

Archaeological field walking
at
land to the west of Station Road,
Persnore,
Worcestershire



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Worcestershire Archaeology
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Project reference: P4556
Report reference: 2232
HER reference: WSM66632

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A programme of field walking at land to the west of Station Road, Pershore, Worcestershire

Tom Rogers

With contributions by Robert Hedge

Summary

A programme of archaeological fieldwalking was undertaken at land to the West of Station Road, Worcestershire (NGR 394780 247300). It was undertaken on behalf of CgMs Consulting, acting for Persimmon Homes, South Midlands, who intend to develop land to the west of Station Road Pershore and for which outline planning consent was granted by Wychavon District Council (W/14/0219) in December 2014. Permission was granted subject to conditions including a programme of archaeological works.

Fieldwalking was undertaken by walking transects, spaced 20m apart and orientated approximately NNW-SSE along the general long axis of the site. Transects were laid out using a Leica netrover GPS and divided into 20m stints. Finds were collected from a strip 1m either side of the transect line.

The assemblage recovered largely comprised pottery and ceramic building material of Roman, medieval, post-medieval and modern date, with the majority being of post-medieval and modern date. Of the earlier material, several abraded sherds of Roman Severn Valley Ware of mid-1st to 4th century date were identified. This is likely to reflect a background scatter from Roman agricultural activity in the area. The medieval and early post-medieval material largely comprised abraded sherds of 13th to early 17th century date, and fragments of ceramic roof tile. One fragment of a 13th – 14th century encaustic floor tile was recovered which is likely to have come from a high status ecclesiastical building.

Stints from which pre-1600 material was recovered was mapped and although there material was largely from the eastern part of the site, there is no clear pattern of distribution apart from some loose clusters. It is concluded that the fieldwalking exercise did not identify clear areas of archaeological activity, rather patterns of agricultural activity, in particular manuring.

Report

1 Background

1.1 Reasons for the project

An archaeological programme of fieldwalking was undertaken at land to the West of Station Road, Worcestershire (NGR 394569,247825). It was undertaken on behalf of CgMs Consulting, acting for Persimmon Homes, South Midlands, who intend to develop land to the west of Station Road Pershore for which planning consent (W/14/0219) has been granted by Wychavon District Council. Permission was granted subject to conditions including Condition 15 which specifies a programme of archaeological works.

The proposed development site is considered to include heritage assets and potential heritage assets, the significance of which may be affected by the application (WSM04982).

A brief was prepared by the Planning Advisory Section of Worcestershire County Council, prior to determination and dated June 18th 2014. This set out the requirement of fieldwalking to be followed, if required, by watching brief.

A Desk-based Assessment (CgMs 2011, revised 2013, CgMs ref. GP/13225) and a Geophysical Survey were carried out over a wider area including the subject site in advance of the planning application. The desk-based assessment identified a low potential for the survival of unknown buried archaeological remains apart from those relating to agricultural practice. The geophysical survey identified a small and discrete anomaly within the site boundary.

The project conforms to the brief prepared by Worcestershire County Council (WCC 2014) and for which a project proposal (including detailed specification) was produced (WA 2015).

The project also conforms to the *Standards and guidelines for archaeological projects in Worcestershire* (WCC 2010).

The event reference for this project, given by the HER is WSM 66266.

2 Aims

The overall aim of the programme of archaeological work is to 'record and advance the understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and impact' (NPPF March 2012).

The general aims of the project can be summarised as follows:

- To determine, as far as reasonably practicable, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains.
- To establish the ecofactual and environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features encountered.

If significant remains were recovered an excavation and reporting strategy was to be put in place with reference to the West Midlands Regional Research Framework for Archaeology (Watt 2011).

3 Methods

3.1 Personnel

The project was undertaken by Graham Arnold (BA MSc); who joined Worcestershire Archaeology in 2009 and has been practicing archaeology since 2002. Jessica Wheeler assisted in the fieldwork. The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Tom Rogers (M.Sc). Illustrations were prepared by Carolyn Hunt and Robert Hedge contributed the finds analysis.

3.2 Documentary research

A Desk-Based Assessment (CgMs 2013) and a Geophysical Survey (ASWYAS 2013) were carried out in advance of the planning application. The Desk-Based Assessment concluded that there are no designated heritage assets on the proposed development area or within the immediate vicinity and a lack of anomalies recorded during the geophysical survey indicated that the site is unlikely to contain significant buried remains.

