

ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION
AT
MOAT FARM, LEIGH SINTON,
WORCESTERSHIRE

Tom Vaughan

With contributions by Angus Crawford

Illustrations by Carolyn Hunt

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Worcestershire County Council

Historic Environment and Archaeology Service,
Worcestershire County Council,
Woodbury,

University of Worcester,
Henwick Grove,
Worcester WR2 6AJ



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Project 2867
Report 1409
WSM 35059

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Archaeological evaluation at Moat Farm, Leigh Sinton, Worcestershire

Tom Vaughan

Part 1 Project summary

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Moat Farm, Leigh Sinton, Worcestershire (NGR: SO 7819 5091). It was undertaken on behalf of Minster Care Management Ltd, who intends to demolish the existing nursing home and redevelop the site with a new 44 bedroom care home for which a planning application has been submitted. The project aimed to determine if any significant archaeological remains were present and if so to indicate the date, nature and location. More specifically the area of the former moat, as denoted on the 1838 tithe map, was investigated, with the aim of defining its profile and the presence or absence of organic waterlogged material.

A single trench was excavated across the southern arm of the moat. This identified the northern edge, but not the southern, indicating that the moat is over 10m wide at this point. Hand augering revealed the base to be generally flat, at 0.78-1.10m below the existing ground surface. Although waterlogged, no suitable deposits were identified for environmental analysis. The artefact assemblage comprised a small quantity of medieval/post-medieval brick and tile in addition to a single oyster shell. The entrance across the moat indicated in the tithe map was not identified, nor were any other deposits, structures or horizons. The uniform nature of the fill indicates that the moat was deliberately filled, in the mid to late 19th century.

Part 2 Detailed report

1. Background

1.1 Reasons for the project

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Moat Farm, Leigh Sinton, Worcestershire (NGR: SO 7819 5091; Fig 1), on behalf of Minster Care Management Ltd. They intend to demolish the existing nursing home and develop the site with a new 44 bedroom care home and have submitted a planning application to Malvern Hills District Council (reference MH/05/01801), who consider that a site of archaeological interest may be affected (WSM 07289).

1.2 Project parameters

The project conforms to the *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IFA 1999).

The project also conforms to a brief prepared by the Planning Advisory Section of Worcestershire County Council (HEAS 2006a) and for which a project proposal (including detailed specification) was produced (HEAS 2006b).

1.3 Aims

The aims of the evaluation were to locate archaeological deposits and determine, if present, their extent, state of preservation, date, type, vulnerability and documentation. The purpose of this was to establish their significance, since this would make it possible to recommend an appropriate treatment, which may then be integrated with the proposed development programme.

More specifically the following aim has been identified:

- To identify the location of the southern arm of the moat, its profile and the presence or absence of waterlogged organic material within.
- To define the southern entrance across the moat and the nature of the possible gatehouse as indicated on the 1838 tithe map.

2. Methods

2.1 Documentary search

Prior to fieldwork commencing a search was made of the Historic Environment Record (HER). In addition the following sources were also consulted:

Cartographic sources

- 1838 Leigh with Bransford Tithe map WRO BA 3841 f850
- 1888 1st edition Ordnance Survey map, Worcestershire sheet XXXIX.33 SW, 6":1 mile
- 1904 Ordnance Survey map, Worcestershire sheet XXXIX.33 SW, 6":1 mile
- 1927 Ordnance Survey map, Worcestershire sheet XXXIX.33 SW, 6":1 mile

- 2005 Site survey (as existing), Dyer & Sey Architecture & Design (09/05), scale 1:500

Documentary sources

- Place-names (Mawer and Stenton 1927). See also field names, street names.
- County histories (VCH IV).

The following sources were not considered relevant to this project: aerial photography; site archives (there have been no recorded archaeological investigations in the immediate vicinity).

2.2 **Fieldwork methodology**

2.2.1 **Fieldwork strategy**

A detailed specification has been prepared by the Service (HEAS 2006b). As a result of the documentary search, adjustments were made to the fieldwork strategy.

Fieldwork was undertaken on 27th and 28th February. The site reference number and site code is WSM 35059.

One L-shaped trench, amounting to 46.8m² in area, was excavated over the projected area of the southern arm of the in-filled moat, as identified on the 1838 Tithe Map. The trench location is indicated in Figure 2.

