

DRAFT

ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
EVALUATION  
OF LAND BETWEEN  
HIGH STREET, PARK LANE AND  
LITTLE PARK,  
SOUTHAM,  
WARWICKSHIRE



© Worcestershire County Council

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

Status:	DRAFT
Date:	19 July 2013
Author:	Andrew Mann, <a href="mailto:amann@worcestershire.gov.uk">amann@worcestershire.gov.uk</a>
Contributors:	Dennis Williams
Illustrator:	Laura Templeton
Project reference:	P4123
Report reference:	2029





# Contents

## Summary

1

## Report

<b>1 Background.....</b>	<b>2</b>
1.1 Reasons for the project .....	2
<b>2 Aims.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3 Methods.....</b>	<b>2</b>
3.1 Personnel.....	2
3.2 Documentary research .....	2
3.3 Fieldwork strategy .....	2
3.4 Structural analysis .....	3
3.5 Artefact methodology, by Dennis Williams.....	3
3.5.1 Artefact recovery policy.....	3
3.5.2 Method of analysis.....	3
3.5.3 Discard policy .....	3
3.6 Environmental archaeology methodology, by A J Clapham .....	3
3.6.1 Sampling policy.....	3
3.6.2 Processing and analysis .....	4
3.6.3 Discard policy .....	4
3.7 Statement of confidence in the methods and results .....	4
<b>4 The application site .....</b>	<b>4</b>
4.1 Topography, geology and archaeological context.....	4
4.2 Current land-use .....	4
<b>5 Structural analysis.....</b>	<b>5</b>
5.1.1 Phase 1: Natural deposits .....	5
5.1.2 Phase 2: Late-medieval/ Early Post-medieval .....	5
5.1.3 Phase 3: Undated (probably post-medieval) .....	5
5.2 Artefact analysis, by Dennis Williams .....	5
5.3 Significance of artefact assemblage .....	7
5.4 Environmental analysis, by A J Clapham.....	7
5.5 Summary of environmental remains .....	8
5.6 Significance of environmental remains .....	9
5.7 Recommendations .....	9
<b>6 Synthesis .....</b>	<b>9</b>
6.1 Medieval.....	9
6.2 Medieval to Post-medieval .....	9
6.3 Undated but probably Post-medieval.....	9
<b>7 Significance .....</b>	<b>10</b>
7.1 Nature of the archaeological interest in the site .....	10
7.2 Relative importance of the archaeological interest in the site .....	10
<b>8 The impact of the development .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>9 Publication summary .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>10 Acknowledgements .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11 Bibliography .....</b>	<b>10</b>





---

## **Archaeological evaluation of land between High Street, Park Lane and Little Park, Southam, Warwickshire**

Andrew Mann

With contributions by D Williams and A J Clapham

### **Summary**

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken of land between High Street, Park Lane and Little Park, Southam, Warwickshire (centred on NGR SP 418 618). It was undertaken on behalf of Orbit Homes (2020) Ltd, who intends to undertake redevelopment of the site for which a planning application will be submitted.

Two of the four evaluation trenches contained no archaeological features, while the others contained a number of small, probable post-medieval ditches. Although these remain undated they are considered to relate to agricultural activities that were undertaken in association with the rectory building, between 1869 and 1888. A small pond like feature was also identified that contained late medieval to early post-medieval pottery fragments. This feature also contained significant quantities of charred cereal remains. These may relate to activities at a nearby putative tithe barn, approximately 5-10m to the west.

## Report

### 1 Background

#### 1.1 Reasons for the project

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken of land between High Street, Park Lane and Little Park, Southam, Warwickshire (centred on NGR SP 418 618; Fig 1). It was undertaken on behalf of Orbit Homes (2020) Ltd, who intends to undertake redevelopment of the site for which a planning application will be submitted to Stratford-upon-Avon District Council. It follows a previous desk based assessment report, undertaken by Worcestershire Archaeology (WA) in June 2012 (Vaughan and Daffern 2012) and an earlier evaluation at the site undertaken in November 2012 (Mann 2013).

The proposed development site is considered to include heritage assets and potential heritage assets relating to the medieval settlement of Southam (Warwickshire Sites and Monuments Record MWA 9045). Given the site's proximity to the church and the core of the medieval settlement there is a potential for significant archaeological deposits to survive across the area of proposed development. Substantial wall foundations of probable medieval date were also discovered to the west during the earlier evaluation stage (Mann 2013), and a subsequent excavation of that area has exposed what is now believed to be a medieval tithe barn (Mann forthcoming).

The project conforms to a brief prepared by the Assistant Historic Environment Officer, Warwickshire County Council (the Curator), dated 22 April 2013. Following which a Written Scheme of Investigations was prepared by Worcestershire Archaeology, dated 10 May 2013 (WA 2013b). The project also conforms to the *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IfA 2008).

