

An archaeological evaluation at The Firs, off Old Road North, Kempsey, Worcestershire



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An archaeological evaluation at The Firs, off Old Road North, Kempsey, Worcestershire

Pete Lovett

With contributions by Robert Hedge

Summary

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at The Firs, off Old Road North, Kempsey, Worcestershire (NGR SO 8555 4952). It was undertaken on behalf of Speller Metcalfe Living Ltd, who intends to develop the site with residential housing for which a planning application has been submitted.

Seven trenches were excavated, revealing evidence for the land's previous use as an orchard, and substantial levels of made ground probably associated with the adjacent modern buildings. No features, layers, structures or horizons of archaeological significance were discovered.

A single worked flint end-scraper and a small assemblage of Roman pottery were recovered from subsoil. The Roman material is likely to be related to intensive settlement activity in the vicinity of the Main Road site (WSM 66555). No finds were associated with discrete archaeological features.

Report

1 Background

1.1 Reasons for the project

A type of project was undertaken at The Firs, off Old Road North, Kempsey, Worcestershire (NGR SO 8555 4952). It was commissioned by Speller Metcalfe Living Ltd, who intends to develop the site with residential housing for which a planning application has been submitted to Malvern Hills District Council (reference MH/14/01225).

The development site is considered to include a heritage asset with archaeological interest, the significance of which may be affected by the application (HER ref. WSM 27891).

No brief has been prepared by the Curator but this project conforms to the generality of briefs which have been previously issued. The scope of works was identified in correspondence between WA and the Curator (dated 24 September 2015). A project proposal (including detailed specification) was produced (WA 2015).

The project also conforms to the *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014a) and the *Standards and guidelines for archaeological projects in Worcestershire* (WCC 2010).

The event reference for this project, given by the HER is WSM 67369.

2 Aims

The aims of this evaluation are:

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

3 Methods

3.1 Personnel

The project was led Peter Lovett (BSc (hons)) who joined Worcestershire Archaeology in 2012 and has been practicing archaeology since 2004; assisted by Jamie Wilkins (BA (hons)). The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Tom Vaughan, (BA (hons.); MA; ACIfA). Illustrations were prepared by Carolyn Hunt (BSc (hons.); PG Cert; MCIfA). Robert Hedge (MA Cantab) contributed the finds report.

3.2 Documentary research

The archaeological background to the immediate area is presented in a desk-based assessment (DBA) prepared for a site approximately 200m to the north by Worcestershire Archaeology (Vaughan and Webster 2013).

Prior to fieldwork commencing a search was made of the Historic Environment Record (HER).

3.3 List of sources consulted

Cartographic sources

- 1840 Kempsey tithe plan
- 1904 Ordnance Survey map, 25":1 mile
- 1926 Ordnance Survey map, 25":1 mile

Documentary sources

Published and grey literature sources are listed in the bibliography (Section 9).

3.4 Fieldwork strategy

A detailed specification has been prepared by Worcestershire Archaeology (WA 2015).

Fieldwork was undertaken between 2 and 4 November 2015, following clearance of undergrowth on 22 October 2015. The site reference number and site code is WSM 67369.

Seven trenches, amounting to just over 224m² in area, were excavated over the site area of 0.768ha, representing a sample of 3%. The location of the trenches is indicated in Figure 2.

The trenches were moved and reduced in length due to the presence of active badger setts on the eastern edge of the site, a live water pipe, and mature trees across the site, so the 4% sample required by the Curator was not reached. This was discussed and agreed with the Curator after initial site clearance.

Deposits considered not to be significant were removed using a wheeled excavator, employing a toothless bucket and under archaeological supervision. 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). On completion of excavation, trenches were reinstated by replacing the excavated material.

3.5 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.

3.6 Artefact methodology, by Robert Hedge

The finds work reported here conforms with the relevant sections of *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b), with archive creation informed by *Archaeological archives: a guide to the best practice in the creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (AAF 2011), and museum deposition by *Selection, retention and dispersal of archaeological collections* (SMA 1993).

