

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION  
OF LAND OFF  
HOSPITAL LANE,  
COLLETT'S GREEN,  
POWICK,  
WORCESTERSHIRE



© Worcestershire County Council

Worcestershire Archaeology  
Archive and Archaeology Service  
The Hive, Sawmill Walk,  
The Butts, Worcester  
WR1 3PD

Status:

Date: 15 August 2014

Author: Richard Bradley

[rbradley1@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:rbradley1@worcestershire.gov.uk)

Contributors: Rob Hedge

Illustrator: Carolyn Hunt

Project reference: P4377

Report reference: 2137

HER reference: WSM 57539



**Contents**  
**Summary**

**1**

**Report**

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| <b>1 Background.....</b>                                     | <b>2</b> |
| 1.1 Reasons for the project .....                            | 2        |
| <b>2 Aims.....</b>   | <b>2</b> |
| <b>3 Methods.....</b>  | <b>2</b> |
| 3.1 Personnel.....   | 2        |
| 3.2 Documentary research .....                               | 2        |
| 3.3 Fieldwork strategy .....                                 | 3        |
| 3.4 Structural analysis .....                                | 3        |
| 3.5 Artefact methodology, by Rob Hedge .....                 | 3        |
| 3.5.1 Artefact recovery policy.....                          | 3        |
| 3.5.2 Method of analysis.....                                | 3        |
| 3.5.3 Discard policy .....                                   | 4        |
| 3.6 Environmental archaeology methodology.....               | 4        |
| 3.6.1 Sampling policy.....                                   | 4        |
| 3.7 Statement of confidence in the methods and results ..... | 4        |
| <b>4 The application site .....</b>                          | <b>4</b> |
| 4.1 Topography, geology and current land-use .....           | 4        |
| 4.2 Archaeological context .....                             | 4        |
| <b>5 Structural analysis.....</b>                            | <b>5</b> |
| 5.1.1 Phase 1: Natural deposits .....                        | 5        |
| 5.1.2 Phase 2: Modern deposits .....                         | 5        |
| 5.2 Artefact analysis, by Rob Hedge .....                    | 6        |
| <b>6 Synthesis .....</b>                                     | <b>7</b> |
| <b>7 Significance .....</b>                                  | <b>8</b> |
| <b>8 Publication summary .....</b>                           | <b>8</b> |
| <b>9 Acknowledgements .....</b>                              | <b>8</b> |
| <b>10 Bibliography .....</b>                                 | <b>8</b> |



---

## **Archaeological evaluation of land off Hospital Lane, Collett's Green, Powick, Worcestershire**

Richard Bradley

With contributions by Rob Hedge

### **Summary**

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken of land off Hospital Lane, Collett's Green, Powick, Worcestershire (NGR SO 82271 50759). It was commissioned by Pegasus Planning, acting on behalf of Selbourne Homes Ltd, in response to an archaeological brief following the submission of an outline planning application to Malvern Hills District Council for a residential development.

The evaluation trenches have not identified any significant archaeological deposits or features within the development area. This supports the conclusions of previous archaeological work in the field. The site is known to have been used for modern landfill, with associated landscaping, as well as that previously occurring when the site was used as a borrow pit, which appears to have disturbed and affected the wider field. It is likely that any potential earlier archaeological deposits, if present, would have been removed.

The artefactual material recovered is generally of poor condition, consistent with agricultural activity and modern landscaping across the site area, and does not indicate the presence of significant archaeological remains. The flint scraper is likely to be residual, and the possibility that the bulk of the assemblage originated elsewhere should be considered.

Significant unenclosed middle Iron Age settlement activity has recently been identified around 200m to the west, but there was no indication that this extends into the current site area.

## Report

### 1 Background

#### 1.1 Reasons for the project

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken of land off Hospital Lane, Collett's Green, Powick, Worcestershire (NGR SO 82271 50759). It was commissioned by Pegasus Planning in response to a brief prepared by the Planning Advisory Section of Worcestershire County Council, dated 19 June 2014. The brief results from the submission of an outline planning application to Malvern Hills District Council for residential development (reference MH/14/0617).

It was recognised that much of the development area has been affected by modern landscaping and infill across the area of a former borrow pit. However, the surrounding land was not thought to have been directly affected by this and although previous archaeological investigations had not located any significant archaeological features on the site (Cook 1995; WSM 22150), recent work on an adjacent development has identified unenclosed prehistoric settlement of Iron Age date (WSM 47977). It was therefore considered that the proposed development may be in an area of potential heritage assets, the significance of which might be affected by the application.

The project conforms to a brief prepared by the planning Advisory Section, Worcestershire County Council (WCC 2014) and for which a project proposal (including detailed specification) was produced (WA 2014). The project also conforms to the *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IfA 2008) and the *Standards and guidelines for archaeological projects in Worcestershire* (WCC 2010, amended July 2012).

The event reference for this project, provided by the HER, is WSM 57539.

### 2 Aims

The overall aims of this evaluation are:

- to describe and assess the significance of potential heritage assets with archaeological interest;
- to establish the nature, importance and extent of any archaeological site;
- to assess the impact of the application on archaeological remains.

In particular, the project has the following aims:

- to determine if prehistoric (Iron Age) unenclosed activity previously identified in the immediate vicinity extends into the present site;

The evaluation is only intended to assess heritage assets of archaeological interest and will not include consideration of Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas, or historic hedgerow boundaries.