3.3 List of sources consulted

Documentary sources

Published and grey literature sources are listed in the bibliography.

3.4 Fieldwork strategy

Fieldwork was undertaken between 18th and 20th May 2015. The site reference number and site code is WSM 66266.

Fieldwalking was undertaken by walking transects, orientated approximately NNW-SSE which is the general long axis of the site. The transects were laid out using a Leica netrover GPS and divided into 20m stints using canes. Finds were collected from a strip 1m either side of the transect line to achieve a 20% sample of the proposed development site.

Finds from each stint were given a unique number and finds bag, collected and returned to the office for further analysis. Some stints were not available to survey due to the presence of hedgerows and scrubland. The locations of transects and stints is shown in Figure 2.

3.5 Artefact methodology, by Rob Hedge

3.5.1 Recovery policy

In accordance with the written scheme of investigation (WA 2015), all material considered to be man-made or not local to the area was collected and recorded by the individual collection unit, with the exception of where post-medieval and modern finds (such as ceramic building material or industrial waste) were present in large quantities, in which case the approximate sample size for each collection unit was noted.

3.5.2 Method of analysis

All hand-retrieved finds were examined. They were identified, quantified and dated to period. All information was recorded on a Microsoft Access database.

The pottery and ceramic building material was examined under x20 magnification and referenced as appropriate by fabric type and form according to the fabric reference series maintained by Worcestershire Archaeology (Hurst and Rees 1992 and www.worcestershireceramics.org).

3.5.3 Discard policy

The following categories/types of material will be discarded after a period of 6 months following the submission of this report, unless there is a specific request to retain them (and subject to the collection policy of the relevant depository):

- where unstratified
- post-medieval pottery, and;
- generally where material has been assessed as having no obvious grounds for retention.

3.6 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 section is summarised from the desk-based assessment (CgMs 2011, revised 2013).

The Site lies to the west of the Bow Brook on flat ground, c. 30m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD) to the north of Allesborough Hill. The southwest part of the Site does occupy lower parts of the northern face of the hill (c. 40m AOD).

The underlying geology consists of mudstones of Blue Lias Formation and Charmouth Mudstone, with New Inn Sand and Gravel Member (British Geological Survey 1:50,000, sheet 199).

There are no designated heritage assets within the site. A number of archaeological investigations have taken place to the north of the railway line (northeast of the Site).

There are no heritage assets dating to the Prehistoric period recorded within the Site although a flint (WSM05004) was recovered during fieldwalking to the immediate west.

No heritage assets for the Roman period area recorded within the Site, but evidence for a small farmstead or settlement was recorded at the western end of the Wyre Pyddle bypass to the north of the eastern part of the Site. Roman pottery (WSM09217) was also found after the erosion of the river bank near Wicklands Farm some 300m to the southeast of the Site.

There are no heritage assets for the Saxon or Early Medieval period from within the site although the settlement of Wyre Piddle, over 1km to the east of the Site, dates from the Saxon period and is thought to be the site of a minster. Pershore also dates from the Saxon period. The settlement at this time was focused well to the south of the Site, outside of the search area. Pershore Abbey was probably founded in the 7th century and re-founded by the Benedictine brothers in the 10th century. By the time of the Domesday Book the lands around Pershore belonging to the priory were extensive and mostly cultivated farmland, as opposed to woodland, and included Wyre Piddle. It is therefore likely that the Site formed part of Pershore's agricultural hinterland during the Saxon period.

Ridge and furrow is recorded in parts of the Site (WSM04982, WSM02687 and WSM04564,) and the wider search area. In most cases this has been identified from aerial photographs, but it does survive as partial earthworks in the east of the Site (WSM05013). This reflects the documentary evidence that this part of the Evesham valley had been largely turned over to cultivation during the Medieval period

The only Post-Medieval heritage assets recorded within the Site, comprise a brick scatter noted on the western edge of the Site (WSM04984).

The Ordnance Survey from 1884 depicts the Site as part of an enclosed agricultural landscape. Most of the fields are open, but orchards are shown in the northernmost and southernmost fields. No buildings are shown in the area of the brick scatter.

