

FIELDWALKING
AT
GLENMORE FARM, WICK,
WORCESTERSHIRE

By Emily Gough

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Worcestershire County Council

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Project 3290
Report 1645
WSM 38003

Archaeological Fieldwalking at Glenmore Farm, Wick, Worcestershire

By **Emily Gough**
Adam Mindykowski (project leader)

Background information

<i>Client</i>	Mr Robert Kings
<i>Site address</i>	Glenmore Farm Wick Persore WR10 3PA SO 96599 45541
<i>National Grid reference</i>	6053
<i>Field Parcel No.</i>	WSM38003
<i>Sites and Monuments Record reference</i>	Wychavon District Council
<i>Planning authority</i>	
<i>Project parameters</i>	IFA 2001

Previous archaeological work on the site

A collection of aerial photographs, of unknown date, record possible enclosures and evidence of house platforms and trackways, believed to be associated with a shrunken medieval village (WSM09802), within parcel 6053. However, the aerial photographs, in question, are not held by Worcestershire Historic Environment and Archaeology Service and are therefore, unavailable for analysis.

Previous archaeological work on associated sites

A number of unstratified flints, possibly dating to the Mesolithic and Neolithic, have been unearthed to the north east of parcel 6053 (WSM37566, WSM33859, WSM31604, WSM30570).

A Geophysical Survey (WSM30214), carried out in 1996, in 'Five Acres' field, approximately one kilometre north east of parcel 6053, confirmed the location of possible Neolithic cropmark enclosures. A field walk (WSM35845), carried out in 'Five Acres' field, by the South Worcestershire Archaeological Group (SWAG) in January 1997, recovered a small assemblage of Roman and post-medieval pottery and flint flakes and cores.

Fieldwalking undertaken in 1972 (WSM07486) on the Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM207), approximately 1000 metres north of parcel 6053, retrieved Romano-British, medieval and post medieval pottery.

Aims

Glenmore Farm entered into a Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) agreement in June 2006. Parcel 6053 is currently being managed under the Historic Environment HLS option, reduced depth cultivation. However, the area, is a Nitrogen Rich Zone, and consequently the landowner intends to remove the site from HLS so that he can plough at the standard depth and deposit manure on the site.

The aim of fieldwalking was to recover a sample of artefacts, from the surface of the plough soil, in order to define the archaeological significance of the site. The information recovered can then be used to validate or refute the Historic Environment Record data and enable informed decision-making.

Methods

General specification for fieldwork CAS 1995

Sources consulted HER

Sources cited by the HER

Aerial Photographic Sources (WSM09802)

AS1285, AS1286, AS1287, AS1288,
AS1289, AS1290, AS1291, AS1292,
AS1293, AS1294, AS1295, AS1296,
AS1297, AS1298

Date(s) of fieldwork 27th November 2007

Area of site c 21, 000 m²

The site was sampled by grid walking. This was implemented by dividing the field into a series of 20 m x 20 m grid squares. Material that could not be located to a specific square was excluded from the distributional analysis.

Historic Landscape Character and Historic Environment Significance

Glenmore Farm is located approximately 1.7 km east of Pershore, in the parish of Wick. The Historic Landscape Character is dominated by nucleated settlement and a post-medieval to modern enclosed field pattern. The Wick and Hill and Moor Inclosure Maps suggest that the earlier open-field landscape was initially subdivided during the later 18th century. During the 19th century, this field pattern was subdivided further into very regular geometric fields, characterised by straight boundaries (see 1st Edition OS map).

The site lies within the Wick principal village farmlands. This area is a low-lying flat river terrace of mixed sands and gravels supporting a predominately arable land use. Intensive farming is resulting in field boundary loss; remaining hedgerows are generally of poor condition.

The main historic environment interest on Glenmore Farm is represented by large areas of below ground archaeology relating to multi-period settlement, which reached a peak of activity during the Romano-British period (1st – 5th centuries AD). The two most significant areas are designated as Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM207 and SAM216).

Artefact Recovery Policy

All artefacts were recovered as part of a field walking exercise undertaken by Worcestershire County Council Historic Environment and Archaeology Staff and volunteers. The site was sampled by grid walking and was divided into a series of 20 m x 20 m squares.

Method of analysis

All hand retrieved finds were rapidly assessed by Worcestershire County Council Historic Environment and Archaeology Service.

