

DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT
AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL
WATCHING BRIEF AT LAND
SOUTH OF BANLEY FARM
KINGTON, HEREFORDSHIRE

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Project P3203
Report 1686

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Desk-based assessment and archaeological watching brief at land south of Banley Farm, Kington, Herefordshire

Nick Daffern

Part 1 Project summary

A desk-based assessment was undertaken of land at the proposed Household Waste Recycling Centre which lies to the west of the A4111, south of Kington, Herefordshire (NGR SO 301,559). It was undertaken on request of Axis Ltd, on behalf of their client Mercia Waste Management. The aims of this assessment were to summarise the character and extent of any identified features of the historic environment, indicate their significance, the impact of the proposed development and identify mitigation measures, where appropriate.

The proposed development area is approximately 100m x 50m; it is bounded to the east by the A4111 and to the north by a commercial unit and private housing.

The desk-based assessment indicated that there had been no archaeological fieldwork undertaken on or in the immediate vicinity of the development site. It also suggested that the site itself has had a pastoral or agricultural character for much of its history, being unaffected by the establishment of the medieval town of Kington and its subsequent expansion from medieval to modern times.

In addition to the desk-based assessment, a watching brief was carried out on the excavation of nine geotechnical test pits that revealed no archaeological features. A small quantity of post-medieval glazed ceramics was recovered from the topsoil of one of the test pits.

Although archaeological fieldwork has been limited, there is some evidence of Roman and prehistoric activity in the general vicinity, but no specific archaeological site or monument could be identified within the specific proposed development area.

Part 2 Detailed report

1. Background

1.1 Reasons for the project

A desk-based assessment was undertaken of land at the proposed Household Waste Recycling Centre which lies to the west of the A4111, south of Kington, Herefordshire (NGR SO 301,559). It was undertaken on behalf of Mercian Waste Management, who intend to construct and operate a household waste recycling centre upon the site.

The desk-based assessment was commissioned by Axis Ltd, who are acting as planning consultants to the client.

1.2 Project parameters

The project conforms to the *Standard and guidance for archaeological desk-based assessment* (IFA 1999), Planning Policy Guidance Note 15 *Planning and the Historic Environment*, Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 *Archaeology and Planning*.

1.3 Aims

The aims of the desk-based assessment were to summarise the character and extent of any identified features of the historic environment, indicate their significance, the impact of the proposed development and identify mitigation measures, where appropriate.

2. Methods

2.1 Study area

The study area comprised the site (Fig 1), and any features of the historic environment within 1km. The development location is currently a Greenfield site to the west of the A4111 Eardisley Road, approximately one kilometre south of Kington. The site is currently under pasture with only a wood and wire fence and a metal gate dividing the development area. A similar fence and gate arrangement mark the boundary of the study area.

The site marks the southern edge of Kington with a commercial unit providing tool hire and its associated car park and a private house with associated stable/ storage buildings directly adjacent to the site to the north. The remaining adjacent landscape remains undeveloped.

2.2 Fieldwork methodology –watching brief

Fieldwork was undertaken on the 24th February 2009. Observation and recording of archaeological deposits was restricted to areas of ground disturbance associated with the excavation of nine geotechnical trial pits by Intégral Géotechnique (Wales) Limited.

Deposits considered not to be significant were removed using a JCB wheeled excavator, employing a toothless bucket and under archaeological supervision. Subsequent excavation was undertaken by hand and clean surfaces were inspected. Clean surfaces were inspected and deposits were recorded according to standard Service practice (CAS 1995).

2.3 Documentary search

Prior to the field visit, a search was made of the Herefordshire Sites and Monuments Record (SMR/ HWCN) and the Herefordshire Record Office.

The following sources are relevant to the study area.

Cartographic sources (selected extracts are reproduced in this report)

- 1845 Kington Tithe Map
- 1855 Quarter Sessions – Kington parish enclosure map (HRO QS/R1/24)
- 1888 Ordnance Survey map of Herefordshire, 1:2,500
- 1889 Ordnance Survey map of Herefordshire, 1:10, 560
- 1903 Ordnance Survey map of Herefordshire, 1:2,500
- 1928 Ordnance Survey map of Herefordshire, 1:2,500
- 1953 Ordnance Survey map of Herefordshire, 1:10, 560

The following sources have also been cited in this assessment.

- DoE 1990 *Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning (PPG 16)*, Department of the Environment
- DoE 1995 *Planning Policy Guidance Note 15: Archaeology and the historic Environment (PPG 15)*, Department of the Environment
- IFA 1999 *Standard and guidance for archaeological desk-based assessment*, Institute of Field Archaeologists

2.4 Other methods

An archaeological watching brief was carried out during the excavation of geotechnical test pits on 24th February 2009 and a subsequent site visit was undertaken on Wednesday 4th March 2009 to assist in the completion of the desk-based assessment.

2.5 Results

The results are presented in Sections 3.3.1 and 4. Event records have been omitted where this would repeat information in other record types, and would not materially affect the assessment. SMR references have been used throughout this assessment.

Results of the archaeological fieldwork are given in Section 5 and Appendix 1

2.6 The methods in retrospect

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

2.7 Impact assessment criteria

The criteria cited in Table 1 have been used.