3.6.1 Artefact recovery policy

The artefact recovery policy conformed to standard Worcestershire Archaeology practice (WA 2012; appendix 2).

3.6.2 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 fabric reference series maintained by Worcestershire Archaeology (Hurst and Rees 1992 and www.worcestershireceramics.org).

3.6.3 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;

- post-medieval material in general, and;
- generally where material has been specifically assessed by an appropriate specialist as having no obvious grounds for retention.

3.7 Environmental archaeology methodology

3.7.1 Sampling policy

Sampling was undertaken according to standard Worcestershire Archaeology practice (WA 2012). In the event no deposits were identified which were considered to be suitable for environmental analysis.

3.8 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 even though the sample was less than that originally required by the Curator.

4 The application site

4.1 Topography, geology and archaeological context

The site sits upon Sidmouth Mudstone Formation, with overlying Holt Heath Sand and Gravel Member superficial deposits (BGS 2015), possibly on the edge of the gravel terrace. The land drops off to the east, towards the Hatfield Brook.

The application site sits between the River Severn 700m to the west and the Worcester to Gloucester Roman road 450m to the east.

Part of a Roman enclosure was discovered 280m to the north (Lovett 2015); the north-west corner of a large ditched enclosure that was probably used for the production or movement of cattle. Further north, at Broomhall, an evaluation discovered an extensive Roman settlement (Vaughan and Wainwright 2012).

According to the tithe plan of 1840, the modern site comprises part of an historic apple orchard at its eastern end, which extended to the south, identified as "The Orchard", and site itself is simply referred to as "Adjacent House" (Vaughan and Webster 2013, fig 3). An 18th or 19th century house known as The Firs (WSM 67498) lies to the west of the site, and is likely to be the house referred to above. A pond (WSM67497) lies within the extent of the site, and is visible on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map (Vaughan and Webster 2013, fig 4). Local tradition has it that this pond was the result of clay extraction, whilst the tithe plan has two plots adjacent known as "Clay Hill".

The Firs development adjacent to the proposal area consists of sheltered accommodation, and incorporates The Firs house. No record of archaeological works being undertaken exists for this development, and whilst it is likely that much of it predated such requirements of planning policy (which was introduced in 1990), the most recent phase of construction took place after 1999 (based on historic aerial photography on Google Earth).

4.2 Current land-use

The site has been left untended for some time, with a number of fruit trees still present as a remnant of the historic orchard. It is understood to have been the subject of some levelling and clearance work by the previous owner in the late 20th or early 21st century, possibly associated with the adjacent development (pers comm Rob Ackerman).

5 Structural analysis

The trenches and features recorded are shown in Fig 2 and Plates 1-8. The results of the structural analysis are presented in Appendix 1.

5.1.1 Phase 1: Natural deposits

The geology consisted of superficial sand and gravel deposits, with the mudstone bedrock visible in some of the trenches. The natural was observed at depths of between 0.62m and 1.22m below the current ground surface (Plate 4).

5.1.2 Phase 2: Prehistoric deposits

No features of prehistoric date were discovered, but a flint scraper was recovered from the subsoil within Trench 2 on the western side of the site.

5.1.3 Phase 2: Roman deposits

No features of Roman date were identified, but four sherds of heavily abraded pottery were recovered from later features in Trenches 1 and 4, in the north-west of the site.

5.1.4 Phase 3: Post-medieval deposits

There were a number of areas of root disturbed ground within the natural, attributed to the land's previous use as an orchard. This may be a combination of intentional planting and subsequent growth and rooting; what remained was heavily truncated and amorphous.

The subsoil contained post-medieval artefacts.