Artefactual Analysis

The pottery assemblage retrieved dated to the late post medieval period. One abraded sherd of possible Roman ware, of a 'Severn Valley type', was recovered. No finds of high archaeological significance were retrieved. The finds assemblage was evenly spread across the site and no specific concentrations were recorded.

Conclusions

The results of fieldwalking suggest that the site has low archaeological significance. The site appears to have had a long history of cultivation and could be best interpreted as being 'space between settlement'.

During the site visit a series of infield earthwork house platforms and other settlement features, including a network of trackways, were observed, in the field directly to the west of the site. These earthworks, have been recorded by SWAG, (WSM35386, currently unavailable in report form) and are potentially medieval in date. Fieldwalking recorded no conclusive evidence of settlement and therefore it is suggested that the site was in the hinterland rather than at the focus of settlement. Any subsidiary archaeological remains, that may have, at one point, existed, on the site, are likely to have been destroyed by a long history of cultivation.

Historic Environment Countryside Advice

The Historic Environment Countryside Advisor recommends that the site (SO 96604 45529) should be removed from Higher Level Stewardship.

Publication summary

Fieldwalking was undertaken on behalf of Robert Kings at Glenmore Farm, Wick, Worcestershire (NGR SO 96604 45529, HER ref WSM38003).

Acknowledgements

The Service would like to thank the following for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project, Robert Kings, Vanda Bartoszuk, Mike Glyde, Alan Moule and Maggie Noke.

Bibliography

CAS 1995 (as amended) *Manual of Service practice: fieldwork recording manual*, County Archaeological Service, Hereford and Worcester County Council, report, 399