Table 1: Significance Criteria for Cultural Heritage Issues

<p>Severe Adverse: Loss of integrity of nationally important archaeology/cultural heritage including Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Grade I/II* registered parks and gardens and registered battlefields. Demolition of a Grade I/II* Listed Building. Dramatic adverse change in the setting or visual amenity of the feature/site.</p>
<p>Major Adverse: Land take resulting in the degradation of a cultural heritage site of national importance and/or extensive change to the setting or visual amenity of such a site e.g. intrusion into the setting of a Scheduled Ancient Monument. Loss of integrity of sites of archaeological interest of regional value, or Grade II registered parks and gardens, e.g. a dramatic change in the setting or visual amenity of a regionally important site such as a Conservation Area. Widespread adverse effects on the setting or structure of a Grade I/II* Listed Building. Demolition of a Grade II Listed Building.</p>
<p>Moderate Adverse: Land take resulting in the degradation of a cultural heritage site of regional importance and/or extensive change to the setting or visual amenity of such a site. Extensive change to the setting or structure of a Grade II Listed Building. Demolition of a locally listed or other historically important building. Encroachment upon a Conservation Area, historic parkland or other historic landscapes where the quality of the setting or its amenity would be noticeably impaired. Slight change to the setting or structure of a Grade I/II* listed building. Removal of a historically important hedgerow (after the Hedgerows Regulations).</p>
<p>Minor Adverse: Loss of integrity of an area where archaeological features/areas of local importance have been identified. Slight change to the setting or structure of a Grade II Listed Building. Limited encroachment upon a Conservation Area or historic parkland or other historic landscape where intrusive views are created or slight effects upon its integrity would result.</p>
<p>Not Significant: Landscape or ecological planting on an area where locally important archaeological features have been identified but impacts are thought to have no long term effect on the resource. Removal of common hedgerows and limited damage to important hedgerows where no replacement proposed.</p>
<p>Minor Beneficial: Perceptible improvement in the setting or structure of a Grade II listed building, Conservation Area or Grade II historic parkland. Improved management of locally/regionally important archaeological site.</p>
<p>Moderate Beneficial: Perceptible improvement in the setting or structure of a Grade I/II* listed building, Conservation Area or Grade I/II* historic parkland. Improved management of nationally important archaeological site.</p>

3. **Archaeological and historical context**

3.1 **Topography**

The site lies within what appears to be a glacially influenced landscape although there is extensive evidence that many of the landscape features that are apparent are influenced by fluvial processes i.e. the A4111 follows the V-shaped valley that has been eroded by the stream directly to the east of the site from which Headbrook and Woodbrook received their names. Views of the wider landscape are dominated by Bradnor Hill, which lies to the northeast of the site, consisting of sandstone of the Downton Castle Group dating to the Pridoli epoch of the Silurian (~ 415 million years ago)

The site is both within the valley and on the margins of the valley of the aforementioned stream/brook, which is a part of a wider dendritic system, which drains much of the surrounding landscape and flows northwards until it joins the River Arrow at Kington.

The site itself has a marked slope running to the northeast which is likely to relate to the aforementioned fluvial activity although there is the possibility that the gradient has been exaggerated by either historical clay extraction for brick production or by more recent development activities associated with the commercial unit to the north. To the east, on the opposite side of the A4111 is open, rolling countryside with a patchwork of open grassland utilised for livestock grazing and ploughed land for cultivation. To the south and west, the pattern is similar although the open grassland dominates indicating a pastoral usage. The A4111 itself is actually the “New Turnpike” which is shown on the 1855 Kington Enclosures Award map (HRO QS/R1/24) (Plate 3).

Today, Kington lies approximately 4kms from the Welsh border in the west of Herefordshire with much of the surrounding landscape being utilised for agriculture.

3.2 **Geology and soils**

The underlying geology of the study area consists of a reddish till of glacial origin and Devonian reddish silty shale, siltstone and sandstone (Soil Survey of England and Wales). The overlying soils are of the Escrick 1 soil association and are “deep, well drained reddish coarse loamy soils” with slowly permeable subsoil that may experience seasonal waterlogging (Soil Survey of England and Wales).

3.3 **Historical Chronology and Place-name studies of Kington from “The Central Marches Historic Towns Survey 1992-6”**

The information contained within sections 3.3.1 and 3.3.2 is taken from “The Central Marches Historic Towns Survey 1992-6” (Dalwood and Bryant, 2005).

3.3.1 **Historical Chronology**

Kington is mentioned in the Domesday Book (Thorn and Thorn 1983) and was one of the royal manors laying waste in 1086, which were granted by Henry I to Adam de Port in 1108 as the “Honour of Kington”. The title implies an intention to establish a major castle and borough at Kington (Kay 1980). A Pipe Roll grant of 1186 to repair the palisade (Benn 1941) is the only known reference to the castle, however (Kay 1980). The original borough, later referred to as “Old Kington,” was focused around the castle and the 12th century church (HWCN 6929), on a prominence overlooking the river, a typical site for the borough of a Marcher Lord (Noble 1964).