### 3 Methods

#### 3.1 Personnel

The project was undertaken by Richard Bradley (BA (hons.); MA; AlfA), who joined Worcestershire Archaeology in 2008 and has been practicing archaeology since 2005. Fieldwork assistance was provided by Peter Lovett (BSc (hons.)). The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Tom Vaughan (BA (hons.); MA; AlfA). Illustrations were prepared by Carolyn Hunt (BSc; PG Cert; MfA) and Rob Hedge (MA (Cantab.)) contributed the finds analysis.

#### 3.2 Documentary research

Prior to fieldwork commencing a search was made of the Worcestershire Historic Environment Record (HER) within a 500m radius of the site, which detailed numerous historic buildings (two of

these are listed) and heritage assets, as well as a few unstratified finds. This search also included a number of historic maps for the area from the 1841 Powick tithe map onwards.

Published and grey literature sources are listed in the bibliography (Section 10). Of particular relevance was the report on previous archaeological work in the field which detailed the former earthworks that survived in the landscape before the modern infilling of the site (Cook 1995; WSM 22150).

### **3.3 Fieldwork strategy**

A detailed specification has been prepared by Worcestershire Archaeology (WA 2014) but as a result of the documentary search, the following adjustments were made to the fieldwork strategy; a grid array of trenches was originally proposed, but trench positions were moved, with the agreement of Mike Glyde (Historic Environment Planning Officer, Worcestershire County Council), to avoid the previously investigated areas. In practice, there was limited scope for much differentiation in the location of trenching between the 1995 and 2014 projects. A modern service pipe running diagonally across the north-west corner of the field prevented a trench being positioned here. Additionally, as space around the in-filled area in the centre of the field was limited, two trenches (Trench 5 and 6) in close proximity to one another were located in space at the southern periphery of the site area in order to thoroughly investigate the entire field.

Fieldwork was undertaken between the 4 and 5 August and involved the excavation of six 30m long trenches, amounting to just over 288m<sup>2</sup> in area. Excluding the area disturbed by the former borrow pit and subsequent landfill (approximately 2.7ha), the remaining site area is just over 2ha in size, so the trenching represents a sample of just under 1.5%. Coupled with the previous archaeological work on the site, covering 375m<sup>2</sup>, approximately 3.5% of the site has now been investigated. The location of the trenches is indicated in Figure 2.

Deposits considered not to be significant were removed under archaeological supervision, using a wheeled mechanical excavator employing a toothless bucket. Subsequent excavation was undertaken by hand. Clean surfaces were inspected and selected deposits were excavated to retrieve artefactual material and environmental samples, as well as to determine their nature. Deposits were recorded according to standard Worcestershire Archaeology practice (WA 2012) and trenches were located using a differential GPS (Leica NetRover) with an accuracy limit set at <0.04m. On completion of excavation, trenches were reinstated by replacing the excavated material.

### **3.4 Structural analysis**

All fieldwork records were checked and cross-referenced. Analysis was effected through a combination of structural, artefactual and ecofactual evidence, allied to the information derived from other sources.

### **3.5 Artefact methodology, by Rob Hedge**

#### **3.5.1 Artefact recovery policy**

The artefact recovery policy conformed to standard Worcestershire Archaeology practice (WA 2012).

#### **3.5.2 Method of analysis**

All hand-retrieved finds were examined. They were identified, quantified and dated to period. A terminus post quem date was produced for each stratified context. The date was used for determining the broad date of phases defined for the site. All information was recorded on pro forma sheets.

The pottery and ceramic building material was examined under x20 magnification and referenced as appropriate by fabric type and form according to the medieval and post-medieval pottery type series maintained by the service (Hurst and Rees 1992 and [www.worcestershireceramics.org](http://www.worcestershireceramics.org)).

### **3.5.3 Discard policy**

The following categories/types of material will be discarded after a period of 6 months following the submission of this report, unless there is a specific request to retain them (and subject to the collection policy of the relevant depository):

- where unstratified, including fieldwalked material;
- post-medieval pottery, and;
- generally where material has been assessed as having no obvious grounds for retention

## **3.6 Environmental archaeology methodology**

### **3.6.1 Sampling policy**

In the event, no deposits were identified which were considered to be suitable for environmental analysis.

### **3.7 Statement of confidence in the methods and results**

The methods adopted allow a high degree of confidence that the aims of the project have been achieved.

## **4 The application site**

### **4.1 Topography, geology and current land-use**

The site is located to the south of the main Worcester to Malvern road, 1km west of Powick and adjacent to the former Powick Hospital, known as the County and City Lunatic Asylum when originally built in 1852. It is currently an open pasture field containing livestock, with a few small temporary agricultural structures across it. Further pasture fields bound the site to the east and south-east and the burial ground associated with Powick Hospital is located to the south, within the larger field, but not the development site. Modern redevelopment of the hospital complex faces onto Hospital Lane to the west of the site and a road and trackway runs to the north.

The field was formerly a valley running north to south, with steep terracing visible on either side (possibly resultant from battering of the sides of the borrow pit), dropping from around 40m AOD on the higher ground to 26m AOD in the valley bottom. However, only part of the valley now remains as much of the central area of the field has been used for landfill from demolition and construction sites over recent years.