5.1.5 Phase 4: Modern deposits

A buried topsoil was present in Trenches 1 to 3, sealed by a layer of made ground probably associated with the construction of the bungalows to the west. Overlying this was the current topsoil (Plate 4). In Trenches 4 to 7, there were upper and lower subsoils, though the upper subsoil could have been a buried topsoil equivalent to that seen in Trenches 1 to 3. There was no made ground observed in Trenches 4 to 7.

A number of land drains crossed the site, all ceramic in construction (Fig 2).

5.2 Artefact analysis, by Robert Hedge

The artefactual assemblage recovered is summarised in Tables 1 and 2.

The assemblage came from eight stratified contexts and (with the exception of a single piece of prehistoric worked flint, dated to the Roman period onwards (see Table 1). All came from topsoil/subsoil layers or features interpreted as the result of natural processes, specifically tree-rooting during the site's use as an orchard. Using pottery as an index of artefact condition, this was generally poor with the majority of sherds displaying high levels of abrasion, and the average sherd size, at 6.9g, being below average.

period	material class	material subtype	object specific type	count	weight(g)
Mesolithic to Bronze Age	stone	flint	end-scraper	1	4
Roman	ceramic		pot	4	38
medieval/post-medieval	ceramic		brick/tile	1	8
medieval/post-medieval	ceramic		roof tile	2	50
medieval/post-medieval	ceramic		tile	3	52
post-medieval	ceramic		pot	3	10
			Totals	14	162

Table 1: Quantification of the assemblage

Broad period	fabric code	Fabric common name	count	weight(g)
Romano-British	12	Severn Valley ware	4	38
Post-medieval	78.1	Red sandy ware	2	9
Post-medieval	91	Post-medieval buff wares	1	1
Totals			7	48

Table 2: Quantification of the pottery by fabric

5.2.1 Summary of artefactual evidence by period

context	material class	material subtype	object specific type	count	weight(g)	start date	end date	TPQ date range
103	ceramic		pot	1	26	43	400	43-400
106	ceramic		pot	1	6	43	400	43-400
200	ceramic		pot	1	5	1600	1800	1600-1800
203	ceramic		brick/tile	1	8	1200	1800	1200-800
	stone	flint	end-scraper	1	4	-10,000	-700	
300	ceramic		pot	1	1	1700	1800	1700-1800
303	ceramic		tile	2	41	1200	1800	1200-1800
	ceramic		tile	1	11	1200	1800	
405	ceramic		roof tile	2	50	1200	1800	1200-1800
	ceramic		pot	2	6	100	300	
700	ceramic		pot	1	4	1600	1800	1600-1800

Table 3: Summary of context dating based on artefacts

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

Prehistoric

A single end-scraper was recovered from the subsoil (203) within Trench 2. It was fashioned on the distal end of a secondary flake of mottled grey-blue flint, with fresh light-beige cortex indicating that the raw material was derived from chalk deposits. Retouch on the proximal end in order to facilitate handling was evident. This class of tool is long-lived, and from a single example it is not possible to assign a more specific date than a broad 'Mesolithic to Bronze Age' range. However, it would be entirely consistent with the late Neolithic/early Bronze Age date assigned to the flint recovered from excavations off Main Road, Kempsey, by WA in 2015 (WSM 66555) c 250m to the north, and the raw material bears similarities to pieces within that assemblage.

Roman

Four abraded residual sherds of oxidised Severn Valley Ware pottery (fabric 12) were recovered from rooting and subsoil deposits. All were highly abraded. Two conjoining diagnostic rim sherds were typical of wide-mouthed jars of 2nd to 3rd century AD date.

Medieval/post-medieval

A small quantity (6 fragments, totalling 110g) of abraded ceramic building material was recovered from the subsoil. Given its poor condition, the absence of diagnostic forms, and the lack of a well-defined type series for this locality, they have been ascribed a broad 'medieval/post-medieval' date. They are considered more likely to fall towards the end of this date range, although a medieval origin cannot be ruled out.

Post-medieval

Small sherds of typical domestic post-medieval wares were present within the topsoil.