A school and Pershore Race Course located to the east of the Site are shown on the 1938 Ordnance Survey. No further changes are shown until the 1954-55 Ordnance Survey which indicates that the areas of Orchard have increased. By 1973 The Race Course has been replaced by Pershore Trading Estate, which expands as far as the school playing fields by 1992 and towards the west edge of the northeast part of the Site by 2000.

A programme of archaeological fieldwalking was undertaken by Worcestershire Archaeology in land to the south of the site in December 2014 (WSM 66266). With the exception of one Roman tile fragment the material was dated to the medieval and post-medieval periods, largely comprising

pottery and ceramic building material, including a fragment of 13th – 14th century decorated floor tile and a copper alloy George II halfpenny, dated 1736. It was concluded that the assemblage recovered was indicative of agricultural activity.

4.2 Current land-use

The site is currently in use as arable fields divided by hedgerows.

5 Artefactual analysis, by Rob Hedge

The artefactual assemblage recovered is summarised in Tables 1 and 2. It consisted of 611 artefacts, with a total weight of 9228g; the pottery assemblage consisted of 263 sherds of pottery weighing 1885g, in addition to numerous fragments of tile, brick, clay pipe and glass. The group came from 162 transects and could be dated from the later prehistoric period onwards (see Table 1), with the majority being of medieval to modern date.

Using pottery as an index of artefact condition, this was generally poor with the majority of sherds displaying high levels of abrasion, typical of material recovered through fieldwalking. The average sherd size was, at 7.2g, below average, particularly in the light of the predominance of robust post-medieval wares within the assemblage.

period	material class	material subtype	object specific type	count	weight(g)
prehistoric	stone	flint	worked flint	1	34
Roman	ceramic		pot	3	12
late med/early post-med	ceramic		pot	14	98
medieval	ceramic		floor tile	1	136
medieval	ceramic		pot	13	110
medieval	ceramic		roof tile	7	358
medieval/early post-medieval	ceramic		brick/tile	1	10
medieval/early post-medieval	ceramic		roof tile	1	94
medieval/early post-medieval	ceramic		tile	3	90
medieval/post-medieval	ceramic		brick/tile	24	264
medieval/post-medieval	ceramic		roof tile	24	610
medieval/post-medieval	ceramic		tile	10	248
medieval/post-medieval	ceramic		unident	15	83
medieval/post-medieval	glass		vessel	1	4
post-medieval	ceramic		brick	4	138
post-medieval	ceramic		clay pipe	1	1
post-medieval	ceramic		pot	80	894
post-medieval	ceramic		roof tile	1	96
post-medieval/modern	ceramic		brick	1	24
post-medieval/modern	ceramic		brick/tile	2	10
post-medieval/modern	ceramic		pot	16	36

period	material class	material subtype	object specific type	count	weight(g)
post-medieval/modern	ceramic		roof tile	3	212
post-medieval/modern	ceramic		tile	1	16
post-medieval/modern	ceramic		unident	1	2
post-medieval/modern	glass		unident	1	4
post-medieval/modern	glass		vessel	7	142
modern			golf ball	2	92
modern	ceramic		brick	3	62
modern	ceramic		brick/tile	1	4
modern	ceramic		figurine	1	8
modern	ceramic		land drain	19	411
modern	ceramic		light fitting	2	124
modern	ceramic		pot	143	756
modern	ceramic		roof tile	40	1191
modern	ceramic		tile	3	50
modern	ceramic		unident	1	1
modern	glass		mirror	1	2
modern	glass		vessel	116	1235
modern	glass		window	11	29
modern	metal		hose terminal	1	536
modern	organic	rubber	bottle cap	1	22
modern	plastic		comb	1	4
modern	plastic		vessel	1	1
modern	stone	slate	roof slate	10	98
undated	ceramic		unident	1	5
undated	glass		unident	2	8
undated	metal	iron	iron object	1	30
undated	organic	animal bone	animal bone	4	223
undated	organic	shell	oyster shell	1	4
undated	slag	slag(fe)	slag	3	102
undated	slag	slag(fe)	smithing slag	2	72
undated	stone		unident	1	156
undated	stone	flint		1	22
undated	stone	limestone	architectural stone	1	176
undated	stone	slate	unident	1	78
Totals:				611	9228

Table 1: Quantification of the assemblage

5.1.1 Pottery

All sherds have been grouped and quantified according to fabric type (Table 2).