Deposits considered not to be significant were removed under archaeological supervision using a 180° wheeled excavator, employing a toothless bucket. Subsequent excavation was undertaken by hand. Hand augering was undertaken along the north-south arm of the trench, at intervals of 1m. Deposits were recorded according to standard Service practice (CAS 1995). On completion of excavation, trenches were reinstated by replacing the excavated material.

The following techniques were considered for use but were not considered to be appropriate for this project: geophysical survey, fieldwalking and topographic/earthwork survey.

2.2.2 **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.

2.3 **Artefact methodology, by Angus Crawford**

2.3.1 **Artefact recovery policy**

The artefact recovery policy conformed to standard Service practice (CAS 1995; appendix 2). This in principal determines that all finds, of whatever date, must be collected. However, in this case only a sample of later material was collected from the spoil during machining. These comprised the majority of the finds recovered from the site. All artefacts were recovered from stratified deposits.

2.3.2 Method of analysis

All hand-retrieved finds were examined and a primary record was made on a Microsoft Access 2000 database. Artefacts were identified, quantified and dated and a *terminus post quem* date produced for each stratified context.

The ceramic building material was examined under x20 magnification and recorded by fabric type and form according to the fabric reference series maintained by the service (Hurst and Rees 1992; Hurst 1992).

2.4 The methods in retrospect

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

3. Topographical and archaeological context

Moat Farm is located to the eastern end of Leigh Sinton village, north of the A4103 main Hereford to Worcester road, and opposite the t-junction with the B4503 Malvern road. It is bounded by Little Moat residential property to the east, the surviving moat to the north and north-west, a modern housing estate to the west and the aforementioned road to the south. Undeveloped agricultural fields extend further to the north.

The site comprises a sub-rectangular area of approximately 0.85 hectares; with the former nursing home building located within the northern half, surrounded by landscaped gardens to the south and east, and gravel car parking to the west. It is a largely flat area, at a height of 49.10-49.90m AOD. The present building contains at least two timber-framed bays of possible 16th century date, surrounding by 18th-20th century alterations and extensions (WSM 07289 and 34929).

The predominant soils in the area belong to the Whimble 3 Soil Association (572f) comprising reddish fine loamy or fine silty over clayey soils with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal waterlogging; some similar clayey soils on brows, slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged fine loamy and fine silty over clayey soils on lower slopes. The parent material comprises drift over Permo-Triassic and Carboniferous reddish mudstone (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983).

There are no known prehistoric or Roman sites identified or artefacts recovered within the vicinity of Leigh Sinton. Roman pottery production has been identified in Malvern Link, approximately 3km to the south. Malvernian and Severn Valley wares were produced in an area the extent of which has not been determined (WSM 27000).

Leigh Sinton is first documented as *Sothyntone in Lega* in c 1275, as *Suthinton* and *Suthington* in 1275 and 1316, *Sodyngton* and *Lye Sinton al Syddington* in 14th - 16th century (Mawer and Stenton 1927, 207; VCH IV, 102). It is located toward the southern end of the large parish of Leigh, within the Saxon Hundred of Pershore (Mawer and Stenton 1927, 207).

Leigh manor, located on the north side of the parish, was held by Pershore Abbey prior to the Norman Conquest. Leigh Sinton was held on their behalf by the Andrews family ‘... from a very early date.’ (VCH IV, 105) The earliest recorded was a Richard Andrews, as a landholder in Leigh in 1276. The Andrews held the property throughout the medieval period. Leigh Sinton was first referred to as a manor in its own right in 1542, when it was in the possession of another Richard Andrews of Freefolk, Hampshire, who died that year, leaving it to his three daughters. It was thereafter bought by Edmund Colles and has subsequently followed the descent of Leigh (VCH IV, 102-3, 105-6). The manor house is reckoned to have been sited at Moat Farm (WSM 07289).

The full extent of the medieval settlement of Leigh Sinton is unknown, although it probably formed a ribbon development along the existing main road (WSM 26407). A further possible moated site has been identified west of Pipe Elm Farm beyond the west extent of the present village. It is similar to Moat Farm, comprising an L-shaped pond (WSM 07913). Two timber buildings are located within the village. Ahimsa, on the opposite side of the main road, has cruck frame of c 1600, with possible 15th century elements (WSM 35128). The Moorings off Sherridge lane to the north of the village is also a cruck frame, of early 19th century date, with surviving late medieval elements (WSM 35129). Surviving aspects of the agricultural basis of the village include a post-medieval forge and timber framed barn and three 19th century hop kilns (WSM 25940, 25942, 27978 and 32802).