The “old” town actually lay on the western side of Offa’s Dyke in the Welsh Kingdom of Powys rather than Mercia. This close proximity to Offa’s Dyke is probably one of the reasons for the lack of pre-12th century development as the area would have been extremely unstable.

This instability stemmed from the defeat of the Welsh King of Deheubarth (South Wales) in 1093 by the Norman lord, Bernard de Neufmarché. This resulted in a seven year war between the Normans with their English armies and the remaining Kings of Wales. By 1099, much of South Wales had been overrun and it was after this that Adam de Port was granted the royal estates in and around Kington. It is assumed that Adam de Port built the first castle at Kington around the time he rose to prominence as the sheriff of Hereford and an important official of King Henry I (1100-35).

In 1173 Roger de Port rebelled against Henry II and the "Honour of Kington" was forfeited. Part of it, including the manors of Kington and Huntington, was granted to William de Braose.

On August 4th 1216, after conflict between King John and the de Braose family, the King marched upon Kington and destroyed the castle and town. Due to the destruction of Kington castle, a new castle was established at Huntington, now the head of the Lordship. However, Kington remained the main centre of population whilst the new borough of Huntington failed to replace it as a commercial centre (Noble 1964).

The town eventually recovered and at sometime between 1175 and 1230 a planned town, "New Kington", established itself on the town’s present location in the valley at a bridging point of the River Arrow (Coplestone-Crow 1980), away from the castle and church.

This new town prospered and in 1267 the rent of the *burgus* of Kington was 22s 0d, and that of "New Kington" was 64s 3d (Kay 1980). No charters are recorded but burgages and their accompanying rights are known to have existed and the settlement was certainly the main market in the area from the medieval period. By 1500 Kington was one of only nine market towns in Herefordshire and in 1564 29 burgages are recorded producing 14s 6d in rents (Kay 1980). This may indicate that the population had declined from its 13th century level, probably due to the effects of the Black Death and bad harvests in the middle of the 14th century.

In 1678 there were 31 burgage tenements in Kington (Kay 1980) and in 1698 Richard Blome in his *Britannia* states that Kington market "is the best in the county for corn, cattle, provisions and several commodities". This prosperity seems to have been at the expense of the neighbouring market towns of Pembridge and Weobley, however (O'Donnell 1971). In the late 18th century a tramway (HWCN 12005) to Hay was built to the north of the town and in 1820 an iron foundry was erected close to this. The railway arrived in 1857. The administration of Kington continued to be carried out by manorial court until the middle of the 19th century (Kay 1980). The 20th century has been a period of stagnation for Kington, a trend that has only recently been reversed (Rowley 1986).

3.3.2 Place-name studies

The earliest recorded form of the place-name Kington is in the Domesday Book where it is referred to as *Chingtune* meaning royal estate.

This had become *Kinton(e)* c. 1174, *Cyninton* in 1216-17, *Kyngtone* in 1333 and *Kynton* in 1341. New Kington is first mentioned in documents in 1267 (Coplestone-Crow 1989).

4. Historic environment

No previous archaeological fieldwork has been undertaken within the immediate vicinity of the proposed development area although there have been three archaeological investigations

in the form of watching briefs undertaken within Kington. These investigations related to small-scale developments and subsequently produced very limited results due to their scope with no archaeologically significant features or structures being identified and only small quantities of medieval and post medieval pottery being recovered.

4.1.1 Prehistoric and Roman

Very few remains of prehistoric or Roman date have been identified from the vicinity of the site although there are indications that the area has a long but as yet undiscovered history. A polished stone Celt (axe like instrument) assigned a Neolithic date was discovered in or near Kington although no exact find spot is given; this is now in Ludlow museum (SMR 7410 – MHE 3192). A scatter of flint implements and a shale blade (SMR 7402 – MHE 3184) were found during development of the Greenfield's estate, approximately 900m northwest of the current site although these are currently undated. A single sherd of Romano-British pottery (coarseware) (SMR 7401 – MHE 3183) was also recovered during the same phase of development at Greenfield's.

The only additional prehistoric remains from the area came in the form of an Iron Age spindle whorl that was recovered from an unnamed streambed in or near Kington (SMR8372 – MHE 3536).

There are several oval/sub rectangular enclosures within the environs of the site (SMR 9905-MHE 4504 and SMR 31371 – MHE 13291) although these have not been subject to archaeological fieldwork. An additional feature of probable prehistoric date is that of a circular/ sub-rectangular, double-ditched enclosure, identified as a cropmark from a Google Earth image (SMR 45157 – MHE 19000) (Figure 4), which is 200m southeast of the development area.

The presence of prehistoric enclosures within this region would not be surprising due to the suitability of the landscape for grazing as it has been proposed that these enclosures may have acted as corralling points relating to livestock management either in regards to herding or as a location for slaughtering and butchery. Alternatively they may relate to settlement and serve a “defensive” function although if defense were a requirement, locations such as Bradnor Hill or Hergest Ridge would seem more suitable. Further archaeological investigation would be required to confirm the nature of these features but as they are not directly affected by the proposed development, they do not fall under the remit of this assessment.

4.1.2 Late Saxon and Medieval

At present there is no evidence for pre-12th century settlement on the site of the modern town of Kington (Dalwood and Bryant, 2005).