The underlying geology on the site is mapped as the mudstones and siltstones of the Sidmouth Formation (BGS 1993) and the soil type across the site is defined as well-drained coarse reddish-brown loamy soils of the Salwick Association (Ragg *et al* 1984, 290-292).

### **4.2 Archaeological context**

The landscape around Powick is characterised by rolling topography with dispersed settlement between nucleated villages, whilst the site itself occupies a field produced through amalgamation of the landscape following enclosure during the post-medieval period. Much of the area has only recently been developed for more substantial settlement, having previously been mainly agricultural since at least the Saxon period. It is recorded that land around Powick was confirmed to Pershore Abbey in 972AD, but given to Westminster Abbey by Edward the Confessor (ruled 1042-1066AD; VCH IV 1924).

The previous archaeological work on the site did not identify any buried archaeological remains, but did note some surviving earthworks which may relate to early land use in the area (Cook 1995;



WSM 22150). This included a sunken linear feature, thought to be a holloway denoting a track or road, which ran along the valley through the field and to the north-west. A series of lynchets were also recorded across the site, represented by banks formed through terraced ploughing across the slopes of the field in the medieval period. From more recent times it is recorded that the site contained two communal air raid shelters for the use of visitors to Powick Hospital (WSM 31399; WSM 31400). It is known that the central part of the field was a former borrow pit, probably used to quarry marl for construction in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Within the surrounding landscape are a number of archaeological features and sites from varying periods. 500m to the north are a series of undated enclosures and linear earthworks identified through cropmark evidence and aerial photographs (WSM 15546; WSM 41194) as well as medieval agricultural activity in the form of ridge and furrow (WSM 41191; WSM 41192). Medieval or post-medieval fishponds are also recorded 500m to the north-west (WSM 01032). To the west and south-west of the site are the remains of the Powick Hospital (WSM 11240) and chapel (WSM 57601), now redeveloped, as well as the associated burial ground still surviving to the south of the current site (WSM 57602) and further to the south-west a former gas works that supplied the hospital (WSM 47981). Aircraft landing obstacles, erected in 1940, previously existed across the fields to the east of the development area (WSM 31417).

A considerable amount of archaeological work has taken place in the vicinity of the site in recent years, including a large evaluation trenching programme 200m to the west in 2012 (WSM 47424) that identified a middle Iron Age settlement (WSM 47977), now under excavation (WSM 57107). A watching brief is also taking place at the former gas works site to the south-west (WSM 57451).

## **5 Structural analysis**

The trenches and deposits recorded are shown in Figure 2. The results of the structural analysis are presented in Appendix 1.

### **5.1.1 Phase 1: Natural deposits**

Natural deposits were encountered in all six of the trenches excavated and comprised firm mid reddish brown clay marl, found at between 0.20m and 0.46m below the ground surface. This was identifiable as the weathered upper layer of the underlying mudstone geological substrate, with blue-grey patches of siltstone bedrock also visible in places.

### **5.1.2 Phase 2: Modern deposits**

There were no archaeological features or deposits identified across the site area that could be associated with anything other than modern landscaping and made ground in this field.

In Trenches 1 and 2 substantial areas of dumped mid greyish brown rubble material including concrete, brick and ceramic drain pipes were identified (103; 203). Both of these deposits were overlain by a disturbed subsoil layer, up to 0.19m deep, which is likely to have been imported onto the site (101; 201). Within the subsoil in Trench 1, a small flint scraper of late Neolithic/early Bronze Age date was recovered, as well as assorted pottery of 13<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century date. A smaller area of disturbed and in-filled ground containing plastic piping was noted in Trench 3 (303).

In Trench 4 a stony compacted rubble subsoil was encountered, 0.16m in depth, that contained occasional chalk bed material, suggesting that this was imported onto site (401). This overlay a possible cut feature with a linear edge [404]; the only such feature on site, in-filled with redeposited and disturbed natural (403). It is considered that this represents the edge of scarping activity from the recent landscaping and landfill on site, although it does remain a possibility that this was the remnants of a former negative lynchet that could have been part of the former field systems observed across the area during the previous investigations (Cook 1995). However, it was not located in the Trench 2 of the earlier work (see Figure 2), so this is unlikely.

All trenches had a firm mid reddish brown loamy silt topsoil containing mixed finds of 17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> century date sealing the subsoil and rubble deposits, where present, or directly overlying the natural substrate elsewhere. This ranged between 0.16m and 0.30m in depth.

## 5.2 Artefact analysis, by Rob Hedge

The artefactual assemblage recovered is summarised in Tables 1–3.

