeley and Dixon in Stone
14189-MST10969	Listed Building (II)	Gaskell's Bridge (Number 46), Trent and Mersey canal	SK 1699 1527 (MBR: 16m by 13m)	Extant structure	18 th century red brick humped back bridge
14309-MST11078	Listed Building (II)	3 Post Office Road, Alrewas	SK 1703 1509 (MBR: 11m by 9m)	Extant structure	17 th century timber framed house with later 19 th century remodelling



Location of the site

Figure 1



Proposed development plan (based upon Studio Real dwg. 1438-009-c-masterplan concept.ai)

Figure 2




















Proposed development plan (based upon Studio Real dwg. 1438-009-c-masterplan concept.ai)

Figure 2

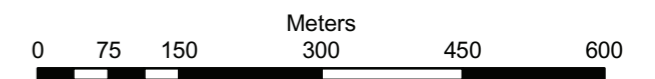
Historic Environment Record

Interests Recorded on the Staffordshire
Historic Environment Record

Land north of Alrewas

-  Scheduled Monuments
-  Registered Battlefields
-  Registered Parks and Gardens
-  Conservation Areas
-  Monuments, Buildings and Structures (Polygons)
-  Monuments (Cropmarks, Earthworks and Linear Features)
-  Monuments, Buildings and Structures (Points)
-  Monument (Location Uncertain)
-  Monument (Extent Undefined)
-  Listed Buildings
-  Deer Parks
-  Findspots
-  Findspots (Portable Antiquities Scheme)
-  Placename or Settlement
-  Civil Parish Boundaries
-  District Boundaries
-  HER Consultation Area