Broad period	fabric code	Fabric common name	count	weight(g)
Romano-British	12	Severn Valley ware	2	10
Romano-British	98	Miscellaneous Roman wares	1	2
Medieval/early Post-medieval	69	Oxidized glazed Malvernian ware	6	26
Medieval	99	Miscellaneous medieval wares	12	116
Medieval/Post-medieval	108	Midlands purple ware	5	46
Early Post-medieval	150	Deerfold/Lingern ware	2	17
Post-medieval	78	Post-medieval red ware	7	35
Post-medieval	78.1	Red sandy ware	50	650
Post-medieval	78.3	Fine red sandy ware	1	1
Post-medieval	78.5	Cistercian ware	2	3
Post-medieval	81	Stonewares	1	28
Post-medieval	81.3	Nottingham stoneware	1	10
Post-medieval	81.7	Possibly Staffordshire stoneware	1	8
Post-medieval	84	Creamware	1	2
Post-medieval	90	Post-medieval orange ware	6	45
Post-medieval	91	Post-medieval buff wares	9	87
Post-medieval	100	Miscellaneous post-medieval wares	3	28
Post-medieval/modern	83	Porcelain	19	44
Modern	81.4	Miscellaneous late stoneware	8	116
Modern	85	Modern china	105	433
Modern	101	Miscellaneous modern wares	21	178
Totals:			263	1885

Table 2: Quantification of the pottery by period and fabric-type

Roman

Three very abraded sherds of Severn Valley Ware (fabric 12) were recovered, comprising 1.1% of the sherds within the assemblage and just 0.6% by weight.

Medieval

18 sherds of medieval pottery weighing 142g were recovered. Most displayed high levels of abrasion, rendering identification to form and fabric difficult. Oxidised glazed Malvernian ware (fabric 69) was well-represented. Additionally, a number of quartz-tempered green-glazed wares with oxidised surfaces and often reduced cores were noted, although due to their poor condition they were not readily identifiable to specific fabrics and are recorded as Miscellaneous medieval wares (fabric 99). Among these was an unusual sherd from an everted, flanged rim, similar in form to examples recorded on Malvernian ware flared bowls of late 15th to early 17th century date (Bryant 2004, 305).

It has been noted that during the medieval period, the southeast of the county appears to be sourcing pottery from further afield than other areas in the locality, including from Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire (e.g. Griffin *in* Vaughan 2007), which may account for the presence of unusual wares in this assemblage.

Medieval wares accounted for 6.8% of the sherds identified and 7.5% of the pottery assemblage by weight.

Late medieval/early post-medieval

Late medieval to early post-medieval wares including Midlands Purple (fabric 108) and, unusually, Deerfold/Lingen ware (fabric 150) were noted, accounting for 2.7% of the sherds and 3.3% by weight. The presence of the latter, produced in North Herefordshire, is unusual for the area, although other examples have been recently identified (Hedge *in* Bradley 2014).

Post-medieval

17th and 18th century earthenwares were well-represented, especially red sandy ware (fabric 78.1), 18th century buff wares (fabric 91) and a variety of late 17th to 18th century English stonewares, consistent with a typical domestic assemblage of the period and accounting for 31.2% of the sherds recovered and 47.6% of the assemblage by weight.

Modern

Numerous sherds of late stoneware and 19th/20th century porcelain, stone china and other modern glazed wares were present, comprising 58.2% of the sherds recovered and 40.9% of the assemblage by weight.

5.1.2 Ceramic Building Material

Medieval

A number of examples of medieval and early post-medieval roof tile were recovered. Small quantities of 13th to 15th century Worcester-type reduced fabric 2B and oxidised fabric 2A were present, in addition to examples of Malvernian tile (fabric 3) of late medieval to early post-medieval date.

Much of the remaining roof tile could not be assigned to a specific fabric, due to the condition of the material and the absence of a well-dating typology for local fabrics in this area, and has thus been ascribed a broad 13th to 18th century date.

A fragment of 13th – 14th century decorated floor tile was recovered, in a reduced fabric 27mm thick and exhibiting signs of wear from foot-traffic. The fabric is similar to that of a fragment recovered from fieldwalking survey WSM66266 (Hedge *in* Arnold 2015), although the small size of the fragment and high degree of abrasion precludes identification to a specific design.