### 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 undertaken by Pete Lovett (BA) and Mike Nicholson (BA). Both of whom have been practicing archaeology since 2004 and 2007 respectively and have been at Worcestershire Archaeology since 2011 and 2006 respectively. The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Tom Vaughan (MA, AlfA). Illustrations were prepared by Laura Templeton (MlfA), Dennis Williams (PhD) contributed the finds report and A J Clapham provided the environmental analysis.

#### 3.2 Documentary research

Prior to fieldwork commencing a desk-based assessment was undertaken by WA (Vaughan and Daffern 2012). This report contained the results of a HER search and map regression and concluded that there was potential for archaeological deposits dating from the early medieval, and possibly as early as the Iron Age, to exist on the site.

#### 3.3 Fieldwork strategy

A detailed specification has been prepared by Worcestershire Archaeology (WA 2013). Fieldwork was undertaken between 24 June and 9 July 2013.



---

Four trenches, amounting to just over 87.08m<sup>2</sup> in area, were excavated over the site area of 1.3ha, representing a sample of just under 1%, bringing the total evaluation coverage to approximately 3.6%. The location of the trenches is indicated in Figure 2.

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

### **3.4 Structural analysis**

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

### **3.5 Artefact methodology, by Dennis Williams**

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

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

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

All hand-retrieved finds were examined. They were identified, quantified and dated to period. A *terminus post quem* date range was produced for each stratified context. All information was recorded on *pro forma* sheets.

Small quantities of juvenile animal and bird bone were recovered from two contexts. This was not subjected to detailed analysis, but is included in the Table 1 quantification.

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](http://www.worcestershireceramics.org)). Where possible, fabric identifications were cross-referenced to the Warwickshire Medieval and Post Medieval Pottery Series (Soden and Ratkai 1998).

#### **3.5.3 Discard policy**

The following categories/types of material will be discarded after a period of six 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 pottery, and;
- generally where material has been assessed as having no obvious grounds for retention.

### **3.6 Environmental archaeology methodology, by A J Clapham**

#### **3.6.1 Sampling policy**

Samples were taken according to standard Worcestershire Archaeology practice (2012a). Only one sample (of 10 litres) was taken from the site from the following contexts:

- Sample number 1, context number (1404), possible pond deposit

### 3.6.2 Processing and analysis

As the sample was originally thought to be waterlogged a sub-sample of 1 litre was processed by the wash-over technique as follows. The sub-sample was broken up in a bowl of water to separate the light organic remains from the mineral fraction and heavier residue. The water, with the light organic fraction was decanted onto a 300µm sieve and the residue washed through a 1mm sieve. The remainder of the bulk sample was retained for further analysis.

The flots were scanned using a low power MEIJI stereo light microscope and plant remains identified using modern reference collections maintained by Worcestershire Archaeology, and a seed identification manual (Cappers *et al* 2006). Nomenclature for the plant remains follows Stace (2010).

### 3.6.3 Discard policy

The following samples will be discarded after a period of 6 months after the submission of this report, unless there is a specific request to retain them.

- Sample 1, context 1404

## 3.7 Statement of confidence in the methods and results

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

## 4 The application site

### 4.1 Topography, geology and archaeological context

The following is taken from the desk-based assessment (Vaughan and Daffern 2012, 5).

The site is located within the centre of the small market town of Southam, 10km south-east of Leamington Spa. It comprises an irregular area of land, between High Street to the east, Park Lane to the south and Little Park to the west. In addition to these roads, it is bounded by the rectory and telephone exchange to the south, a public footpath and the Co-Operative supermarket with associated car park to the north. The site is located 0.2km north of the River Stowe, at a height of approximately 87-90m AOD.

Southam lies within a fluviially influenced landscape of undulating, rolling countryside, formed by the River Stowe which flows through the town and the River Itchen to the north. Much of the area is heavily cleared with only patches of modern coniferous and semi-natural oak and lime woodland. The cleared areas are utilised for livestock grazing and arable cultivation although the latter tends to be focused on the higher ground and valley sides.

The predominant soils within the area belong to the Evesham 1 soil association (411a), comprised of slowly permeable calcareous clayey soils associated with shallow, well drained, brashy calcareous soils over limestone (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983). The underlying geology of the area consists of Jurassic clay and limestone of the Lower and Blue Lias formations, members of the Lias Group (*ibid*) laid down around 200-195 million years ago.

### 4.2 Current land-use

The following is taken from the desk-based assessment (Vaughan and Daffern 2012, 5).

The site is currently occupied by several buildings. The police station and magistrate's court lie within the north-east corner, the library occupies the south-east corner, no. 2, Park Lane lies to the south and an old people's home, Victor Hodges House lies to the west. These properties are surrounded by open space, some grassed with trees and car parks. Immediately to the south and

outside the present site boundary lie the rectory of St James, the telephone exchange and a number of residential properties. St James' church and associated churchyard occupies the land to the south of Park Lane.

## 5 Structural analysis

The trenches and features recorded are shown in Figs 2-3. The results of the structural analysis are presented in Appendix 1. Two of the trenches, 11 and 13 did not contain any archaeological features.