The tithe map of 1838 indicates the layout of the moat and farm buildings. The moat is sub-rounded with a wide entrance on the south side. Three buildings exist within the moat itself. A small rectangular one toward the north side, a smaller rectangular structure against the east arm, and the largest, an east-west aligned building situated to the north-east of the entrance. An irregular structure is also noted against the terminus of the moat on the west side of the entrance. In addition a series of buildings line either side of the main access from the road to the south. A further north-south track is denoted from the main road up to the south-east corner of the moat. The surrounding plots are noted as West Orchard and East Orchard.

In the early 20th century Moat Farm was known as Moat House Farm, which ‘...has the remains of a surrounding moat.’ (VCH IV, 102). The L-shaped remains of the moat are depicted on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1888, along with Moat House Farm. It then comprised a large sub-rectangular building within the approximate location of the aforementioned east-west range, with a small outhouse to the north against the moat, and a quadrangle surrounding a farmyard west of the main drive, to the south-west of the site, now under Nash Green housing estate. Two hop kilns were positioned on the north-west corner of the quadrangle. The OS map of 1904 indicates no change to the layout of the site. The 1927 edition notes the construction of two small structures within the former enclosure, north of the main house, and a large building, probably a barn, to the west. The Nash Green estate was built in the late 1980s or early 1990s.

During a site visit in 1992 by Hereford and Worcester Sites and Monuments Officer the original enclosure was estimated to have been rectangular, covering an area of approximately 65 by 65 yards (59.4 x 59.4m; 0.35 hectares), and the moat to have averaged 10m wide and 1m deep (WSM 07289).

4. Results

4.1 Structural analysis

The trenches and features recorded are shown in Fig 3. The results of the structural analysis are presented in Appendix 1.

4.1.1 Phase 1 Natural deposits

The natural matrix, 103, comprised mid brownish red keuper marl clay, with patches of light fawn sandy lias gravel. The clay was very compact and cohesive. Hand augering and machine dug sondages identified a dense stone horizon at 0.78m+ across almost the entire trench. It is considered to be a natural strata rather than a deliberately laid moat lining.

4.1.2 Phase 2 Post-medieval/modern deposits

The northern edge of the moat, 104, was identified toward the north end of the north-south arm of the trench (Fig 2). It was determined to be near vertical and slightly undercutting the natural matrix. The profile to the base was unclear, due to the high water table, although the

dense stone horizon identified at a generally uniform depth indicates that the base was largely flat, at a depth of 0.78-1.10m below the present ground surface. The southern edge of the moat was not identified within the trench, revealing it to have been more than 10m wide at this point.

The fill of the moat, 102, comprised a mixed deposit of silty clay with clay patches and variable lias and Malvern stone fragments. No distinct horizons, or organic deposits were identified. Toward the north it underlay the topsoil, 105. Elsewhere this soil was not apparent and the fill lay directly below the modern tarmac surface and hardcore substrate, 101.

No other features, deposits or horizons were observed.

4.2 Artefact analysis, by Angus Crawford

The artefactual assemblage recovered is summarised in Table 1.

The artefact assemblage consisted of a single sherd of pottery with the remainder of finds consisting of roof tile, brick fragments and an oyster shell. The group came from two stratified contexts and could be dated to the post-medieval period (see Table 1). Level of preservation was generally good with the pottery sherd exhibiting some edge break abrasion and the remaining finds displaying no evidence of abrasion.

Context	Material	Type	Fabric name and number	Total	Weight (g.)
102	Pottery	Roman	Oxidised organically tempered Severn Valley ware	1	28
102	Brick	Medieval – post-medieval		1	3200
102	Brick	Post-medieval		7	8300
102	Tile	Roof		5	1100
105	Shell	Oyster		1	12
105	Tile	Roof		2	6

Table 1: Quantification of the assemblage

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

4.2.1 Roman

The only sherd of pottery within the assemblage was identified as a body sherd of oxidised organically tempered Roman Severn Valley ware dating to the mid 1st to 2nd century (context 102, fabric 12.2).

4.2.2 Medieval and post-medieval

Eight brick fragments were dated to this period; all were retrieved from the fill of the moat, 102, and exhibited distinct features that could be used to date them from the 16th to late 18th century. Other ceramic building material included fragments of roof tile, also from 102, that could only be placed within a broad date of 13th to 18th century.