5.2.2 Discard and retention

The prehistoric and Roman material is considered to be worthy of retention in the light of the former's scarcity and intrinsic interest and the latter's potential association with the Main Road site (WSM 66555) to the north. A case for its retention can, therefore, be made on that basis.

The post-medieval material is not considered to merit further retention. Even though the ceramic building material may potentially be earlier, and refinement of dating techniques such as RHX may facilitate better dating of this material in future, in this case its poor condition and lack of association with discrete archaeological features, make it unlikely this assemblage would be of value in the future.

6 Synthesis, by Pete Lovett and Robert Hedge

6.1 Prehistoric

The single piece of prehistoric worked flint bears similarities in raw material to a small group of late Neolithic or early Bronze Age lithic artefacts recovered from WSM 66555, and (although it cannot be definitively dated) may be contemporary with that assemblage.

6.2 Roman

The Roman material, although residual, may be associated with settlement activity further to the north, in the vicinity of the Main Road site (WSM 66555), two diagnostic sherds indicating a 2nd to 3rd century AD date.

6.3 Post-medieval and modern

The sparsity of archaeological features from this period is testament to the land's long horticultural use. What activity there is is illuminated by residual ceramic material from subsoils and topsoils, alongside evidence for the planting and subsequent growth of, presumably, fruit trees. The tithe plan of 1840 shows the extent of the field known as The Orchard, part of which occupies the eastern extent of the development site. The 1926 OS map shows an enlarged orchard incorporating the majority of the modern site.

In the 20th century, a large amount of made ground was dumped, especially on the western side of the site. This was probably associated with the construction of the sheltered accommodation built in the later years of the 20th century, adjacent to the site.

6.4 Research frameworks, by Robert Hedge

The presence of prehistoric lithic material potentially associated with nearby later Neolithic to early Bronze Age activity is interesting. Looking further afield there has generally been thought to have been 'relatively sparse and/or low-intensity occupation' in the area between the Severn and the Avon (Garwood in Watt 2011, 56), but a number of recent sites along the Severn valley in the south of the county (e.g. Clifton Quarry WSM 46456) appear to indicate more systematic activity at this date on the gravel terraces.

7 Significance, by Pete Lovett and Robert Hedge

7.1 Nature of the archaeological interest in the site

No features, layers, structures or horizons of archaeological significance were discovered, though the evidence for the historic orchard was reaffirmed.

A small residual assemblage of Roman pottery and single piece of worked flint attest to a background scatter of occupation debris in the vicinity, probably relating to intensive settlement activity centred on or close to the Main Road site (WSM 66555), c 250m to the north.

7.2 Relative importance of the archaeological interest in the site

The presence of the worked flint provides more evidence for earlier prehistoric activity, which so far has been relatively sparsely reported in this part of the Severn valley, and so is a notable find.

Other finds represent a typical background of small quantities of domestic medieval/post-medieval building material and pottery, probably introduced as a result of agricultural activity. A similar explanation probably applies to the Roman artefactual material, this time pertaining to intensive settlement further north.

7.3 Physical extent of the archaeological interest in the site

No finds were recovered from discrete archaeological features but the survival of isolated discrete features elsewhere on the site cannot be ruled out. Soil disturbance seems to have been considerable, since, while post-medieval pottery was confined to the topsoil, ceramic building material of probable post-medieval date was recovered from subsoil (and rooting disturbance). This was probably due to the later orchard plantation, and possibly also the recent levelling activity.

8 The impact of the development

As no features, layers, structures or horizons of archaeological significance were discovered and all artefacts were residual, the impact of the development upon heritage assets is considered to be negligible.

9 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 at The Firs, off Old Road North, Kempsey, Worcestershire (NGR SO 8555 4952; HER ref WSM 67369). It was undertaken on behalf of Speller Metcalfe Living Ltd, who intends to develop the site with residential housing for which a planning application has been submitted.