### 5.1.1 Phase 1: Natural deposits

Natural deposits were encountered in all 4 trenches excavated. These consisted of firm and cohesive pale bluish yellow silty clays that contained exposed areas of limestone. These were discovered at between 0.50-1.10m below the current ground surface.

### 5.1.2 Phase 2: Late-medieval/ Early Post-medieval

The only dated feature, context [1405] was discovered in the southern end of Trench 14. This shallow, wide depression contained fine soft, humic silty clays and is thought to be a small pond (Plates 1 and 2). Its full dimensions were not established but it was thought to be tapering to an end towards the east. It measured 1.6m wide, 9.3m long and 0.48m deep.

### 5.1.3 Phase 3: Undated (probably post-medieval)

Only three other features were identified during the evaluation, two small ditches in the northern end of Trench 14, contexts [1407] and [1409] (Plate 3) and one ditch within Trench 12, context [1205] (Plates 4-5). These ditches contained similar mid-greenish brown firm sandy clay fills and measured up to 0.97m wide and 0.23m deep with U-shaped profiles. The relationship between intercutting ditches [1407] and [1409] was not visible due to the similarity of the fills and the levels of truncation.

## 5.2 Artefact analysis, by Dennis Williams

The artefactual assemblage, from two stratified contexts, consisted of pottery, tile, metal, slag and bone, as shown in Table 1. The pottery was in generally good condition, with low levels of abrasion and a mean sherd weight that was well above average at 53g.

period	material class	material subtype	object specific type	count	weight (g)
medieval	ceramic	-	pot	3	22
late med/ early post-medieval	ceramic	-	pot	3	296
late med/ early post-medieval	ceramic	-	roof tile(flat)	2	518
undated	bone	animal bone	-	2	76
undated	metal	iron	unident	1	76
undated	slag	iron	smelting slag	1	10
totals:				12	998

*Table 1: Quantification of the assemblage*

The pottery assemblage comprised medieval and transitional medieval/post-medieval sherds, as summarised in Table 2.

period	fabric code	fabric common name	count	weight (g)
medieval	CL02	Limestone-tempered ware	2	18
medieval	119/SQ26	Glazed sandy ware	1	4
late med/ early post-medieval	99/100	Miscellaneous medieval/post-medieval wares	1	24
late med/ early post-medieval	108/MP	Midlands Purple ware	2	272
totals:			6	318

*Table 2: Quantification of the pottery*

### **Summary of artefactual evidence by period**

The context finds summary, with *terminus post quem* date ranges, is shown in Table 3.

### **Pottery**

#### *Medieval*

Small body sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from subsoil 1401. These comprised limestone-tempered ware (fabric CL02) and glazed sandy ware (fabric SQ26/119), possibly from a 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> century date range.

#### *Late medieval/early post-medieval*

Well-preserved sherds from a Midlands Purple ware jar (fabric 108/MP) were found in fill 1404 (of pit 1405). This material dates from the later 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> centuries (Wright and Hurst 2011, 2). An undiagnostic sherd, hard-fired with a dark brown glaze (fabric 99/100), was also recovered from this context, and may be from a similar or slightly earlier date range

### **Other finds**

#### *Bone*

Two pieces of animal bone were recovered from fill 1404, but were not examined in detail.

#### *Metal*

One corroded and unidentifiable fragment of iron was found in fill 1404.

#### *Slag*

A small fragment of iron smelting slag was recovered from fill 1404. This material had a high-density, characteristic of Roman or medieval bloomery processes, in which there is often a high residual iron content in the slag waste.

#### *Tile*

Two fragments of flat roof tile from fill 1404 may have been of late medieval or post-medieval date.

context	material class	object specific type	fabric code	count	weight (g)	start date	end date	tpq date range
1401	ceramic	pot	119/SQ26	1	4	1200	1300	1200-1400
	ceramic	pot	CL02	2	18	1100	1400	
1404	ceramic	pot	108	2	272	1400	1600	c 1500-1600
	ceramic	pot	99/100	1	24	1400	1600	
	ceramic	roof tile(flat)	-	2	518	1400	1850	
	metal	unident	-	1	76	-	-	
	slag	smelting slag	-	1	10	-	-	
	bone	-	-	2	76	-	-	

Table 3: Summary of context dating based on artefacts

### 5.3 Significance of artefact assemblage

Owing to its small size, this assemblage is of limited significance, but does indicate that occupation of the area is likely to have taken place during both the medieval and early post-medieval periods.