The finds from the soil, 105, included an oyster shell and two small brick fragments. While the brick fragments could not be precisely dated their fabric colouring suggest a late 17th to mid 18th century date of manufacture.

5. Synthesis and discussion

5.1 Post-medieval/modern

The uniform nature of the silty clay fill, without distinct horizons indicates that the southern arm of the moat was probably deliberately filled in one operation and did not gradually silt up through time. The moat is indicated on the tithe map of 1838, but not on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey of 1888. The filling must therefore have been undertaken sometime in the mid-late 19th century. Concern for the continuing high water table is indicated by the presence of field drains laid within the fill of the moat.

The artefact assemblage contained no material of any significance. The presence of a single sherd of Roman pottery, and its slightly abraded condition is indicative of residual material within a post-medieval context.

No waterlogged or rich organic deposits were identified which would have been worth sampling for environmental analysis. This suggests that the moat was routinely cleaned out during its lifetime. The shallow depth down to basal stone probably meant that this was a frequent necessity, but also made the operation easier.

The great width of the southern arm of the moat is mirrored in the width of the extant section (now an L-shaped pond) to the north-east, although this has probably been altered and deepened subsequently. The lack of evidence for an entrance through the moat suggests two possibilities: that it was originally continuous and only later was a causeway constructed; or that it does exist, further towards the south-western corner of the enclosure. The latter seems more likely, due to the homogenous nature of the moat fill recorded across the full length of the trench, and the lack of any defined surfaces or consolidation layers.

5.2 Research frameworks

Under the English Heritage Monuments Protection Programme (MPP), this type of site has a designated Monument Class Description (MCD): *the Moat* (<http://www.english.gov.uk/mpp/mcd/mcdtop1.htm>).

Definition

A moat is a wide, water-filled ditch partly or completely enclosing one or more islands of dry ground, which provided the site for one or more buildings (domestic, religious or agricultural), or for horticulture, or for both. Moats may be situated in open countryside or within rural settlements, but specifically excluded from the class of monuments here called moats are the water-filled ditches around castles, mottes, ring-works, and towns. Moats represent a class of field monument whose function was similar to other classes of monument of rather different form.

Date

Documentary and archaeological evidence suggests that the construction of moats began in the mid-late 12th century and continued into the early 16th century; the peak of moat building was between about 1250 and 1350. The origins and inspiration for the moat building tradition probably lay in the ring-works and castles of the early medieval period, and it is possible that moats with a round ground plan represent the earliest form. Some moats continue to be used today and the buildings found within moats range in date from the medieval period through to the 20th century.

General description

The most distinctive feature of a moat is its ditch, and in many cases this is the only extant portion of the site. The ditches are relatively wide, normally between 3m and 6m, and excavated examples show that they were usually U-shaped in cross section and about 2m deep. In some cases they are lined with clay or wooden planking.

Moats have been classified in a number of ways. An elaborate classification has been developed by the Royal Commission for Historic Monuments of England (RCHME), wherein moats are sub-divided on the basis of their ground-plan. Two broad groups were identified, of which type A were thought to have been medieval homesteads and type B were thought to be post-medieval moats and gardens. Type A was provisionally subdivided into four groups as follows:

A1 Single island sites (a) < half an acre (0.2ha); (b) > half an acre (0.2ha); (c) circular moats

A2 Double island sites

A3 Single island sites with additional ponds and ditches

A4 Single island sites with water-filled ditches on only two or three sides

Moats range in size from less than 50m by 30m to over 200m by 150m with commensurate variations in area. In general, the islands cover less than 0.25ha, but larger examples of over 0.5ha are known; among the most extensive is Caxton Pastures, Cambridgeshire, which covers 2ha.

In some cases the island is completely isolated and accessible only via a bridge, in others one or more causeways are left to provide access. Changes in design are sometimes evident, particularly the addition of extra causeways created by back-filling sections of ditch. The width of the moat is rarely even along its circuit.

The spoil from the excavation of the moat was sometimes used to provide a low bank on the inside lip of the ditch, or to build-up the ground surface of the island to level it or to raise it above the water level to make it more habitable. A fence or hedge may in some cases have been placed around the edge of the island. Low banks were also occasionally constructed around the outer rim of the moat.