Post-medieval/modern

Large quantities of post-medieval and modern roof tile, brick and ceramic land drain were recovered.

5.1.3 Other Artefacts

A single, large (34g) chunk of medium-grained blue-grey patinated flint exhibiting signs of semi-abrupt retouch along one lateral margin, and with extensive post-depositional edge-damage, was recovered.

Other finds of note include a small quantity of animal bone and oyster shell, a fragment of architectural limestone and small quantities of smithing slag.

5.1.4 Artefact distribution

No significant patterns in the spatial distribution of the recovered material were identified. The proportion of material pre-dating 1600 was, at 10.6% of the pottery sherds recovered and 11.4% of the pottery assemblage by weight.

grid square	material class	material subtype	object specific type	count	weight(g)	start date	end date
3	ceramic		pot	1	8	1600	1800
	ceramic		land drain	1	36	1840	1950
4	ceramic		land drain	1	15	1840	1950
	ceramic		pot	1	3	1800	2000
5	ceramic		roof tile	3	120	1800	2000
7	ceramic		roof tile	1	20	1200	1500
	ceramic		roof tile	1	14	1200	1800
9	ceramic		pot	1	8	1600	1800
10	ceramic		land drain	2	58	1840	1950
11	ceramic		land drain	1	8	1840	1950
12	ceramic		pot	1	18	1800	2000
16	ceramic		pot	1	6	1600	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	5	1750	2000
17	ceramic		pot	1	9	1600	1800
19	ceramic		pot	1	4	1750	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	28	1600	1800
29	ceramic		land drain	3	28	1840	1950
	glass		window	1	1	1800	2000
30	ceramic		land drain	2	40	1840	1950
36	ceramic		clay pipe	1	1	1600	1900
	ceramic		pot	1	4	1800	2000
39	ceramic		roof tile	1	22	1800	2000
	glass		vessel	2	46	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	4	24	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	26	1600	1800
41	ceramic		land drain	1	32	1840	1950
43	ceramic		pot	1	4	1800	2000
44	ceramic		land drain	1	35	1840	1950
47	ceramic		pot	2	2	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	2	1750	2000
48	ceramic		pot	1	1	1800	2000
49	ceramic		pot	4	8	1800	2000
51	ceramic		pot	2	42	1800	2000
56	ceramic		pot	2	12	1700	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	4	1700	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	6	1800	1950
	glass		vessel	1	4	1066	1800
59	ceramic		pot	1	8	1800	1950
	ceramic		pot	1	4	1800	2000
	ceramic		roof tile	1	96	1600	1800
68	ceramic		land drain	1	57	1840	1950
	glass		vessel	1	1	1800	2000
71	ceramic		tile	2	72	1200	1800
73			golf ball	1	46	1970	2000
74	glass		vessel	1	20	1700	1950
76	glass		vessel	1	86	1600	1900
77	ceramic		roof tile	1	12	1800	2000

grid square	material class	material subtype	object specific type	count	weight(g)	start date	end date
78	ceramic		roof tile	1	20	1200	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	6	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	2	6	1800	2000
	glass		vessel	2	20	1800	2000
79	ceramic		pot	1	18	1800	1950
	ceramic		pot	1	12	1800	1950
86	ceramic		pot	1	82	1600	1800
	ceramic		land drain	1	20	1840	1950
88	ceramic		roof tile	1	16	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	22	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	2	6	1800	2000
90	ceramic		pot	1	10	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	8	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	9	1600	1800
	glass		vessel	1	2	1800	2000
92	glass		vessel	2	35	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	1	1800	2000
93	ceramic		light fitting	2	124	1900	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	4	1800	2000
94	ceramic		pot	1	2	1800	2000
	glass		vessel	2	96	1800	2000
95	ceramic		pot	1	30	1700	1800
	ceramic		roof tile	2	92	1800	2000
	glass		vessel	1	10	1700	1950
96	ceramic		roof tile	1	84	1800	2000
	stone		unident	1	156		
102	ceramic		pot	1	44	1600	1700
	ceramic		pot	1	18	1800	2000
106	ceramic		roof tile	1	130	1600	1900
110	ceramic		pot	1	4	1750	2000
	glass		vessel	1	3	1800	2000
112	ceramic		pot	1	8	1600	1800
	glass		vessel	1	12	1800	2000
113	ceramic		pot	1	6	1800	2000
116	ceramic		pot	1	18	1500	1700
	ceramic		pot	1	8	1600	1800
	ceramic		roof tile	1	40	1800	2000
125	ceramic		roof tile	1	18	1800	2000
	ceramic		brick	1	10	1600	1800
	glass		mirror	1	2	1900	2000
	glass		vessel	3	24	1800	2000
	glass		window	1	1	1800	2000
126	ceramic		pot	2	12	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	8	1800	2000
	ceramic		brick/tile	1	18	1200	1800
127	glass		vessel	4	26	1800	2000
	ceramic		tile	1	42	1200	1800