### 5.4 Environmental analysis, by A J Clapham

The environmental evidence recovered is summarised in Table 4

After processing, it was evident that the sample was not waterlogged but full of charred plant material. The majority of the remains were of cereal grains, mostly of free-threshing wheat (*Triticum* sp) with a minor component of hulled barley (*Hordeum vulgare*). Chaff remains in the form of bread wheat (*Triticum aestivum*) and rivet wheat (*Triticum turgidum*). Barley rachis fragments were not common. Other chaff remains included silicified wheat awn fragments and cereal culm nodes and bases. Other crops identified included pea (*Pisum sativum*) and black mustard (*Brassica nigra*). Weed seeds included corm gromwell (*Lithospermum arvense*), docks (*Rumex* sp), black medick (*Medicago lupulina*), common vetch (*Vicia sativa*) and stinking chamomile (*Anthemis cotula*).

Other biological material included bone fragments of large mammals and birds and fish bone and scale. Oystershell was also present.

Latin name	Family	Common name	Habitat	1404
<b>Charred</b>				
<i>Triticum turgidum</i> rachis	Poaceae	rivet wheat	F	++
<i>Triticum aestivum</i> rachis	Poaceae	bread wheat	F	+
<i>Triticum</i> sp (free-threshing) grain	Poaceae	free-threshing wheat	F	++++
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> grain (hulled)	Poaceae	barley	F	++
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> rachis	Poaceae	barley	F	+
Cereal sp indet grain (fragment)	Poaceae	cereal	F	++++
Cereal sp indet culm node	Poaceae	cereal	F	++
Cereal sp indet culm base	Poaceae	cereal	F	+
Cereal sp indet awn fragments (silicified)	Poaceae	cereal	F	++
Cereal sp indet embryo shoot	Poaceae	cereal	F	+
<i>Vicia sativa</i>	Fabaceae	common vetch	AB	+
<i>Vicia</i> cf <i>sativa</i> (pod fragment)	Fabaceae	vetch	ABD	+
<i>Pisum sativum</i>	Fabaceae	garden pea	AF	++
<i>medicago lupulina</i>	Fabaceae	black medick	BD	++
<i>Brassica nigra</i>	Brassicaceae	black mustard	ABF	+
<i>Rumex</i> sp (nutlets)	Polygonaceae	dock	ABCD	++
<i>Lithospermum arvense</i>	Boraginaceae	field gromwell	AD	+++
<i>Anthemis cotula</i>	Asteraceae	stinking chamomile	AB	+
unidentified ashy material	unidentified			+++
unidentified charcoal fragments	unidentified			+++
<b>Bone etc from residue</b>				
unidentified large mammal bone fragments	unidentified			+
unidentified bird bone fragments	unidentified			+
unidentified fish bone	unidentified			+
unidentified fish scale	unidentified			+
unidentified oyster shell fragments	unidentified			+

Table 4 Charred plant remains and other biological remains from context (1404)

Habitat	Quantity
A= cultivated ground	+ = 1 - 10
B= disturbed ground	++ = 11- 50
C= woodlands, hedgerows, scrub etc	+++ = 51 -100
D = grasslands, meadows and heathland	++++ = 101+
E = aquatic/wet habitats	
F = cultivar	

Key to Table 4

## 5.5 Summary of environmental remains

The high proportion of bread and rivet wheat grains along with the associated weeds and chaff suggests that the remains are partially processed. The presence of a few cereal embryo sprouts suggests that the crop may have been spoiled and therefore destroyed by burning. It may also be possible that the crops were destroyed during the drying process. The presence of rivet wheat is of some interest. It was thought to be a Norman introduction to British Isles and it was grown extensively in England between the 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Centuries AD (Francis 2009). Only a handful of farmers grow this crop today for specialist purposes such as straw for roofing as the straw can be 2m in length and therefore ideal for this purpose (Francis 2009).

---

The presence of bone fragments of large mammals, birds and fish along with oyster shell fragments may suggest that the sample may represent domestic rubbish.

## **5.6 Significance of environmental remains**

The large amount of grain recovered from just 1 litre of sample suggests that this deposit has some archaeological interest in the site. Dating of this feature is difficult with the finds suggesting a 15-16<sup>th</sup> Century date. This is supported by the charred plant remains as rivet wheat was cultivated from 12<sup>th</sup> Century until the 1950s where it became unfashionable. Due to the lack of other environmental evidence from the site this sample is of high importance to the understanding of at least the later stages of occupation of the site.

## **5.7 Recommendations**

The following recommendations are made with regard to further work on the samples considered as part of this report.

- Processing of the rest of Sample 1 Context 1404 by standard flotation procedures in order to recover the rest of the charred material
- Full analysis of the sample in order to understand the later activities on this site

# **6 Synthesis**

## **6.1 Medieval**

There is little evidence for medieval activity within the site, which is surprising given the site's location toward the centre of Southam. As with the previous evaluation (Mann 2013) there was a small background scatter of 12<sup>h</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> century pottery suggesting medieval activity in the area.

## **6.2 Medieval to Post-medieval**

The only dated feature, context [1405] was originally interpreted as a pond during the evaluation, given its shallow profile and humic clay fill. This feature contained an artefact assemblage dating to the late medieval or early post-medieval period and significant quantities of charred cereal remains, however the environmental remains do not provide confirmation of its function as a pond. Although it is possible the crops waste and artefact assemblage was dumped into an abandoned pond to backfill it. The quantities of charred cereal remains and the proximity of this feature to the putative tithe barn to the west suggest the deposit may have originated from the cleaning out of spoiled crop.