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10 Acknowledgements

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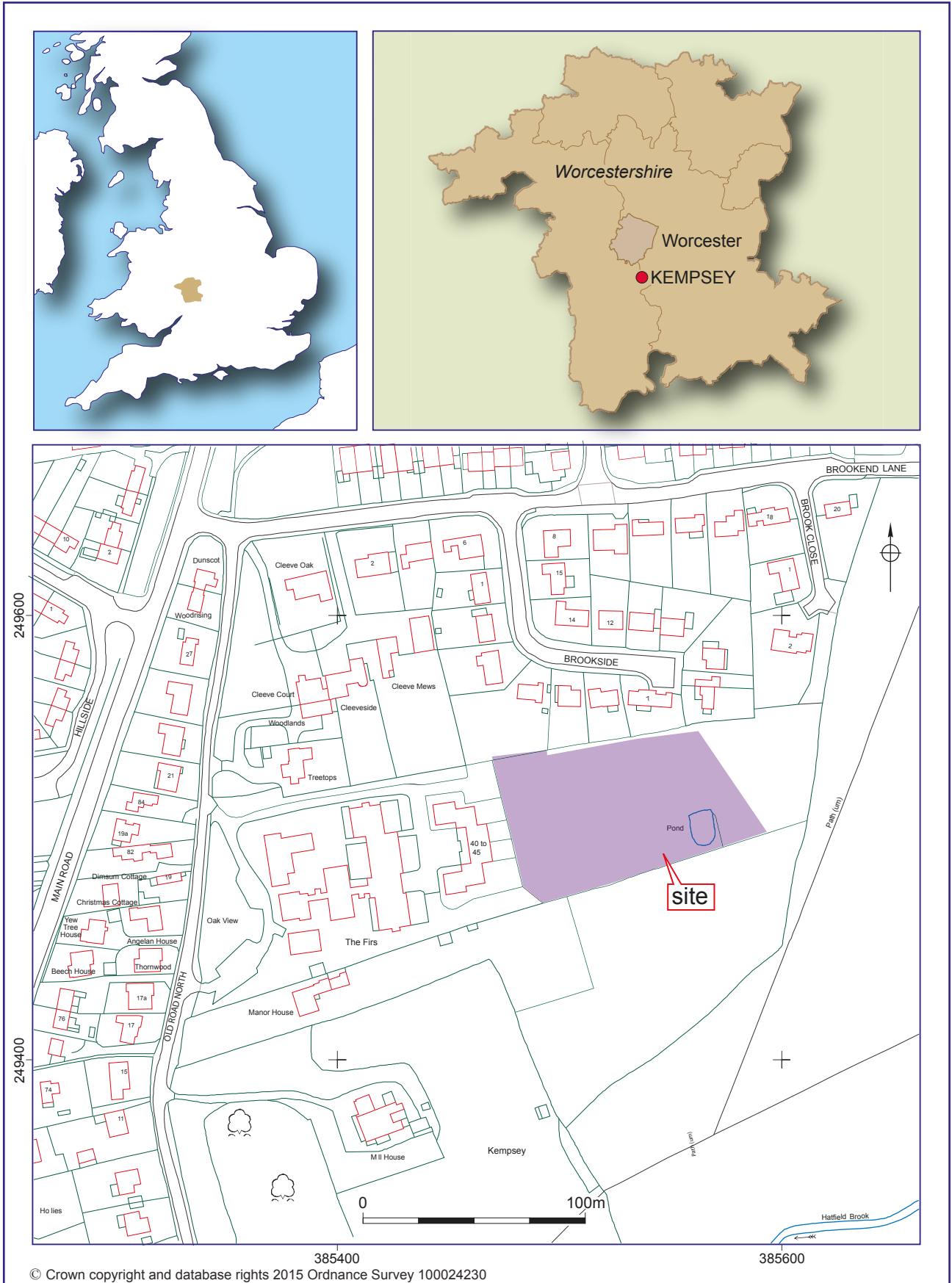
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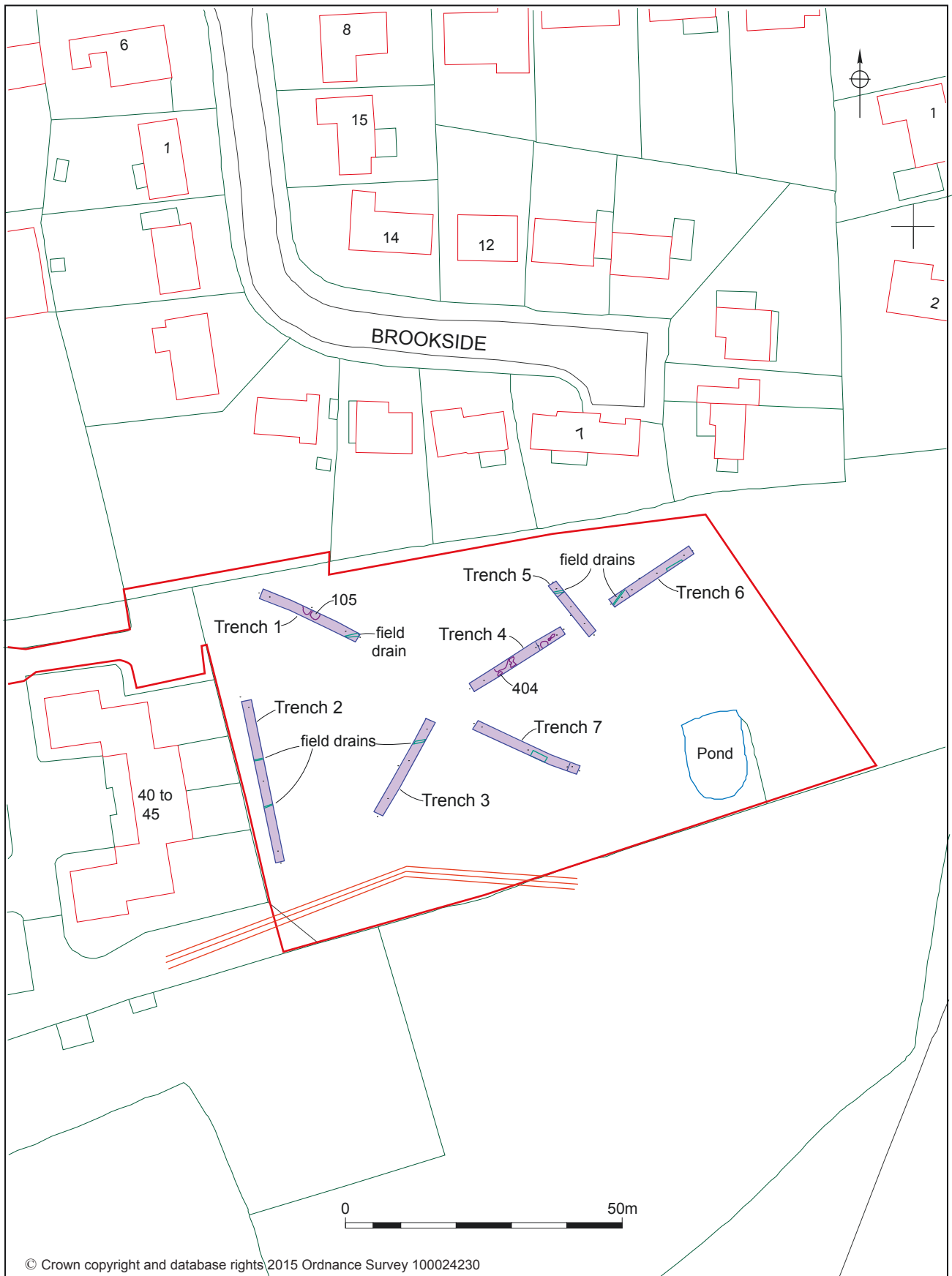
Figures