The assemblage came from four stratified contexts and could be dated from the late Neolithic onwards, although the majority of the assemblage was post-medieval in date (see Table 1). Using pottery as an indicator of artefact condition, this was generally poor, with the majority of sherds displaying high levels of abrasion. The mean sherd size at 10.5g is average, but below that which would be generally expected from a largely post-medieval assemblage.

| Period        | Material Class | Material Subtype | Object Specific Type | Count     | Weight(g)  |
|---------------|----------------|------------------|----------------------|-----------|------------|
| Medieval      | ceramic        |                  | pot                  | 3         | 12         |
| Modern        | ceramic        |                  | pot                  | 2         | 40         |
| Post-medieval | ceramic        |                  | pot                  | 11        | 113        |
| Post-medieval | glass          |                  | vessel               | 1         | 28         |
| Prehistoric   | stone          | flint            | scraper              | 1         | 4          |
| Roman         | ceramic        |                  | pot                  | 1         | 2          |
| <b>Totals</b> |                |                  |                      | <b>19</b> | <b>199</b> |

Table 1: Quantification of the assemblage

| Broad period   | Fabric code | Fabric common name           | Count     | Weight(g)  |
|----------------|-------------|------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Romano-British | 12          | Severn Valley ware           | 1         | 2          |
| Medieval       | 56          | Malvernian unglazed ware     | 3         | 12         |
| Post-medieval  | 78.1        | Red sandy ware               | 6         | 84         |
| Post-medieval  | 78.3        | Fine red sandy ware          | 1         | 6          |
| Post-medieval  | 81.2        | Westerwald stoneware         | 3         | 22         |
| Modern         | 81.4        | Miscellaneous late stoneware | 1         | 36         |
| Post-medieval  | 84.2        | Less cream coloured          | 1         | 1          |
| Modern         | 101         | Miscellaneous modern wares   | 1         | 4          |
| <b>Totals</b>  |             |                              | <b>17</b> | <b>167</b> |

Table 2 Quantification of the pottery by fabric

### Artefactual evidence by period

For the finds from individual features, including specific types of pottery, see Tables 3–2 in that order and in combination.

The discussion below is a summary of the finds, and associated location or contexts by period. Where possible, dates have been allocated and the importance of individual finds commented upon as necessary.

#### Prehistoric

A single piece of worked flint was recovered from subsoil (101): a well-worked end scraper fashioned from a coarse flake of dark brown-grey flint, 35mm long and 22mm wide, with a

pronounced negative dorsal scar on the proximal end. Semi-abrupt retouch covered the distal end of the flake and extended along the length of the right lateral margin, which suggests a later Neolithic or early Bronze Age date (Butler 2005, 167).

#### Roman

A single highly abraded body sherd of oxidised Severn Valley Ware (fabric 12) was present within subsoil (401).

#### Medieval

Three small abraded body sherds of a Malvernian unglazed ware (fabric 56) cooking pot of 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> century date were recovered from subsoil (101).

#### Post-medieval

Post-medieval domestic refuse comprised the bulk of the assemblage.

#### Discussion of finds assemblage

The topsoil contained a variety of domestic finds typical of the 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> century to 19<sup>th</sup> century. Similarly the subsoil contained primarily 18<sup>th</sup> century pottery, and typically red wares were well represented, including a possible jar (form 79; Barker 1986), and chamberpot (*ibid*, form 67).

| Context | Material Class | Material Subtype | Object Specific Type | Fabric Code | Count | Weight (g) | Start Date | End Date | Tpq Date Range |
|---------|----------------|------------------|----------------------|-------------|-------|------------|------------|----------|----------------|
| 100     | ceramic        |                  | pot                  | 78.1        | 1     | 32         | 1600       | 1800     | 1650-1800      |
|         | ceramic        |                  | pot                  | 81.2        | 1     | 10         | 1600       | 1750     |                |
|         | glass          |                  | vessel               | -           | 1     | 28         | 1650       | 1800     |                |
| 101     | ceramic        |                  | pot                  | 78.3        | 1     | 6          | 1700       | 1800     | 1700-1800      |
|         | ceramic        |                  | pot                  | 78.1        | 1     | 2          | 1700       | 1800     |                |
|         | ceramic        |                  | pot                  | 56          | 3     | 12         | 1200       | 1400     |                |
|         | stone          | flint            | scraper              | -           | 1     | 4          | -3000      | -1500    |                |
| 401     | ceramic        |                  | pot                  | 81.2        | 2     | 12         | 1600       | 1750     | 1790-1820      |
|         | ceramic        |                  | pot                  | 78.1        | 4     | 50         | 1600       | 1800     |                |
|         | ceramic        |                  | pot                  | 12          | 1     | 2          | 43         | 400      |                |
|         | ceramic        |                  | pot                  | 84.2        | 1     | 1          | 1775       | 1790     |                |
|         | ceramic        |                  | pot                  | 101         | 1     | 4          | 1790       | 1820     |                |
| 500     | ceramic        |                  | pot                  | 81.4        | 1     | 36         | 1800       | 1950     | 1800-1950      |

Table 3: Summary of context dating based on artefacts

## 6 Synthesis

The archaeological evaluation trenches have not identified any significant archaeological deposits or features within the development area. This supports the findings of the previous fieldwork upon the site (Cook 1995). Much of the field appears to have been affected by landscaping beyond the area of the landfill that has occurred in the central part, and made ground was seen to extend even further than that identified by the 2011 ground investigation test pits. It is not definite that the wider landscaping and disturbance is solely the result of modern infill, as it is likely that the former borrow pit will have also removed remains of earlier activity on the site, as well as altering the local landscape. There was no archaeological evidence to suggest that the middle Iron Age settlement activity identified 200m to the west extended into this site area. The single flint scraper was

recovered from the subsoil in Trench 1 which also contained pottery of 13<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century date, so is not indicative of prehistoric activity directly on site.