## **6.3 Undated but probably Post-medieval**

Three undated ditches running in an east to west and north to south direction are thought to be similar to those found during the first evaluation (Mann 2012). These are believed to relate to the agricultural activities that took place on the site at least between 1869 and 1888 (as recorded cartographically). Specifically of note is the alignment of ditches [1407] and [1409] which are located where these agricultural features are mapped running in a similar alignment on the 1869 map (Vaughan and Daffern 2012).

## 7 Significance

### 7.1 Nature of the archaeological interest in the site

The majority of the trenches provided no significant archaeological remains. The possible pond feature [1405] does however provide the possibility that medieval features and activities and deposits associated with the medieval tithe barn do survive on the site.

### 7.2 Relative importance of the archaeological interest in the site

The presence of late medieval deposits within Trench 14 is of significant importance as they may provide evidence for the type of crop being stored within the putative tithe barn, and may provide proof of this building's function.

## 8 The impact of the development

Given the shallow nature of the remains any intrusive groundworks undertaken on the site are likely to significantly damage the stone building identified on the west side of the site.

## 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 of land between High Street, Park Lane and Little Park, Southam, Warwickshire (centred on NGR SP 418 618). It was undertaken on behalf of Orbit Homes (2020) Ltd.*

*A possible small pond was identified which contained significant charred cereal remains that may have originated from the clearing out of a nearby putative tithe barn. These remains date to the late medieval and early post-medieval period. Three probable post-medieval ditches were also identified towards north of the site that are believed to relate to agricultural activities between 1869 and 1888. Occasional medieval pottery sherds were recovered from these ditches.*

## 10 Acknowledgements

Worcestershire Archaeology would like to thank the following for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project, Graham Spencer and Caroline Clarke (Orbit Homes (2020) Ltd), Will Charlton (Brooke Smith Planning), Liz Hill (Land Lizard LLP), Terry Bidle (Derek Evans (Health and Safety) Ltd), Bernard Cadogan (Friends of the Cardall Collection), Anna Stocks and Caroline Rann (Warwickshire County Archaeologist).

## 11 Bibliography

Francis, S A, 2009 British field crops. A pocket guide to the identification, history and uses of arable crops in Great Britain. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition (Privately published by the author)

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

Hurst, J D, and Wright, S M, 2011 Midlands purple and Cistercian-type wares in the West Midlands in the 15th-16th centuries [online]. Available from: [http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/mpcist\\_eh\\_2011/index.cfm](http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/mpcist_eh_2011/index.cfm) [Accessed 18 July 2013]

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



- 
- Mann, A, 2013 *Archaeological evaluation of land between High Street, Park lane and Little Park, Southam, Warwickshire*, Worcestershire Archaeology, Worcestershire County Council, unpublished report **1967** dated 7 May 2013, P3922
- Mann, A, forthcoming *Archaeological investigations of land between High Street, Park lane and Little Park, Southam, Warwickshire*, Worcestershire Archaeology, Worcestershire County Council, P4123
- Soden, I, and Ratkai, S, 1998 *Warwickshire Medieval and Post Medieval Pottery Type Series*, Northamptonshire Archaeology for Warwickshire Museum
- Soil Survey of England and Wales, 1983 Midland and Western England, sheet 3, scale 1:250,000 + *Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales (A brief explanation of the constituent soil associations)*
- Vaughan, T M, and Daffern, N, 2012 *Desk-based assessment of land between High Street, Park lane and Little Park, Southam, Warwickshire*, Worcestershire Archaeology, Worcestershire County Council, unpublished report **1928** dated 22 June 2012, P3881
- WA 2012a *Manual of Service Practice, Recording Manual*, Worcestershire Archaeology, Worcestershire County Council, report **1842**
- WA 2012b *Proposal for an archaeological evaluation at land between High Street, Park lane and Little Park, Southam Warwickshire*, Worcestershire Archaeology, Worcestershire County Council, unpublished document dated 10 May 2013 P4123
- WCC 2013 *Brief for an archaeological evaluation at land between High Street, Park Lane and Little Park, Southam*, Warwickshire County Council, unpublished document dated 22 April 2013
- Worcestershire Historic Environment and Archaeology Service 2009 *Worcestershire online ceramic database* [online]. Available from: <http://www.worcestershireceramics.org> [Accessed 11 December 2012]
- Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service, 2012 *Worcestershire online ceramic database* [online]. Available from: <http://www.worcestershireceramics.org> [Accessed 18 July 2013]