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Location of the site

Figure 1



Trench location plan

Figure 2

Plates



Plate 1 Trench 1 looking south-east, 1m scales



Plate 2 Trench 2 looking north-west, 1m scales



Plate 3 Trench 3 looking south, 1m scales



Plate 4 Trench 3 section showing buried topsoil, looking west, 1m scale



Plate 5 Trench 4 looking south-west, 1m scales



Plate 6 Trench 5 looking north-west, 1m scales



Plate 7 Trench 6 looking west, 1m scales



Plate 8 Trench 7 looking north-west, 1m scales

Appendix 1 Trench descriptions

Trench 1

Length: 20 Width: 1.5 Orientation: North-west to south-

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
100	Topsoil	Layer	Friable dark greyish brown clay loam	0.13	Topsoil
101	Modern Layer	Layer	Compact mid brownish red silty clay	0.61	Modern made ground
102	Topsoil	Layer	Soft dark greyish brown silt loam	0.26	Buried topsoil
103	Subsoil	Layer	Firm mid orangey brown silty sand	0.22	Subsoil
104	Natural	Layer			Natural
105	Natural	Cut			Shallow rooting disturbance
106	Natural	Fill	Soft mid greyish brown silty sand		Fill of rooting disturbance

Trench 2

Length: 30 Width: 1.5 Orientation: North-west to south-

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
200	Topsoil	Layer	Friable mid greyish brown clay loam	0.21	Topsoil
201	Modern Layer	Layer	Compact mid reddish brown silty clay	0.22	Modern made ground
202	Topsoil	Layer	Soft dark greyish brown silt loam	0.15	Buried topsoil
203	Subsoil	Layer	Firm mid orangey brown silty sand	0.16	Subsoil
204	Natural	Layer	Firm mid reddish brown clay		Natural

Trench 3

Length: 20 Width: 1.5 Orientation: North to south

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
300	Topsoil	Layer	Friable mid greyish brown silt loam	0.19	Topsoil
301	Modern Layer	Layer	Compact dark blackish brown silty clay	0.31	Modern made ground
302	Topsoil	Layer	Soft dark greyish brown silt loam	0.27	Buried topsoil

303	Subsoil	Layer	Firm mid brownish orange silty sand	0.35	Subsoil
304	Natural	Layer	Compact light brownish orange sand		Natural

Trench 4

Length: 20 Width: 1.5 Orientation: North-east to south-

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
400	Topsoil	Layer	Friable mid greyish brown silt loam	0.29	Topsoil
401	Subsoil	Layer	Moderately compact mid orangey brown silty sand	0.22	Upper subsoil
402	Subsoil	Layer	Moderately compact mid brownish grey silty sand	0.28	Lower subsoil
403	Natural	Layer	Soft mid orangey grey silty sand		Natural
404	Natural	Cut			Rooting disturbance
405	Natural	Fill	Soft mid greyish brown silty sand		Rooting disturbance

Trench 5

Length: 11.5 Width: 1.5 Orientation: North-west to south-

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
500	Topsoil	Layer	Friable mid greyish brown silt loam	0.24	Topsoil
501	Subsoil	Layer	Moderately compact mid orangey brown silty sand	0.23	Upper subsoil
502	Subsoil	Layer	Moderately compact mid brownish grey silty sand	0.44	Lower subsoil
503	Natural	Layer	Soft mid orangey grey silty sand		Natural

Trench 6

Length: 17.5 Width: 1.5 Orientation: East to west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
600	Topsoil	Layer	Friable mid greyish brown silt loam	0.25	Topsoil
601	Subsoil	Layer	Moderately compact mid reddish brown silty sand	0.34	Upper subsoil
602	Subsoil	Layer	Moderately compact mid brownish grey silty sand	0.43	Lower subsoil