St Mary's Church, the focus of the “old town”, dates from the 12th century and the tower that was built around 1190 is still standing (Marshall 1943). The church has previously been described and planned, and the sequence of construction interpreted (RCHME 1934, 89-91; HWCW 6929).

In addition to the church and castle, seven medieval listed buildings survive in the town (HWCW 16128, HWCW 16141, HWCW 16142, HWCW 16143, HWCW 6144, HWCW 16166, HWCW 19385) six of which are of 15th century date and the seventh being a 14th century open hall that was discovered behind the Victorian facade of 13 High Street (Tonkin 1991) (Dalwood and Bryant, 2005).

Dalwood and Bryant (2005) classified Kington during this period as a small medieval market town stating that there is “poor survival of the borough of Old Kington but the form of New Kington survives well into the present day.” They continue by stating, “that medieval deposits are likely to survive. The location of the planned town on low land close to the river

means that waterlogged deposits are likely to be found. Parts of the castle still survive as substantial earthworks. The church, medieval churchyard cross and seven medieval domestic structures are still standing and the medieval boundaries and street alignments are relatively well preserved into the present day. The components of the urban form comprising churchyard, tenement plots of New Kington, market and street system can be readily identified. The survival of all these components is good. The survival of the castle and Old Kington tenement plots is poor.”

The only medieval features that are likely to be identified in the area of the proposed development are those of agricultural activity such as ridge and furrow, several records of which exist in the Sites and Monuments Record such as north and east of Ashmoor (SMR 36706 - MHE14709 and SMR 36707 - MHE14710).

4.1.3 **Post-medieval and Industrial**

The 1845 tithe map shows that the development area lies within the southern area of field number 959. Field 959 and field 960 directly adjacent to the south were named Lower and Upper Ox Pasture respectively and were part of Townsend Farm.

At this time, the fields were in the ownership of Arthur Henry Wall Esq., who is named as the owner of 37 fields in the Kington parish. He appeared to be an extensive landowner within the Leominster region, owning a total of 222 fields in 1845 with his lands comprising of:

- 3 fields at Eardisland
- 45 fields at Kimbolton
- 37 fields at Kington
- 86 fields at Leominster
- 51 fields at Stretford

The 1855 Kington Enclosures Award (QS/R1/24) does not actually show the development area but it shows the southern boundary of field 960 (Upper Ox Pasture) and it shows that it is still in the possession of Arthur Wall Esq. Littlebury's Directory and Gazetteer of Herefordshire, 1876-7, names Arthur Wall as a principal land owner at Yarpole which suggests that he had expanded his land ownership since the 1845 tithe maps as he is not recorded as owning land at Yarpole at this time.

His neighbouring landowner at Kington in 1845, Colonel Joshua Shaw Crosse is listed as the Late Col. Crosse on the 1855 Enclosure Awards and there is therefore the possibility that Arthur Wall may have expanded his land ownership at Kington if he purchased the land after the Colonel's death.

There is only one Arthur Henry Wall listed on the 1841 census of England and it states that he had been born around 1791 and resided in Buckinghamshire. It is uncertain whether these two men are one and the same but it would not be uncommon for the landed gentry to own large swathes of land in multiple counties.

The available cartographic sources all maintain that the postulated agricultural character of the site during the medieval period continued into the post-medieval and modern era with the field name, Lower Ox Pasture suggesting that the present usage of the site is long established and its primary function was for livestock grazing.

Three hundred metres to the south west of the current development area is Kingswood Hall, which in 1962 was rebuilt into a nursing home, but prior to this was Kington Union Workhouse (Workhouses.org).

In 1777, a parliamentary report showed that a parish workhouse was in operation at Kington for up to 40 inmates. In the wake of The Poor Law Amendment Act of 1834, Kington Poor Law Union was officially formed on 25th August 1836 and constituted 26 parishes. It first met on August 26th 1836 and on the 30th August, the construction of a workhouse was put out to tender (Workhouses.org).

The plans that were adopted were those for a building that followed the popular cruciform plan and could house 180 inmates. The building was constructed in 1837 and is shown on the 1845 Tithe map (Plate 1). A detached infirmary was built to the south in 1901, the addition of which can be seen on the 1902 Ordnance Survey map (Figure 5) (Workhouses.org).

The first edition Ordnance Survey map 1888 shows that the agricultural usage that was present on the 1845 Tithe Map has continued, with the boundaries of the field remaining the same.

This stability of the field systems both within the environs of the development and in the wider landscape continues through the late 19th and early 20th centuries to the 1953 Ordnance Survey map with no alteration to the established field systems having occurred.

Neither the commercial unit or the private house to the north are present on the 1953 map indicating that their development is a recent alteration to this well established landscape. In addition to this, the present route of the A4111 which currently bypasses the centre of Kington had not been constructed either, instead the “New Turnpike” connected onto a smaller lane whose original route is preserved in the modern street name, Eardisley Road a small cul-de-sac providing access to housing. The most southerly margins of this road have mostly been truncated and disguised by the construction of the car park associated with the commercial unit although a trace of it remains preserved as a small farm track that runs directly alongside the eastern boundary of the site.