## 7 Significance

There is no archaeological interest in this site. Previous work and the current evaluation have not identified any archaeological features of significance and between the two projects taking place the central area of the site has been used for modern landfill. Associated landscaping alongside this, as well as that previously occurring when the site was used as a borrow pit, appears to have disturbed and affected the wider field so that any potential earlier archaeological deposits would have been removed.

## 8 Publication summary

Worcestershire Archaeology has a professional obligation to publish the results of archaeological projects within a reasonable period of time. To this end, Worcestershire Archaeology 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 evaluation was undertaken on behalf of Pegasus Planning of land off Hospital Lane, Collett's Green, Powick, Worcestershire (NGR SO 82271 50759; WSM 57539).*

*The evaluation trenches have not identified any significant archaeological deposits or features within the development area. This supports the conclusions of previous archaeological work in the field. The site is known to have been used for modern landfill, with associated landscaping, as well as that previously occurring when the site was used as a borrow pit, which appears to have disturbed and affected the wider field. It is likely that any potential earlier archaeological deposits, if present, would have been removed.*

*The artefactual material recovered is generally of poor condition, consistent with agricultural activity and modern landscaping across the site area, and does not indicate the presence of significant archaeological remains. The flint scraper is likely to be residual, and the possibility that the bulk of the assemblage originated elsewhere should be considered.*

*Significant unenclosed middle Iron Age settlement activity has recently been identified around 200m to the west, but there was no indication that this extends into the current site area.*

## 9 Acknowledgements

Worcestershire Archaeology would like to thank the following for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project: Ian Ansell (Selbourne Homes Ltd); Gary Smallwood (Enviromontel); David Onions and Stuart Wells (Pegasus Planning); Mike Glyde (Historic Environment Planning Officer, Worcestershire County Council).

## 10 Bibliography

Barker, D, 1986 North Staffordshire post-medieval ceramics - a type series, Part Two: Blackware, *Staffordshire Archaeological Studies*, **3**, 58-75

BGS (British Geological Survey) 1993 *Geological Survey of Great Britain (England and Wales) Solid and Drift Sheet*, **199**, 1:50,000

Butler, C, 2005 *Prehistoric Flintwork*, Stroud: Tempus Publishing

Cook, M, 1995 *Evaluation at Home Farm, Powick*, County Archaeological Service, Hereford and Worcester County Council, Project 1156, Report **374**, dated May 1995

DCLG 2012 *National Planning Policy Framework*, Department for Communities and Local Government

IfA 2008 *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation*, Institute for Archaeologists

---

Hurst, J D, and Rees, H, 1992 Pottery fabrics; a multi-period series for the County of Hereford and Worcester, in Woodiwiss, S G (ed), *Iron Age and Roman salt production and the medieval town of Droitwich*, CBA Res Rep, **81**, 200-9

Ragg, J M, Beard, G R, George, H, Heaven, F W, Hollis, J M, Jones, R J A, Palmer, R C, Reeve, M J, Robson, J D, and Whitfield, W A D, 1984 *Soils and their use in midland and western England*, Soil Survey of England and Wales, **12**

Soil Survey of England and Wales, 1983 *Midland and Western England*, sheet 3, scale 1:250,000 + Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales (A brief explanation of the constituent soil associations)

VCH IV, Page, W (ed), 1924 *Victoria History of the County of Worcester*, volume **IV**

WA 2012 *Manual of Service Practice, Recording Manual*, Worcestershire Archaeology, Worcestershire County Council, report **1842**