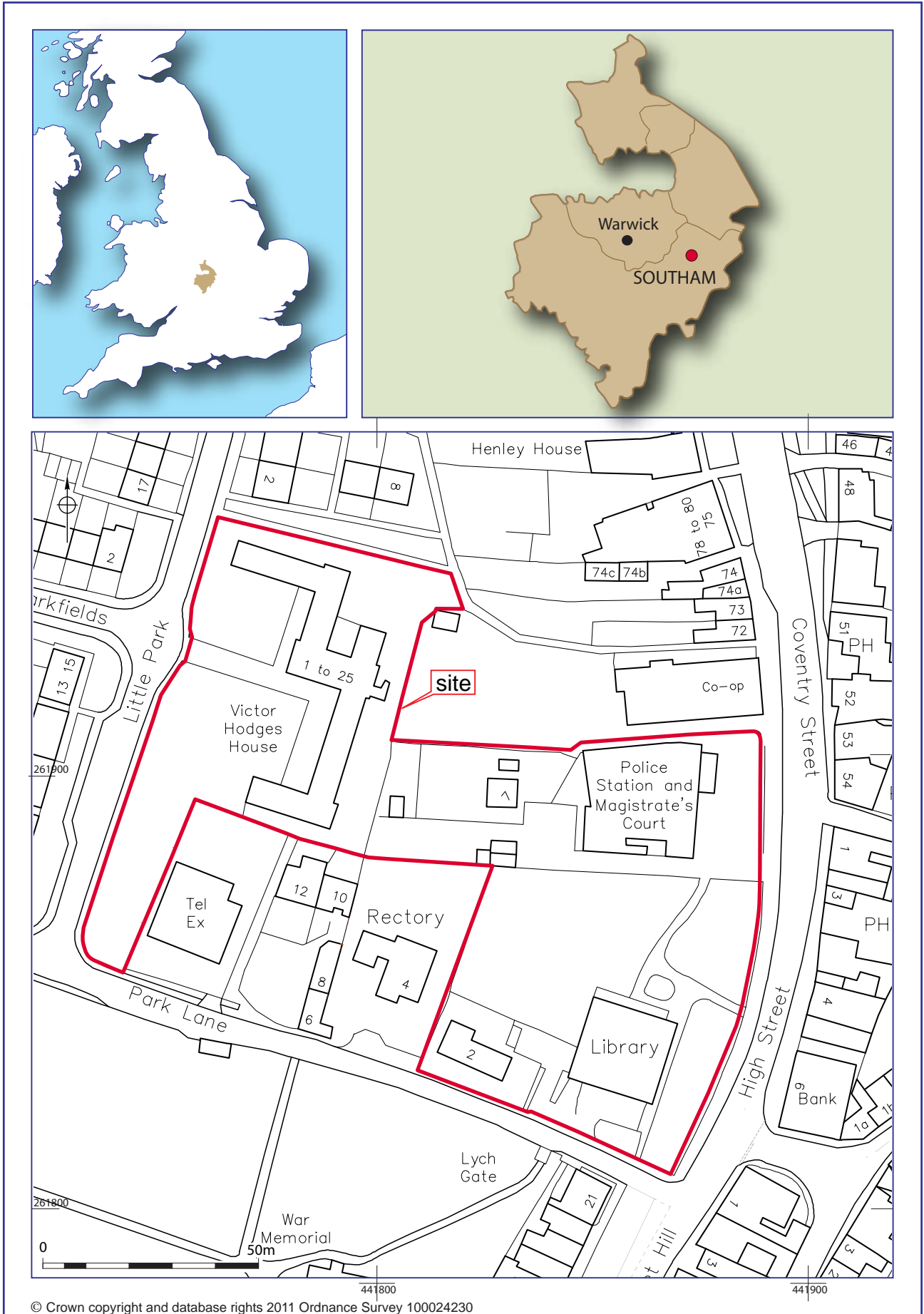


**Figures**

Land between High Street, Park Lane and Little Park, Southam, Warwickshire

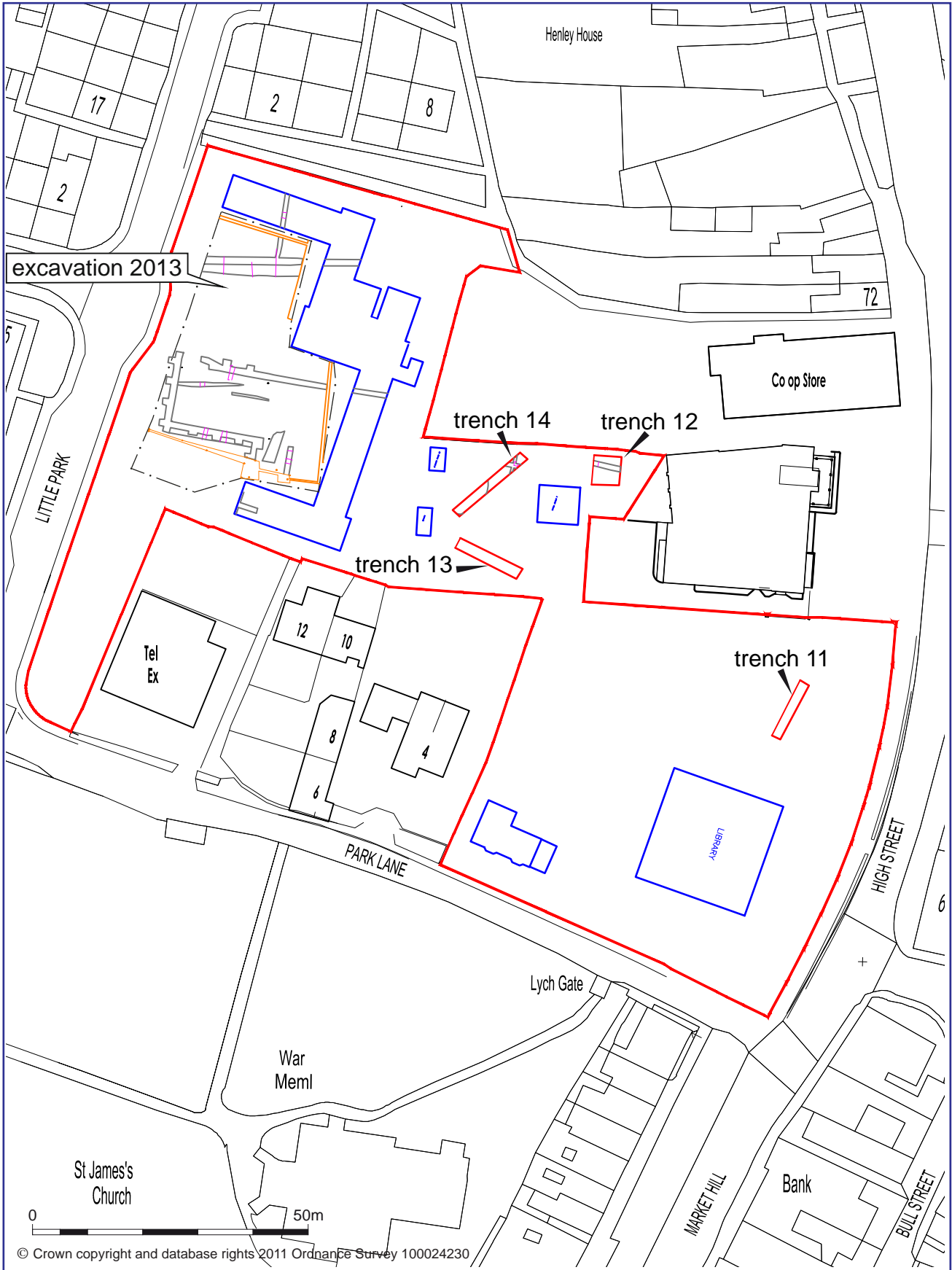
---

---



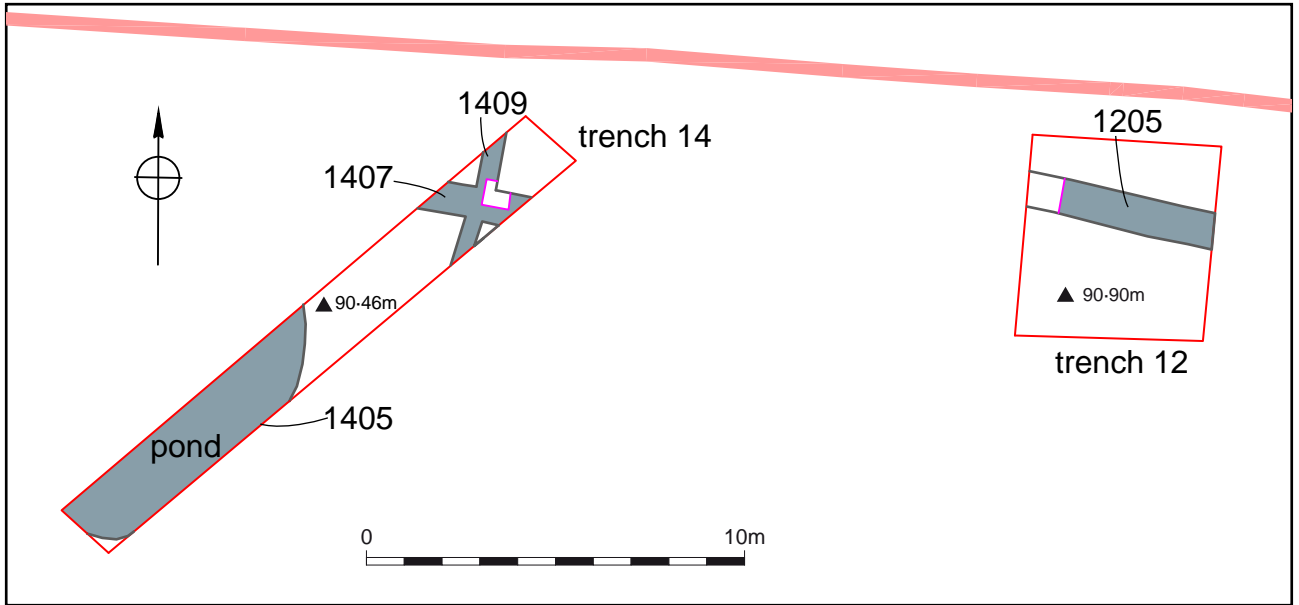
Location of the site

Figure 1



Location of the excavation and trenches

Figure 2



*Features within trenches 12 and 14*

*Figure 3*

**Plates**



Plate 1: Trench 14, possible pond [1405] facing north east





Plate 2: Trench 14, possible pond [1405] facing west

---



Plate 3; ditches [1407] and [1409] facing north



Plate 4: Trench 12, ditch [1205] facing north east

---



Plate 5; ditch [1205] facing west

---

## Appendix 1 Trench descriptions

### Trench 11

Site area: Southam

Maximum dimensions: Length: 10m Width: 1.6m Depth: 0.7m

Orientation: NE-SW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1100	Tarmac	Current Tarmac surface	0-0.08m
1101	Modern made ground	Rubble hardcore makeup for tarmac surface (1100)	0.08m-0.58m
1102	Natural	Firm mid yellow/green silty clay with frequent angular limestone cobbles over limestone bedrock	0.58m+
1103	Topsoil	Mid brown silty loam with occasional small/medium angular limestone cobble inclusions.	-
1104	Modern made ground	Rubble and silty clay made ground, found below topsoil (1103)	-

### Trench 12

Site area: Southam

Maximum dimensions: Length: 5m Width: 5m Depth: 0.62m

Orientation: N-S

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1200	Tarmac	Current Tarmac surface	0-0.05m