Away from the development site, in and around Kington buried deposits of post-medieval date have not been recorded although there is one 16th century listed building, 23 17th century listed buildings and 42 18th century listed buildings survive within the area of the historic town.

The line of the late 18th century tramline can be seen on the 1887 Ordnance Survey first edition 1:2500 map, but no detailed fieldwork on this monument has been undertaken.

Dalwood and Bryant (2005) classify Kington during this period as a “small post-medieval market town”. They believe that there is “good survival of the post-medieval form of Kington but lack of archaeological fieldwork means that there is no information on the extent or fragility of post-medieval archaeological deposits in the town. Comparisons with other similar towns in the area, however, indicate that such deposits are likely to survive and that the location of the planned town on low land close to the river means that there is a high probability of waterlogged deposits surviving. A total of 64 listed buildings of 16th century to 18th century date are still standing. The post medieval buildings for the most part appear to have preserved the medieval boundaries and street alignments and these are, therefore, relatively well preserved into the present day. The components of the urban form, comprising of a churchyard, grammar school, tannery, mills, tenement plots, market and street system can be readily identified. The survival of all these components is good.”

Post 1800 remains have been identified, including the station and railway (HWCN 21931, 21932), a tramway (HWCN 12005), a foundry (HWCN 17708), gasworks (HWCN 21933), sawmill (HWCN 21934), chapels (HWCN 21930, 16202) and a school (HWCN 21935). There are thirty-four listed structures dating to the 19th century within town of Kington.

5. Fieldwork Results

No archaeological features were identified during the watching brief. A small quantity of post-medieval glazed ceramic fragments was recovered from context 2001, the topsoil of test pit 2, but these were the sole artefacts recovered during fieldwork.

The results of the archaeological works are contained within Appendix 1.

A generalised overview of the stratigraphy identified during the watching brief is that it is primarily geological in origin with clay and silty clay overlying Devonian reddish silty shale, siltstone and sandstone. This clay would originally have been part of the Devonian material but was degraded due to exposure and erosion.

This clay is subsequently overlain by further silty clay which forms the subsoil and topsoil which exhibit signs of bioturbation, unsurprising due to the site's pastoral character.

6. Statutory and other designations

The site lies in an area designated by the EC as a "Less Favoured Area" (MAGIC.co.uk). This designation "provides special measures to assist farming in the areas designated. No designations relating to the historic environment are known to affect the site.

7. Potential impacts

No archaeological sites or monuments have been located within the proposed development area, although the proviso should be made that little archaeological fieldwork has taken place here. There is some generalised evidence of Prehistoric and Roman activity in the broader vicinity and more definite medieval and post medieval activity towards the town but it would appear that this location has been pastoral in character for much of its history.

There is potential for the presence of waterlogged and/or archaeologically valuable environmental deposits in the northeastern and eastern areas of the site. No environmental evidence has been recorded in Kington or its environs to date (Pearson in Dalwood and Bryant, 2005). Although the deposits are likely to have been affected by the A4111 and associated service works either through disturbance or changes to the soil chemistry, the potential for their presence should still be considered during further work.

Therefore, it is concluded that the proposed development here is likely to have **no significant impact** on the Cultural Heritage of the site. However due to the unknown nature of below ground deposits, this impact could rise to **minor** or **moderate adverse**.

8. Mitigation

In order to mitigate the impacts identified above, the following actions are recommended:

- **A watching brief during intrusive works to ensure that any archaeological and environmental features, deposits and/or artefacts are identified, recorded/recovered and interpreted to fill the void in the archaeological record for this area.**

However, the precise scope and specification of mitigation works should be agreed with the local planning authority.

9. **Residual effects**

Implementation of the mitigation proposed above should ensure that there are no residual effects on the historic environment and archaeological resource from the proposed development. Mitigation should ensure that adverse impacts are restricted in scope to *not significant*.

The historic environment is a non-renewable resource and therefore cannot be directly replaced. However mitigation through recording and investigation also produces an important research dividend that can be used for the better understanding of the county's history and contribute to local and regional research agendas.

10. **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.

A desk-based assessment was undertaken of land at the proposed Household Waste Recycling Centre, Banley Farm, Kington, Herefordshire (NGR SO 301,559). It was undertaken on request of Axis Ltd, on behalf of their client Mercian Waste Management.

The proposed development area is approximately 100m x 50m; it is bounded to the east by the A4111 and to the north by a commercial unit and private housing.

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In addition to the desk-based assessment, a watching brief was carried out on the excavation of nine geotechnical test pits that revealed no archaeological features. Small quantities of post-medieval glazed ceramics were recovered from the topsoil of one of the test pits.

Although archaeological fieldwork has been limited here, there is some evidence of Roman and Prehistoric activity in the general vicinity, but no specific archaeological site or monument could be identified within the specific proposed development area.

11. **Acknowledgements**

The Service would like to thank the following for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project: Martin Pollard (Axis), and Malcolm Earl (Intégral Géotechnique (Wales) Limited). Thanks are also due to the staff and volunteers of the Herefordshire Record Office consulted during the research for this project, their input was invaluable.