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603	Natural	Layer	Soft mid orangey grey silty sand	Natural
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Trench 7

Length: 20.5 Width: 1.5 Orientation: North-west to south-

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
700	Topsoil	Layer	Firm mid greyish brown silt loam	0.26	Topsoil
701	Subsoil	Layer	Moderately compact mid orangey brown silty sand	0.36	Subsoil
702	Natural	Layer	Moderately compact mid orangey brown sand		Natural

Appendix 2 Technical information

The archive (site code: WSM 67369)

The archive consists of:

- 2 Field progress reports AS2
- 1 Photographic records AS3
- 59 Digital photographs
- 7 Trench record sheets AS41
- 1 Box of finds
- 1 CD-Rom/DVDs
- 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

WSM 67369 (event HER number)

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Artefacts

period	material class	material subtype	object specific type	count	weight(g)	start date	end date	Specialist report?	Key assemblage?
Mesolithic to Bronze Age	stone	flint	end-scraper	1	4	-10,000	-700	Y	N
Roman	ceramic		pot	2	32	43	400	Y	N
Roman	ceramic		pot	2	6	100	300	Y	N
medieval/post-medieval	ceramic		brick/tile	1	8	1200	1800	Y	N
medieval/post-medieval	ceramic		roof tile	2	50	1200	1800	Y	N
medieval/post-medieval	ceramic		tile	3	52	1200	1800	Y	N
post-medieval	ceramic		pot	2	9	1600	1800	Y	N
post-medieval	ceramic		pot	1	1	1700	1800	Y	N

Notes

1. In some cases the date will be "Undated". In most cases, especially if there is not a specialist report, the information entered in the Date field will be a general period such as Neolithic, Roman, medieval etc (see below for a list of periods used in the Worcestershire HER). Very broad date ranges such as late Medieval to Post-medieval are acceptable for artefacts which can be hard to date for example roof tiles. If you have more specific dates, such as 13th to 14th century, please use these instead. Specific date ranges which cross general period boundaries can also be used, for example 15^h to 17th century.

period	from	to
Palaeolithic	500000 BC	10001 BC
Mesolithic	10000 BC	4001 BC
Neolithic	4000 BC	2351 BC
Bronze Age	2350 BC	801 BC
Iron Age	800 BC	42 AD
Roman	43	409
Post-Roman	410	1065
Medieval	1066	1539
Post-medieval	1540	1900
Modern	1901	2050

period specific	from	to
Lower Palaeolithic	500000 BC	150001
Middle Palaeolithic	150000	40001
Upper Palaeolithic	40000	10001
Early Mesolithic	10000	7001
Late Mesolithic	7000	4001

Early Neolithic	4000	3501
Middle Neolithic	3500	2701
Late Neolithic	2700	2351
Early Bronze Age	2350	1601
Middle Bronze Age	1600	1001
Late Bronze Age	1000	801
Early Iron Age	800	401
Middle Iron Age	400	101
Late Iron Age	100 BC	42 AD
Roman 1st century AD	43	100
2nd century	101	200
3rd century	201	300
4th century	301	400
Roman 5th century	401	410
Post roman	411	849
Pre conquest	850	1065
Late 11th century	1066	1100
12th century	1101	1200
13th century	1201	1300
14th century	1301	1400
15th century	1401	1500
16th century	1501	1600
17th century	1601	1700
18th century	1701	1800
19th century	1801	1900
20th century	1901	2000
21st century	2001	

2. Not all evaluations of small excavation assemblages have specialist reports on all classes of objects. An identification (e.g. clay pipe) and a quantification is not a specialist report. A short discussion or a more detailed record identifying types and dates is a specialist report. This field is designed to point researchers to reports where they will find out more than merely the presence or absence of material of a particular type and date.

3. This field should be used with care. It is designed to point researchers to reports where they will be able to locate the most important assemblages for any given material for any given date.