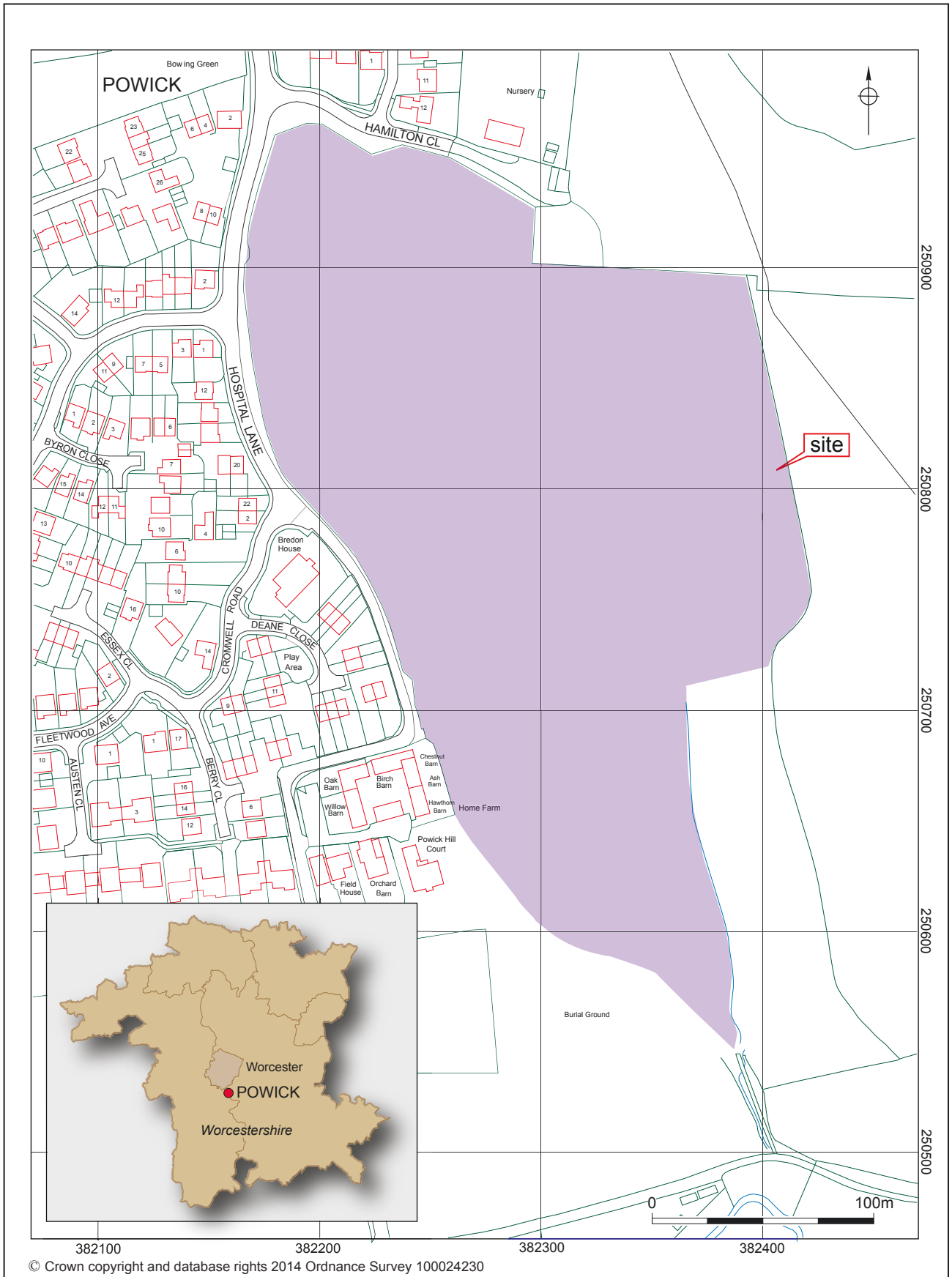
WA 2014 *Proposal for an archaeological evaluation at Land off Hospital Lane, Collett's Green, Powick, Worcestershire*, Worcestershire Archaeology, Worcestershire County Council, unpublished document dated 20 June 2014, **P4377**

WCC 2010 *Standards and guidelines for archaeological projects in Worcestershire*, Planning Advisory Section, Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service, Worcestershire County Council unpublished report **604**, amended July 2012

WCC 2014 *Brief for an archaeological evaluation at Land off Hospital Lane, Powick, Worcestershire*, Planning Advisory Section, Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service, Worcestershire County Council, unpublished document dated 19 June 2014

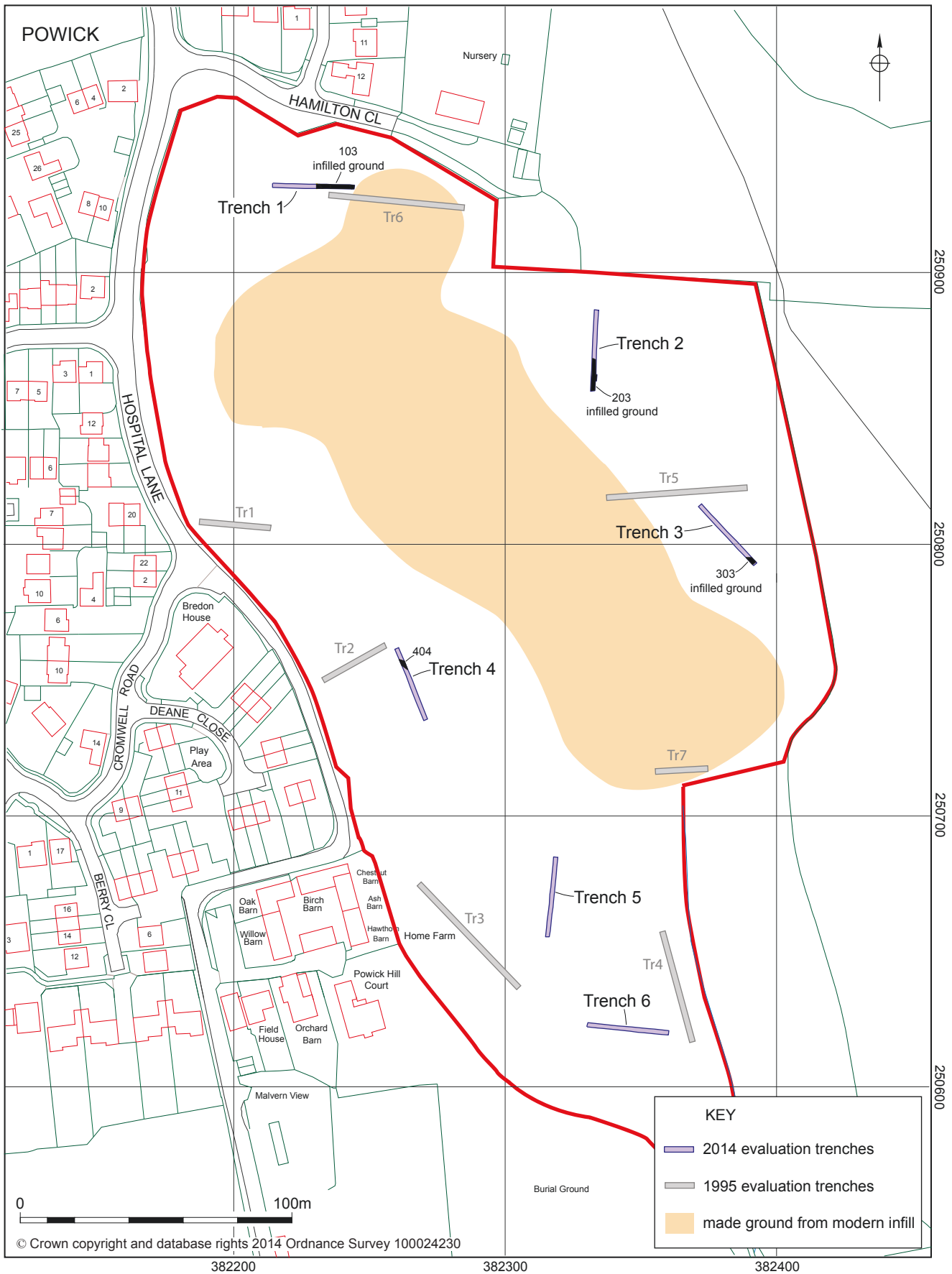
Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service, 2012 *Worcestershire online ceramic database*, [www.worcestershireceramics.org](http://www.worcestershireceramics.org) , accessed 15 August 2014