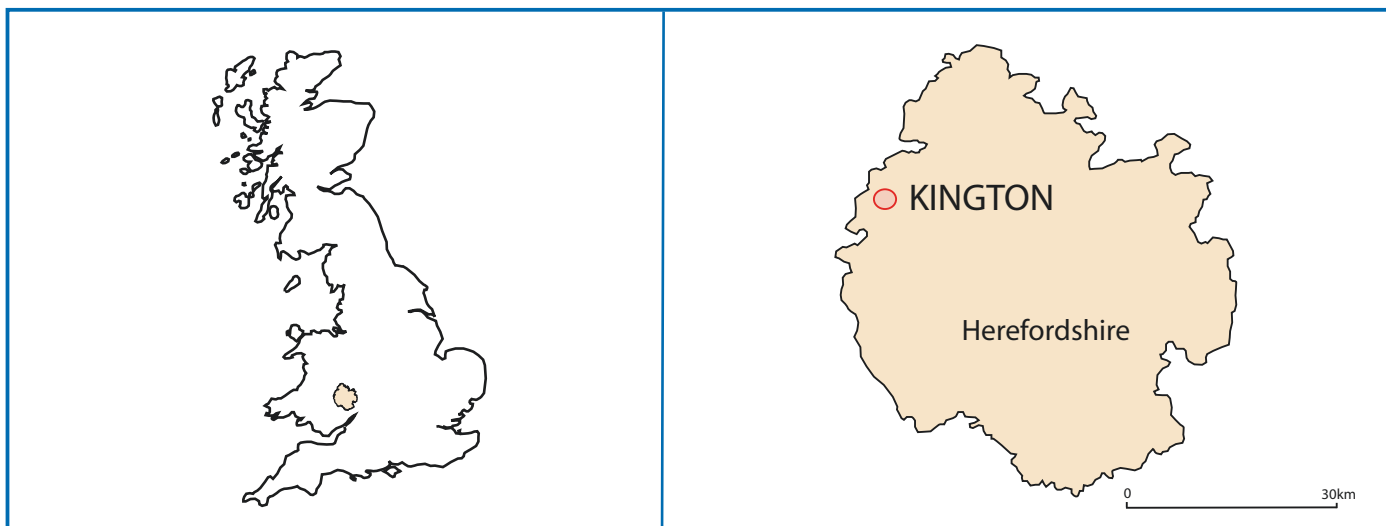
12. **Personnel**

The assessment was undertaken by Nick Daffern. Fieldwork was undertaken by Elizabeth Curran. The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Tom Rogers. Illustrations were prepared by Carolyn Hunt.

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Figures



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Location of the site

Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4 Possible prehistoric, double ditched enclosure (45157 - MHE 19000) to the east of the site. Image taken from Google Earth

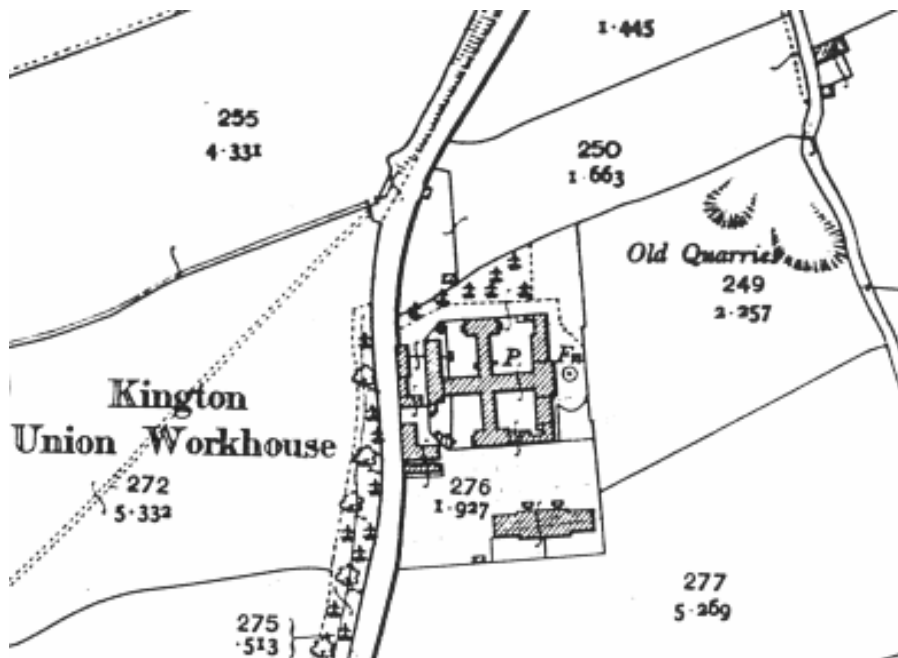


Figure 5 Kington Workhouse 1902 (Workhouses.org)