The interiors were given over to a variety of uses, of which the most common involved the construction of buildings, mostly dwellings (either ecclesiastical or lay), or more rarely, agricultural structures (barn, dovecote, etc.) or chapels. Some very small moats contained windmills. Many moats still contain upstanding buildings, some of medieval date.

Island constrained structures fit the shape of the island exactly, usually as four ranges around a central courtyard. The outer walls of the buildings lie along the edge of the island and, together with the gatehouse, where present, give the site the appearance of being a castle. Island contained structures are arranged independently of the plan of the island, different proportions being given over to buildings, courtyards and gardens according to the size, status and nature of the site. Other internal features found on both classes of site include wells and ponds.

Moats were constructed more as symbols of wealth and power than as defensive military works. Moats were constructed by all seignorial sectors of medieval society, both lay and ecclesiastical. Some were manor houses while others served as the messuages attached to freehold estates. Moats were also constructed in deer-parks as the park keeper's lodge. The relationship between moat size, site complexity and social status has not yet been fully

investigated, but in general terms the largest moats were in the ownership of the wealthiest landowners in any given area.

Distribution and regional variation

Moats are widely scattered throughout England, but by far the greatest concentration lies in central and eastern parts, particularly in the Midlands, and in Suffolk, Essex, Hertfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Buckinghamshire. Beyond these core areas the frequency of examples is much less, and in western and northern areas, for example Devon, Cornwall, Cumbria and Northumberland, moats are very rare indeed.

Moats were built in open countryside and in villages. Typically they are situated in one of four locations: (1) across or very close to a stream; (2) on low-lying ground; (3) on hill-slopes near springs; and (4) on dry hill-tops or hill-slopes. This last mentioned group is relatively rare, and probably had dry ditches.

Moats most often occur as discrete monuments, well spaced out with perhaps one or two in a parish. There are, however, numerous exceptions to this. Pairs of moats are not uncommon, and small groups of up to five or six may occur in close proximity. In such cases the sites may be functionally or chronologically separable, or simply clustered to take advantage of a suitable location.

In general, the greatest range of moat forms are found where the greatest number of moats occur. There are no marked regional trends in the form or design of moats, although some localized variations can be detected. The practice of raising the level of the island with spoil from the ditch, for example, is apparently rare in Cambridgeshire, but common in Norfolk. Moats of round plan are rare north of the Humber, and in the Midlands there is one particularly distinctive group of moats with high internal banks, which may represent deliberate fortification in the later 13th century. Other such highly regionalized groups may be expected as research progresses.

Survival and potential

Moats survive in many different forms ranging from the ploughed-out remains of the ditch through to standing earthworks and structural remains.

Excavations of greater or lesser extent have taken place on at least 150 moated sites, and all show that the interiors contain fairly fragile remains of structures and other associated features. Postholes, gullies, hollows and beam slots may be all that survive of the buildings. More than one phase of building activity has been found at most moats where excavations have been sufficiently detailed to allow the recognition of buildings and structures. Finds are generally rather few as contexts appropriate to their preservation are scarce. Ponds or wells may be the only bedrock-cut features. A number of excavations have ostensibly found nothing at all either because the ephemeral traces of buildings and structures were missed or because the sites had been used as gardens.

The ditches may contain waterlogged deposits, which preserve wood, seeds, pollen and other environmental materials. The best preservation will be found at moats where the water in the ditch was slow-moving or stagnant. Moats where the surface of the island has been raised may preserve traces of pre-moat land surfaces and land-use practices, for example ridge and furrow cultivation.

6. **Significance**

This site appears to be a medieval moated enclosure, type A1(b) or A1(c), constructed on low-lying ground, which contained a gatehouse and structures of unknown function, two of which at least lay alongside the ditch and can be classed as island constrained. Although not of great rarity within the midlands, they have seldom been archaeologically investigated, making Moat Farm of local importance. Although no significant environmental deposits or finds were identified within the moat itself, the potential remains for further information from the groundworks for the proposed development both from the moat itself and within the internal platform.

7. **Publication summary**

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

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on behalf of Minster Care Management Ltd at Moat Farm, Leigh Sinton, Worcestershire (NGR SO 7819 5091; HER ref 35059). A trench was excavated across the southern arm of the moat. This identified the northern edge, but not the southern, indicating that the moat is over 10m wide at this point. Hand augering revealed the base to be generally flat, at 0.78-1.10m below the existing ground surface. Although waterlogged, no suitable deposits were identified for environmental analysis. The artefact assemblage comprised a small quantity of medieval/post-medieval brick and tile in addition to a single oyster shell. The entrance across the moat indicated in the tithe map of 1838 was not identified, nor were any other deposits, structures or horizons. The uniform nature of the fill indicates that the moat was deliberately back filled, in the mid to late 19th century.