**Figures**



Location of the site

Figure 1



Trench location plan

Figure 2



## Plates



*Plate 1: General view of the site looking north-east, with Trenches 2 and 3 open*



*Plate 2: Trench 2, with rubble infill (203) visible in foreground*

---



*Plate 2: Trench 6 fully excavated*

---

## Appendix 1 Trench descriptions

### Trench 1

Length: 30m      Width: 1.60m      Orientation: E-W

#### Context summary:

| Context | Feature | Context | Description                       | Height/<br>depth | Interpretation  |
|---------|---------|---------|-----------------------------------|------------------|---|
| 100     | Topsoil | Layer   | Firm mid reddish brown loamy silt | 0.16m            | Topsoil across pasture field  |
| 101     | Subsoil | Layer   | Firm mid reddish brown silty clay | 0.19m            | Disturbed subsoil layer, likely imported material   |
| 102     | Natural | Layer   | Firm mid reddish brown clay       |                  | Natural substrate - weathered Mercian mudstone  |
| 103     | Modern  | Layer   | Firm mid greyish brown silty clay | 0.30m+           | Made ground from landfill extending around edge of site. Visible coal, CBM and ceramic pipes. |

### Trench 2

Length: 30m      Width: 1.60m      Orientation: N-S

#### Context summary:

| Context | Feature | Context | Description                       | Height/<br>depth | Interpretation  |
|---------|---------|---------|-----------------------------------|------------------|---|
| 200     | Topsoil | Layer   | Firm mid reddish brown loamy silt | 0.16m            | Topsoil - as TR 1   |
| 201     | Subsoil | Layer   | Firm mid reddish brown silty clay | 0.02m            | As TR 1 but very thin and not across the majority of the trench.  |
| 202     | Natural | Layer   | Firm mid reddish brown clay       |                  | Natural substrate - weathered Mercian mudstone                    |
| 203     | Modern  | Layer   | Firm mid grey brown rubble        |                  | Rubble made ground from land fill. Contains concrete, bricks etc. |

---

**Trench 3**

Length: 30m      Width: 1.60m      Orientation: NW-SE

**Context summary:**

| Context | Feature | Context | Description                       | Height/<br>depth | Interpretation  |
|---------|---------|---------|-----------------------------------|------------------|---|
| 300     | Topsoil | Layer   | Firm mid reddish brown loamy silt | 0.20m            | Topsoil - as TR 1   |
| 301     | Subsoil | Layer   |                                   |                  | Subsoil not present in Trench 3   |
| 302     | Natural | Layer   | Firm mid reddish brown clay       |                  | Natural substrate - unweathered bedrock visible in places, suggesting heavy landscaping in the recent past. |
| 303     | Modern  | Layer   | Firm mid greyish brown rubble     |                  | Modern backfill from landfill, includes tiles, plastic piping, bricks.                                      |

**Trench 4**

Length: 30m      Width: 1.60m      Orientation: NW-SE

**Context summary:**

| Context | Feature | Context | Description                       | Height/<br>depth | Interpretation   |
|---------|---------|---------|-----------------------------------|------------------|--|
| 400     | Topsoil | Layer   | Firm mid reddish brown loamy silt | 0.30m            | Topsoil - same as TR 1   |
| 401     | Subsoil | Layer   | Compact mid brown rubble          | 0.16m            | Stony disturbed layer, with occasional chalk bed material, suggesting that it is not a local formation. Could be imported material from landscaping.               |
| 402     | Natural | Layer   | Firm mid reddish brown clay       |                  | Natural substrate - weathered Mercian mudstone   |
| 403     | Unknown | Fill    | Firm mid reddish brown clay       | 0.18m            | Disturbed redeposited natural in depression. Frequent pebbles throughout. Fill of [404].   |
| 404     | Unknown | Cut     |                                   | 0.18m            | Possible feature, though more likely scarping infilled during modern landscaping. Could be negative lynchet previously existing in the field before modern infill. |