1201	Modern made ground	Compact pink angular hardcore, bedding for Tarmacadam surface (1200)	0.05-0.31m
1202	Re-deposited natural	Mid greyish brown silty clay, moderately compact with occasional medium angular limestone cobbles and rare charcoal flecks	0.31-0.62m

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1203	Natural	Firm compaction, mid yellow/green silty clay with frequent angular limestone cobbles	0.62m+
1204	Fill of [1205]	Firm compaction, mid green/brown sandy clay with occasional angular limestone cobbles and animal bone fragments.	0.62m+
1205	Ditch	Parallel sided linear with concave sides and base. Aligned E-W. 0.97m wide and 0.23m deep.	0.62m+

### Trench 13

Site area: Southam

Maximum dimensions: Length: 13m Width: 1.6m Depth: 0.52m

Orientation: E-W

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1300	Tarmac	Current Tarmac surface	0-0.08m
1301	Modern made ground	Hardcore levelling surface for (1300). Angular limestone cobbles and silty sand mix.	0.08m-0.56m
1302	Natural	Firm mid yellow/green silty clay with frequent angular limestone cobbles over limestone bedrock	0.58m+

### Trench 14

Site area: Southam

Maximum dimensions: Length: 15.8m Width: 1.6m Depth: 0.68-1.10m

Orientation: NNE-SSW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
---------	----------------	-------------	---

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1400	Topsoil	Soft compacted mid brown loam with occasional small rounded stones and charcoal flecks.	0-0.0.46m