Plates

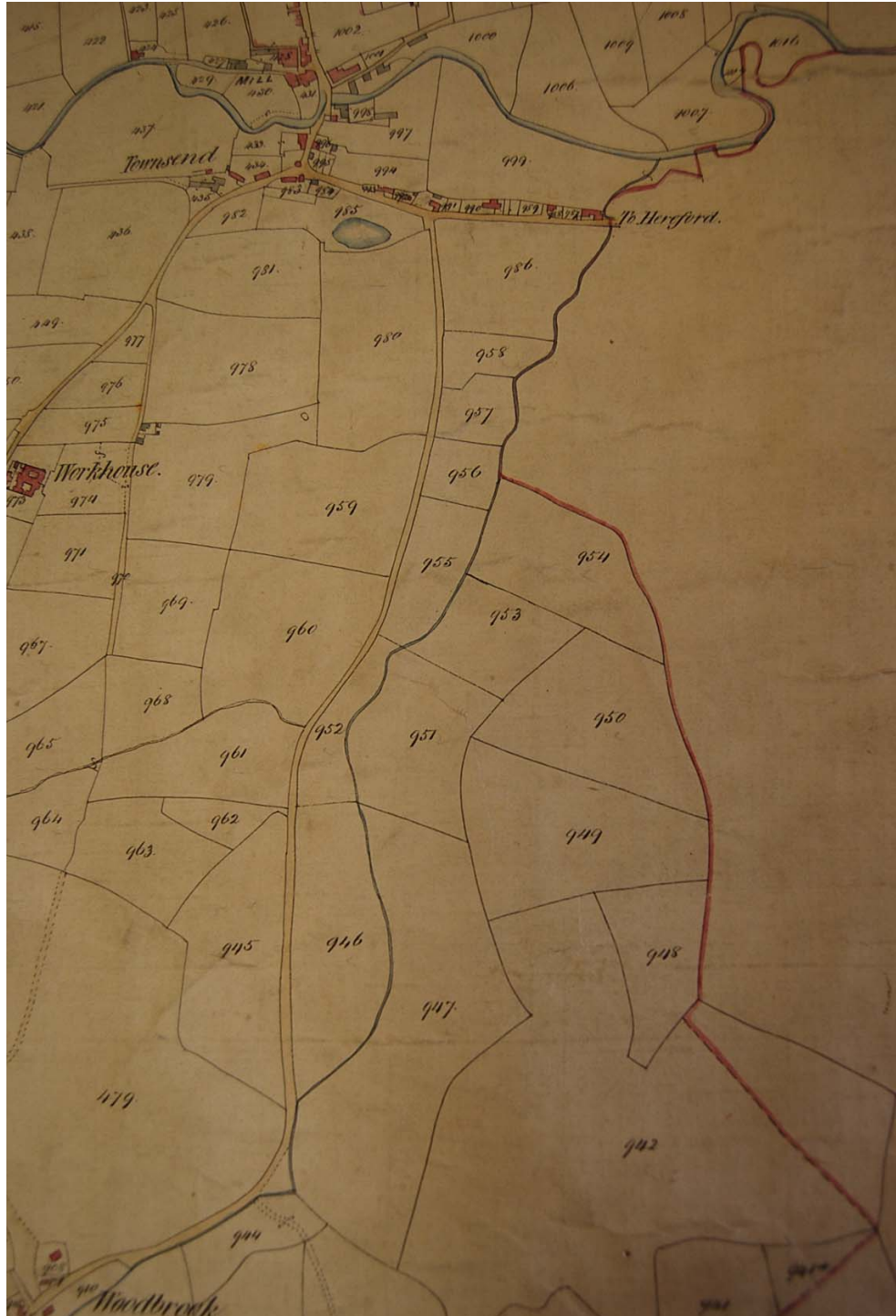


Plate 1 Detail of 1845 Tithe Map of Kington

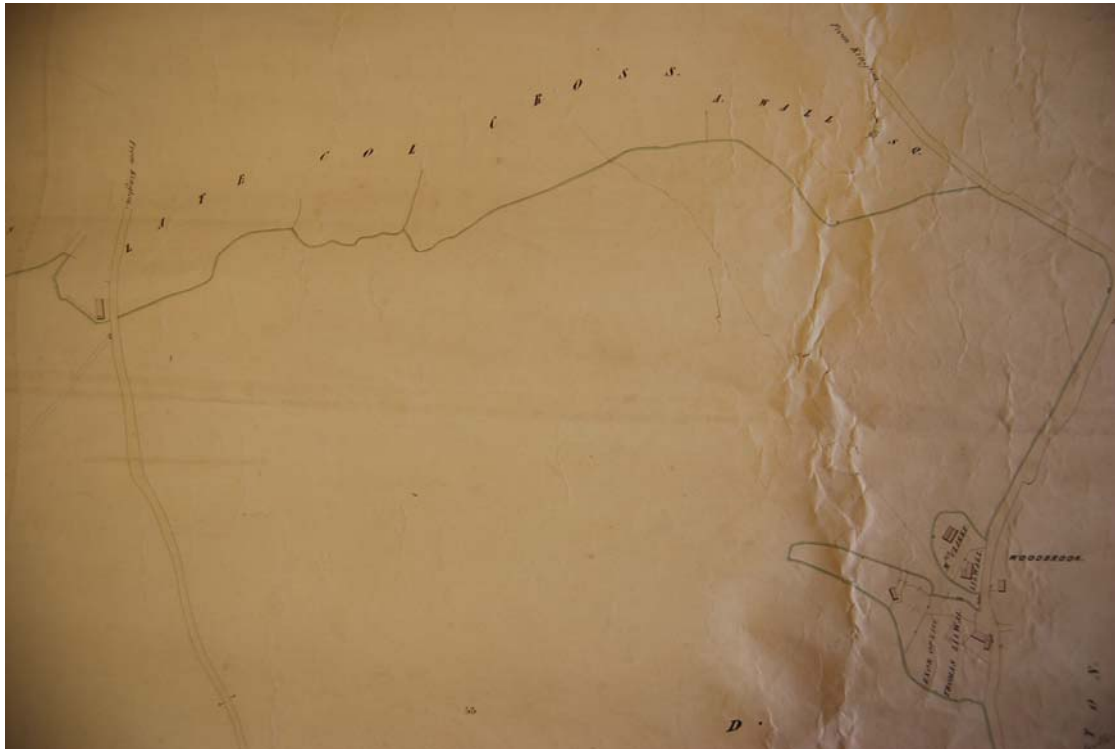


Plate 2 1845 Detail of Enclosure Award Map (Area shown is south of development area)



Plate 3 Southwest facing site overview



Plate 4 Northeast facing site overview



Plate 5 East facing site overview



Plate 6 North facing site overview (Bradnor Hill in background)



Plate 7 Southeast facing site overview

Appendix 1 Test pit descriptions

Test pit 1

Maximum dimensions: Length: 1.80m Width: 0.60m Depth: 1.75m

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top of deposits
1001	Topsoil	Mid dark reddish-brown silty clay. Moderately compact.	0.00m
1002	Natural	Red clay with lumps of sandstone that increased in frequency as the test pit became deeper. Very compact/ hard.	0.30m

Test pit 2

Maximum dimensions: Length: 1.80m Width: 0.60m Depth: 1.80m +

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top of deposits
2001	Topsoil	Mid light orangey-brown silty clay. Fragments of post-medieval glazed ceramics were recovered. Evidence for bioturbation.	0.00m
2002	Subsoil	Light orangey-brown slightly silty clay. Contained rare flecks of coal.	0.36m
2003	Natural	Purpley-red clay. Compact. Frequent large, sub-angular and sub-rounded fragments of sandstone	0.62m

Test pit 3

Maximum dimensions: Length: 1.90m Width: 0.60m Depth: 2.00m +

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top of deposits
3001	Topsoil	Mid dark orangey-brown silty clay. Moderately compact with occasional bioturbation	0.00m
3002	Natural	Reddish-purpley-brown silty clay. Very compact/hard with very frequent large, angular sandstone fragments	0.34m

Test pit 4

Maximum dimensions: Length: 2.00m Width: 0.60m Depth: 2.00m +

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top of deposits
4001	Topsoil	Mid orangey-brown silty clay. Occasional sub-rounded pebbles and evidence for bioturbation.	0.00m
4002	Subsoil	Mid-light orangey brown silty clay	0.23m
4003	Natural	Mid purpley-red clay. Very compact and hard with frequent large, angular fragments of sandstone	0.57m

Test pit 5