Worcestershire County Council Landscape Character Assessment

Figures

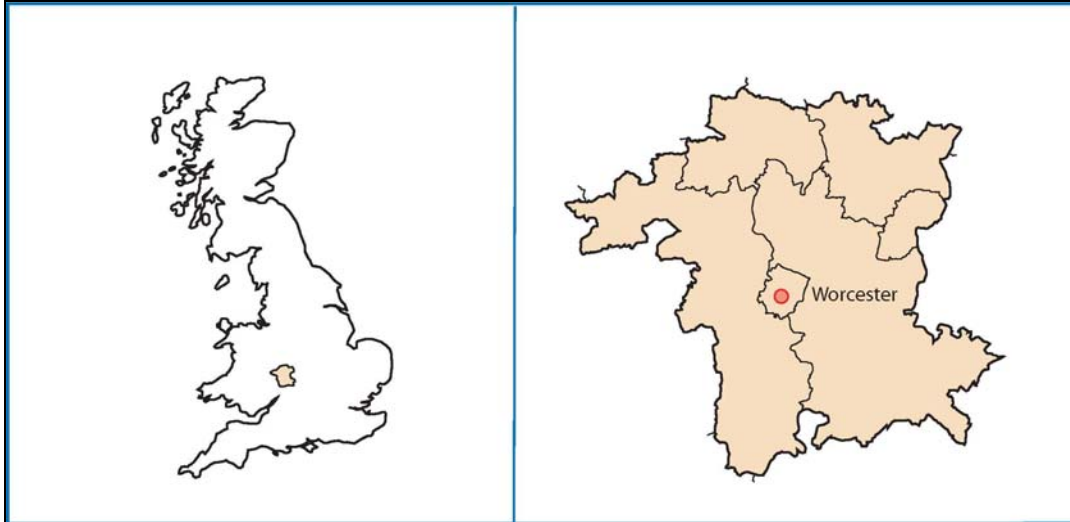
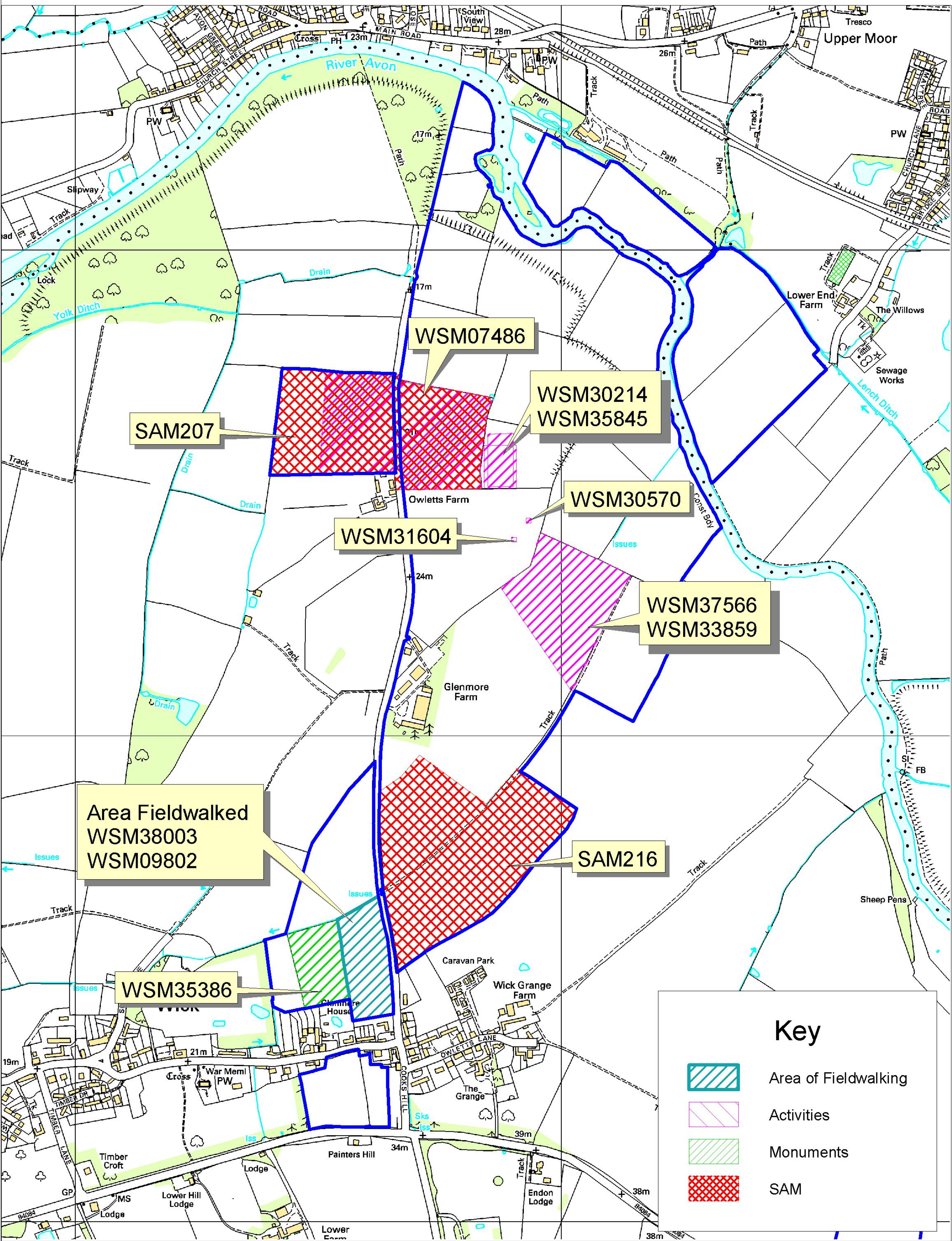