1401	Subsoil	Light mid brown silty loam with occasional medium angular limestone cobbles, charcoal flecks and root disturbance.	0.46-0.68m
1402	Natural	Firm mid yellow/green silty clay with frequent angular limestone cobbles over limestone bedrock.	0.68m+
1403	Secondary fill of [1405]	Moderately compact light brown silty loam with frequent medium/large angular limestone, CBM and occasional bone fragment inclusions.	-
1404	Primary fill of [1405]	Soft black fine silty humic loam with occasional tile, animal bone and limestone fragments.	-
1405	Pond	Possible pond or quarry pit, deliberately backfilled with waste material. Thought to be sub-oval in plan with gradually sloping sides and a flat base.	-
1406	Fill of [1407]	Moderately compact mid green/brown silty clay with occasional small sub-angular limestone fragments.	-
1407	Linear	Parallel sided linear with concave sides and base. Aligned E-W. 0.60m wide and 0.14m deep.	-
1408	Fill of [1409]	Moderately compact mid green/brown silty clay with occasional small sub-angular limestone fragments.	-
1409	Linear	Parallel sided linear with concave sides and base. Aligned N-S. 0.35m wide and 0.05m deep.	-

## **Appendix 2 Technical information**

### **The archive**

The archive consists of:

- 9 Context records AS1
- 2 Field progress reports AS2
- 1 Photographic records AS3
- 8 Black and white photographic photographs
- 12 Digital photographs
- 1 Drawing number catalogues AS4
- 4 Scale drawings
- 2 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:

Warwickshire Museum,  
The Butts,  
Warwick Warwickshire,  
CV34 4SS

---