8. **The archive**

The archive consists of:

- 2 Fieldwork progress records AS2
- 1 Photographic records AS3
- 29 Digital photographs
- 1 Drawing number catalogues AS4
- 2 Scale drawings
- 1 Context number catalogues AS5
- 3 Abbreviated context records AS40
- 1 Trench record sheets AS41
- 1 Box of finds
- 1 Computer disk

The project archive is intended to be placed at:

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

9. **Acknowledgements**

The Service would like to thank the following for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project, Robert Brain (Minster Care Management Ltd) and Mike Glyde (WCC Historic Environment Planning Advisor).

10. **Personnel**

The fieldwork and report preparation was led by Tom Vaughan. The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Simon Woodiwiss. Fieldwork was undertaken by Katie Head, finds analysis by Angus Crawford and illustration by Carolyn Hunt.

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Plate 1: East-west arm of trench, moat fill, 102, view east



Plate 2: North-south arm of trench, moat fill and north edge, 102 and 104, view north



Plate 3: North-south arm of trench, north edge of moat, 104, view east



Plate 4: North-south arm of trench, north end, soil overlying natural, 105 and 103, view east



Plate 5: north-south arm of trench, flooded, view north

Appendix 1 Trench descriptions

Maximum dimensions: Length: 19.25m Width: 1.60m Depth: 0.65-1.20m

Orientation: L-shaped: main arm east-west with north-south eastern spur

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
100	Unstrat finds	Unstratified, machine cut and spoil finds only.	N/a
101	Overburden	Modern surface. Tarmac over bands and patches of light fawn grey gravel, fawn brown gravel and grit, light grey gravel, fine black compacted cinders. Well defined boundary below. No finds. Seals 102 and 105 below.	0.00-0.25m
102	Fill	Variable mid grey slightly silty clay with light brownish fawn, light grey, orangey brown, greenish grey and brownish red clay patches. Very compact, cohesive. <1% small sub-rounded pebbles, c 5% small sub-angular gravel, Malvern granite and lias? <1% large Malvern stone frags. Occasional roots in upper horizon. Very occasional brick, tile and pottery. Relationship with 105 to north-east unclear. Waterlogged at 0.72m bgs. Cut by field drains in east arm of trench. Fill of 104.	0.12-c 1.31m
103	Natural	Mid brownish red clay. Very compact, cohesive. Diffuse boundary with 105 above. 1% small sub-rounded pebbles, c 2% medium sub-angular lias frags. Occasional light fawn sand and sandy lias gravel patches. Greater % of stone with depth.	0.35m +
104	Cut	North edge of moat. Aligned east-west. Shallow break of slope, near vertical and undercutting side. Profile to base indeterminate. Generally ill-defined flattish base, only identified with hand auger. Filled by 102.	0.50-c 1.31m
105	Soil	Mid brown silty clay. Sealed by 101 above. Diffuse and irregular boundary with 103 below. Occasional tile frags. c 5% sub-angular small lias stones. Moderately compact and cohesive. Only observed to north-east end of trench outside moat area.	0.12-0.36m

Description

The trench was generally excavated to a depth of 0.65-0.84m within the east-west arm, and 0.67-0.87 within the north-south arm. The isolated northern end was excavated to 1.10m. It was divided from the main trench by a metal fence along which lay a live electric cable. One sondage was dug within the east-west arm and one in the north-south arm, to 1.20 and 1.13m depth respectively. A 3m long section within the eastern end of the main spur was left high, due to the presence of drainage services.

The Trench flooded to a depth of c 0.64m below ground surface. Hand augering was undertaken at 1m intervals along the north-south arm to determine the profile of the ditch and the presence of waterlogged organic material.