### Trench 5

Length: 30m      Width: 1.60m      Orientation: NNE-SSW

#### Context summary:

| Context | Feature | Context | Description                       | Height/<br>depth | Interpretation                                 |
|---------|---------|---------|-----------------------------------|------------------|--|
| 500     | Topsoil | Layer   | Firm mid reddish brown loamy silt | 0.28m            | Topsoil - as in TR 1                           |
| 501     | Subsoil | Layer   |                                   |                  | Subsoil not present in Trench 5.               |
| 502     | Natural | Layer   | Firm mid reddish brown clay       |                  | Natural substrate - weathered Mercian mudstone |

### Trench 6

Length: 30m      Width: 1.60m      Orientation: E-W

#### Context summary:

| Context | Feature | Context | Description                       | Height/<br>depth | Interpretation   |
|---------|---------|---------|-----------------------------------|------------------|--|
| 600     | Topsoil | Layer   | Firm mid reddish brown loamy silt | 0.18m            | Topsoil - as in TR 1   |
| 601     | Subsoil | Layer   | Firm mid reddish brown silty clay | 0.13m            | Disturbed subsoil layer, only really visible at east end down slope. |
| 602     | Natural | Layer   | Firm mid reddish brown clay       |                  | Natural substrate - weathered Mercian mudstone                       |

---

## **Appendix 2 Technical information**

### **The archive (site code: WSM 57539)**

The archive consists of:

- 2 Field progress reports AS2
- 1 Photographic records AS3
- 58 Digital photographs
- 6 Trench record sheets AS41
- 1 Box of finds
- 1 Copy of this report (bound hard copy)

The project archive is intended to be placed at:

Worcestershire County Museum  
Museums Worcestershire  
Hartlebury Castle  
Hartlebury  
Near Kidderminster  
Worcestershire DY11 7XZ  
Tel Hartlebury (01299) 250416

---

## Summary of data for Worcestershire HER

| Period        | Material Class | Material Subtype | Object Specific Type | Count     | Weight(g)  |
|---------------|----------------|------------------|----------------------|-----------|------------|
| Medieval      | ceramic        |                  | pot                  | 3         | 12         |
| Modern        | ceramic        |                  | pot                  | 2         | 40         |
| Post-medieval | ceramic        |                  | pot                  | 11        | 113        |
| Post-medieval | glass          |                  | vessel               | 1         | 28         |
| Prehistoric   | stone          | flint            | scraper              | 1         | 4          |
| Roman         | ceramic        |                  | pot                  | 1         | 2          |
| <b>Totals</b> |                |                  |                      | <b>19</b> | <b>199</b> |

Table 1: Quantification of the assemblage

| Broad period   | Fabric code | Fabric common name           | Count     | Weight(g)  |
|----------------|-------------|------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Romano-British | 12          | Severn Valley ware           | 1         | 2          |
| Medieval       | 56          | Malvernian unglazed ware     | 3         | 12         |
| Post-medieval  | 78.1        | Red sandy ware               | 6         | 84         |
| Post-medieval  | 78.3        | Fine red sandy ware          | 1         | 6          |
| Post-medieval  | 81.2        | Westerwald stoneware         | 3         | 22         |
| Modern         | 81.4        | Miscellaneous late stoneware | 1         | 36         |
| Post-medieval  | 84.2        | Less cream coloured          | 1         | 1          |
| Modern         | 101         | Miscellaneous modern wares   | 1         | 4          |
| <b>Totals</b>  |             |                              | <b>17</b> | <b>167</b> |

Table 2 Quantification of the pottery by fabric

| Context | Material Class | Material Subtype | Object Specific Type | Fabric Code | Count | Weight (g) | Start Date | End Date | Tpq Date Range |
|---------|----------------|------------------|----------------------|-------------|-------|------------|------------|----------|----------------|
| 100     | ceramic        |                  | pot                  | 78.1        | 1     | 32         | 1600       | 1800     | 1650-1800      |
|         | ceramic        |                  | pot                  | 81.2        | 1     | 10         | 1600       | 1750     |                |
|         | glass          |                  | vessel               | -           | 1     | 28         | 1650       | 1800     |                |
| 101     | ceramic        |                  | pot                  | 78.3        | 1     | 6          | 1700       | 1800     | 1700-1800      |
|         | ceramic        |                  | pot                  | 78.1        | 1     | 2          | 1700       | 1800     |                |
|         | ceramic        |                  | pot                  | 56          | 3     | 12         | 1200       | 1400     |                |
|         | stone          | flint            | scraper              | -           | 1     | 4          | -3000      | -1500    |                |
| 401     | ceramic        |                  | pot                  | 81.2        | 2     | 12         | 1600       | 1750     | 1790-1820      |
|         | ceramic        |                  | pot                  | 78.1        | 4     | 50         | 1600       | 1800     |                |
|         | ceramic        |                  | pot                  | 12          | 1     | 2          | 43         | 400      |                |
|         | ceramic        |                  | pot                  | 84.2        | 1     | 1          | 1775       | 1790     |                |
|         | ceramic        |                  | pot                  | 101         | 1     | 4          | 1790       | 1820     |                |
| 500     | ceramic        |                  | pot                  | 81.4        | 1     | 36         | 1800       | 1950     | 1800-1950      |

Table 3: Summary of context dating based on artefacts