Figure 1: Map showing the county of Worcestershire

Figure 2: Historic Environment Record Features Map showing selected features



SAM207

WSM07486

WSM30214
WSM35845

WSM30570

WSM31604

WSM37566
WSM33859

Area Fieldwalked
WSM38003
WSM09802

SAM216

WSM35386

Key





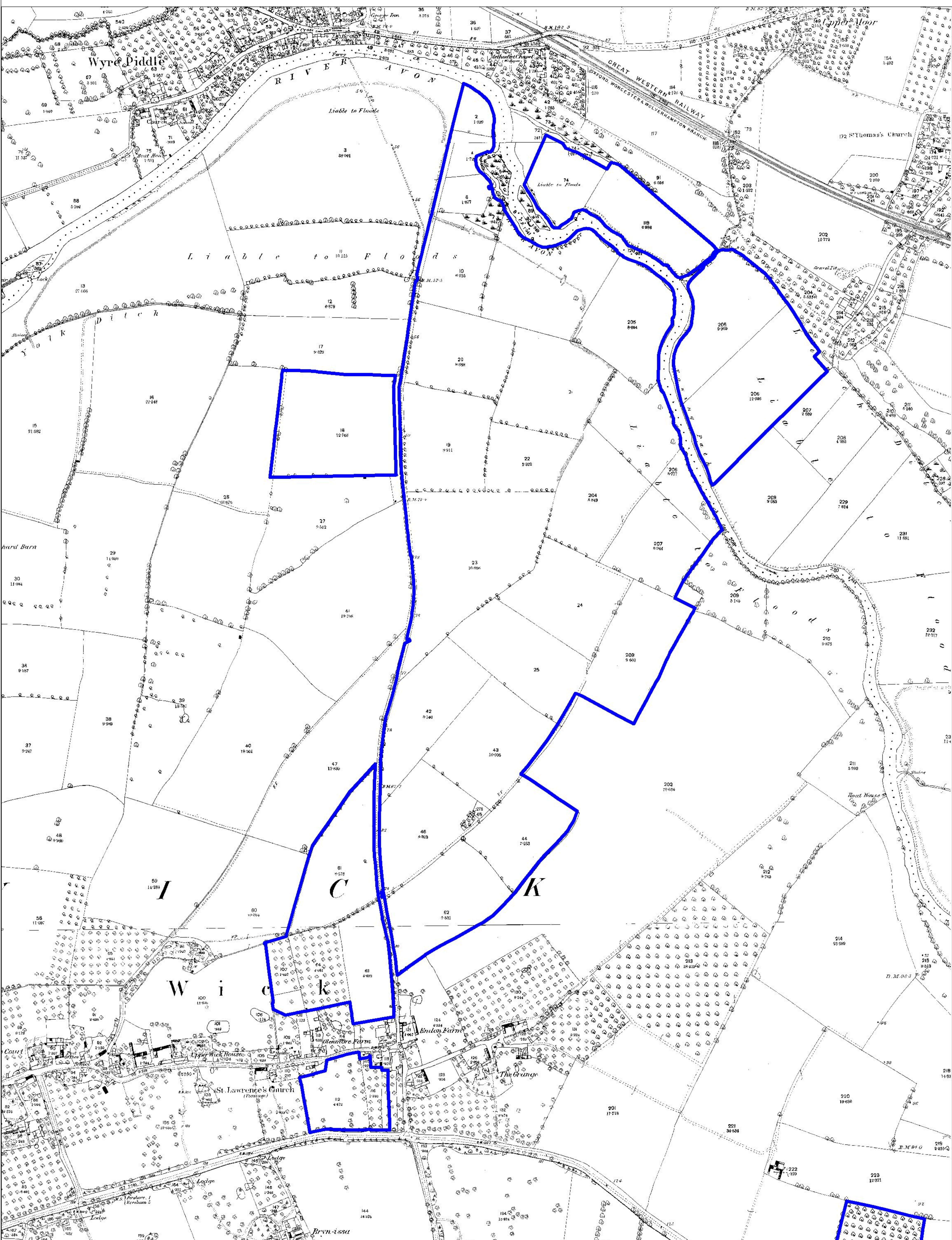
-  Area of Fieldwalking
-  Activities
-  Monuments
-  SAM

Figure 3: 1st Edition OS Map (1:2500 County Series, 1885)



Appendix 1 Technical information

The archive

The archive consists of:

Photographic records (general working shots)

Bag of finds (N.B Only a small sample of the material retrieved is intended to be archived)

The project archive is intended to be placed at:

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

Summary of data for Worcestershire HER

Fieldwalking was undertaken, in parcel 6053, Glenmore Farm, Wick, on 27th November 2007. Glenmore Farm entered into a Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) agreement in June 2006 and parcel 6053 was being managed under the Historic Environment HLS option, reduced depth cultivation. However, the area is a Nitrogen Rich Zone, and consequently the landowner intended to remove the site from HLS so that he could plough at the standard depth and deposit manure on the site.

Fieldwalking intended to recover a sample of artefacts, from the surface of the plough soil, in order to define the archaeological significance of the site and enable more informed management decisions.

The pottery assemblage retrieved dated to the late post medieval period. One abraded sherd of possible Roman ware, of a 'Severn Valley type', was recovered. No finds of high archaeological significance were retrieved. The finds assemblage was evenly spread across the site and no specific concentrations were recorded.

The results of the fieldwalking suggest that the site has low archaeological significance. Parcel 6053 appears to have had a long history of cultivation and could be best interpreted as being 'space between settlement'.

The Historic Environment Countryside Advisor recommended that parcel 6053 should be removed from Higher Level Stewardship.