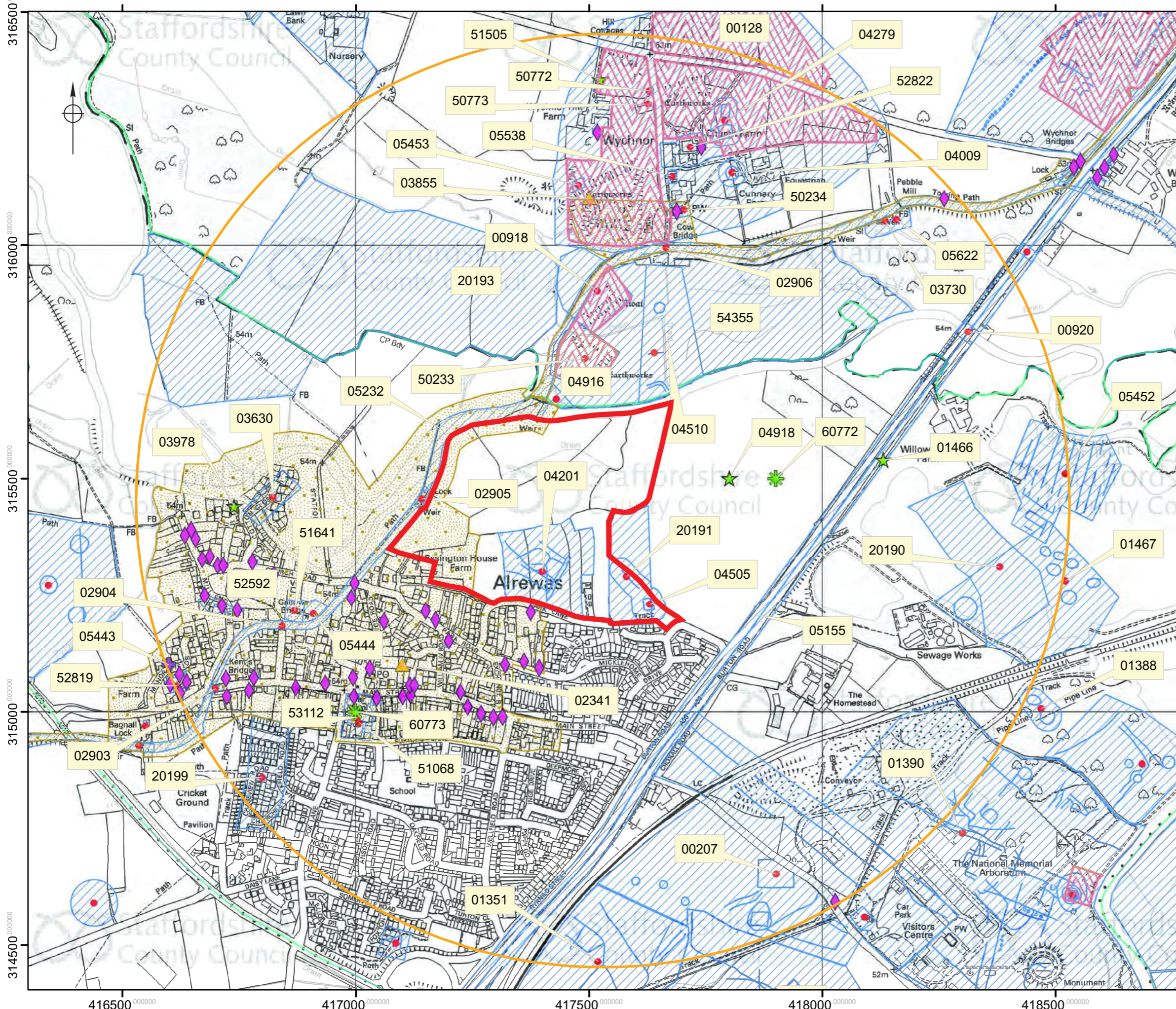
**For Reference
Use Only**

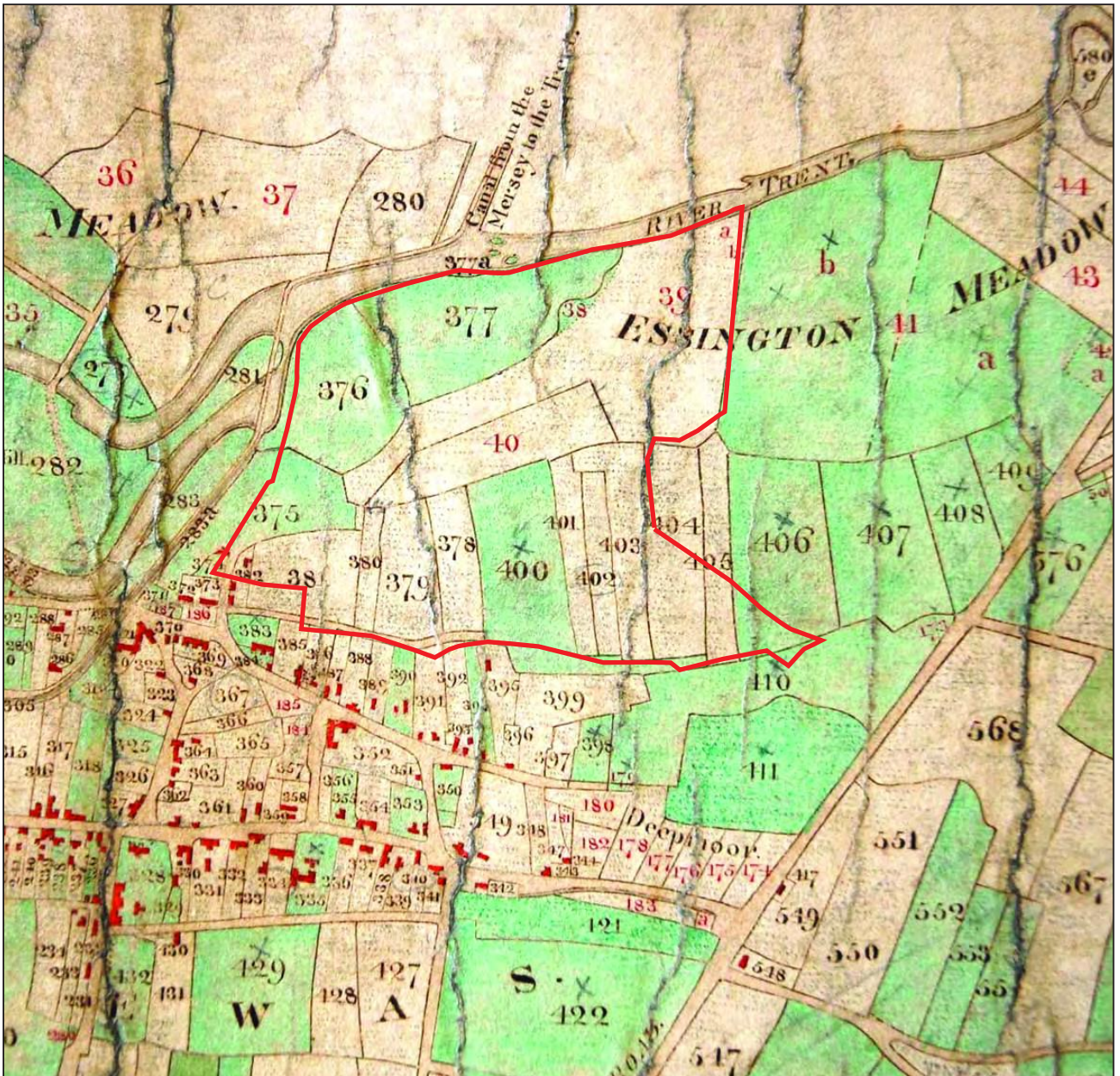


STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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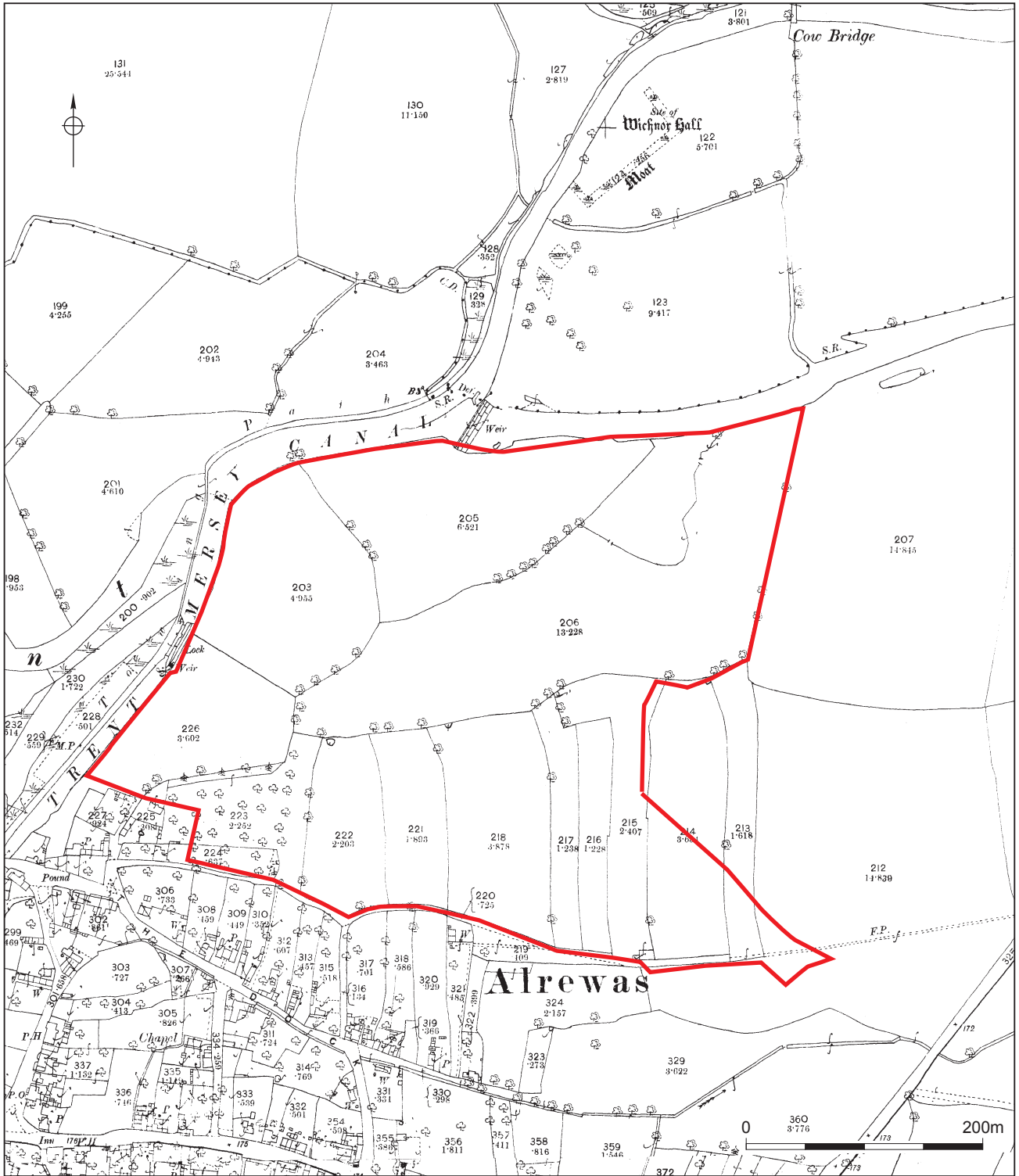
Extract from manorial estate map, early 19th century

Figure 6



Extract from tithe map, 1844

Figure 7



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Extract from 1st edition OS, 1883

Figure 8