Appendix 2 Worcestershire Historic Environment Record

Artefacts

Type	Count	Weight (g.)	Date (see note 1)	Specialist report? (see note 2)	Important research assemblage? (see note 3)
Shell	1	12		N	N
Tile	7	1106	13 th – 18 th C	N	N
Brick	4	4240	1650-1784	Y	N
Brick	1	3200	16 th C-mid 17 th C	Y	N
Brick	2	1980	16 th C-mid 17 th C	Y	N
Brick	1	2080	1784-1850	Y	N

Environment

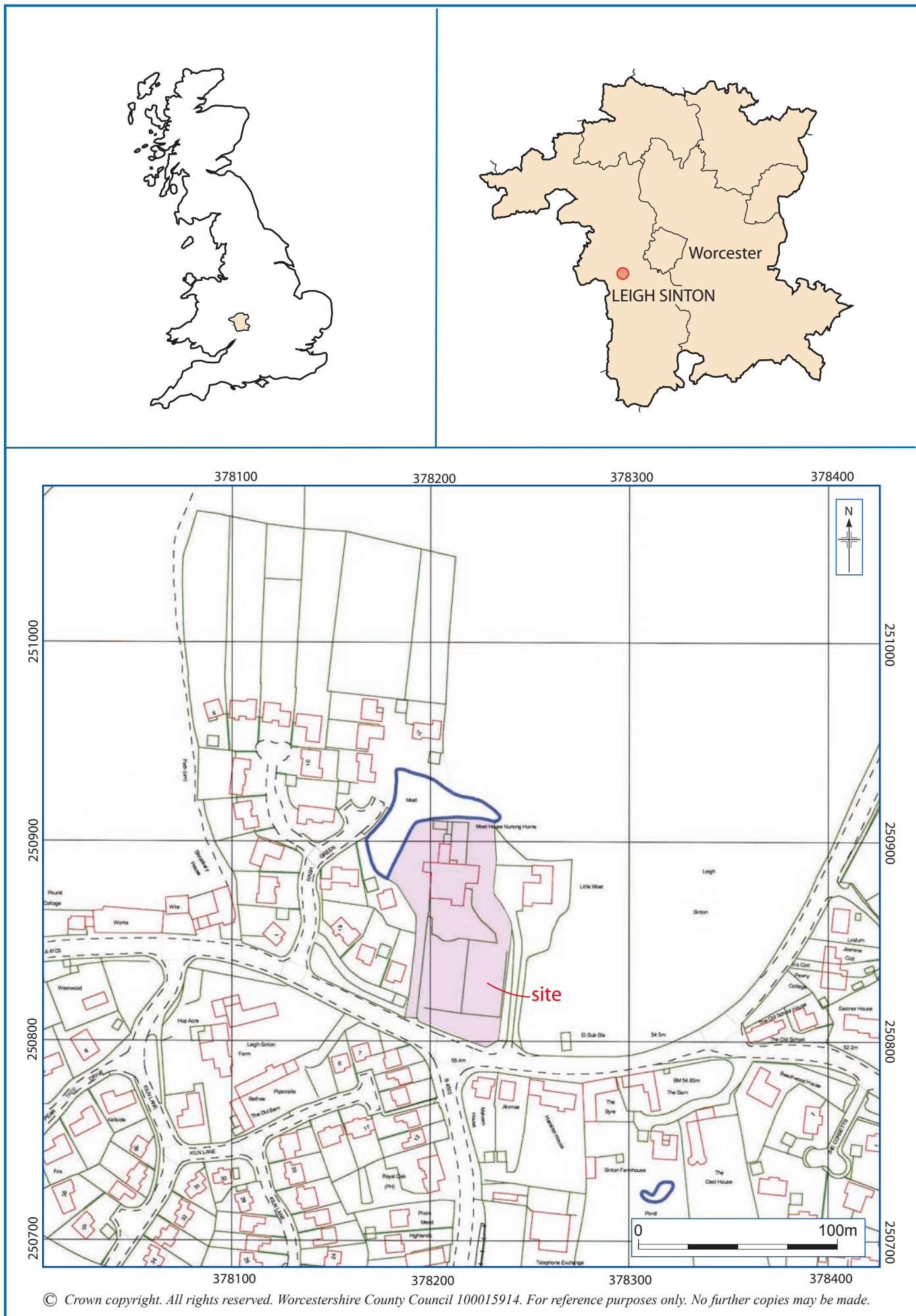
Method of retrieval	Yes/No
Hand retrieval	N
Bulk sample	N
Spot sample	N
Auger	N
Monolith	N
Observed	N

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 *15th to 17th century*.
2. Not all evaluations of small excavation assemblages have specialist reports on all classes of objects. An identification (eg 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 period. Most assemblages will not, on their own, be key assemblages.

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 Paleolithic	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	



Location of the site.

Figure 1