Maximum dimensions: Length: 1.70m Width: 0.60m Depth: 2.00m +

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top of deposits
5001	Topsoil	Mid orangey-brown silty clay. Moderately compact with occasional bioturbation.	0.00m
5002	Subsoil	Light greyish-orangey-brown silty clay. Moderately compact with occasional bioturbation.	0.55m
5003	Natural	Light greyish-purpley-brown silty clay. Frequent large, angular sandstone lumps.	0.85m

Test pit 6

Maximum dimensions: Length: 2.00m Width: 0.60m Depth: 2.50m +

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top of deposits
6001	Topsoil	Mid orangey-brown silty clay. Moderately compact with occasional bioturbation.	0.00m
6002	Natural	Bright purpley-brown silty clay. Frequent large, angular sandstone fragments which increase in frequency with depth.	0.33m

Test pit 7

Maximum dimensions: Length: 1.90m Width: 0.60m Depth: 2.00m +

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top of deposits
7001	Topsoil	Mid pinkish-brown silty clay. Moderately compact with occasional bioturbation.	0.00m
7002	Subsoil	Mid-light pinkish-orangey-brown silty clay. Occasional lumps of sandstone.	0.27m
7003	Natural	Mid pinkish-reddish-brown clay. Moderately compact. Occasional, angular sandstone fragments which increase in frequency with depth.	0.57m

Test pit 8

Maximum dimensions: Length: 2.00m Width: 0.60m Depth: 2.00m +

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top of deposits
8001	Topsoil	Mid orangey-brown silty clay. Moderately compact with occasional bioturbation.	0.00m
8002	Subsoil	Light greyish-orangey-brown silty clay. Moderately compact with occasional bioturbation.	0.55m
8003	Natural	Light greyish-purpley-brown silty clay. Frequent large, angular sandstone lumps.	0.80m

Test pit 9

Maximum dimensions: Length: 1.90m Width: 0.60m Depth: 2.00m +

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top of deposits
9001	Topsoil	Mid pinkish-brown silty clay. Moderately compact with occasional bioturbation	0.00m
9002	Subsoil	Mid-dark pinkish brown silty clay.	0.26m-0.33m
9003	Natural	Reddish silty clay. Frequent large sub-angular and sub-rounded sandstone fragments. Very compact/hard	0.63m