grid square	material class	material subtype	object specific type	count	weight(g)	start date	end date
128	stone	slate	unident	1	78		
	ceramic		pot	2	10	1600	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	1	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	1	1750	2000
129	ceramic		pot	5	22	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	12	1800	2000
	glass		vessel	2	12	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	8	1600	1800
130	ceramic		unident	1	14	1200	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	4	1800	2000
131	ceramic		pot	1	6	43	400
	ceramic		pot	1	24	1600	1700
	ceramic		unident	1	6	1200	1800
	ceramic		tile	1	4	1800	2000
	glass		window	2	2	1800	2000
132	slag	slag(fe)	smithing slag	1	38		
	ceramic		roof tile	1	22	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	2	18	1600	1800
	ceramic		pot	3	2	1800	2000
	glass		vessel	2	14	1800	2000
	ceramic		brick/tile	1	4	1200	1800
133	ceramic		pot	1	26	1200	1600
	ceramic		land drain	1	16	1840	1950
	ceramic		roof tile	1	16	1800	2000
	ceramic		roof tile	1	28	1200	1800
	ceramic		unident	2	4	1200	1800
	glass		vessel	6	22	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	3	4	1800	2000
			golf ball	1	46	1970	2000
134	ceramic		brick/tile	2	10	1600	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	1	1800	2000
	glass		vessel	1	2	1800	2000
	stone	slate	roof slate	1	10	1800	2000
135	ceramic		roof tile	3	106	1800	2000
	ceramic		roof tile	2	36	1200	1800
	ceramic		brick	1	32	1600	1800
	ceramic		unident	1	2	1600	2000
	ceramic		pot	3	6	1800	2000
	glass		vessel	4	72	1800	2000
136	ceramic		pot	1	5	1800	2000
137	ceramic		pot	1	12	1800	2000
139	ceramic		pot	1	10	1600	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	1	1750	2000
143	glass		vessel	1	12	1800	1950
	ceramic		tile	1	26	1200	1800
144	ceramic		pot	1	6	1700	1800
	ceramic		tile	1	12	1200	1800

grid square	material class	material subtype	object specific type	count	weight(g)	start date	end date
	glass		window	1	4	1900	2000
145	ceramic		pot	1	8	1600	1700
	ceramic		brick/tile	2	24	1200	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	6	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	6	1800	2000
146	ceramic		floor tile	1	136	1200	1400
	ceramic		pot	1	6	1600	1800
	ceramic		roof tile	2	80	1200	1800
147	ceramic		brick/tile	1	24	1200	1800
148	ceramic		roof tile	1	92	1200	1500
	ceramic		brick/tile	1	4	1200	1800
149	ceramic		pot	1	8	1200	1600
	organic	animal bone	animal bone	1	1		
	ceramic		unident	1	5		
150	ceramic		pot	1	16	1600	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	6	1400	1700
	ceramic		pot	1	4	1800	2000
151	ceramic		pot	1	4	1200	1620
	ceramic		pot	2	4	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	1	1800	2000
	glass		vessel	1	6	1800	2000
	ceramic		unident	1	1	1800	2000
152	ceramic		pot	1	8	1700	1800
	ceramic		pot	2	16	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	2	2	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	6	1600	1800
	glass		vessel	1	4	1800	2000
153	ceramic		pot	2	4	1800	2000
	glass		vessel	1	6	1800	2000
	stone	flint		1	22		
154	ceramic		pot	1	6	1400	1700
	ceramic		pot	1	1	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	2	1	1750	2000
	glass		vessel	3	18	1800	2000
155	ceramic		brick/tile	1	18	1200	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	3	1800	2000
156	ceramic		pot	1	40	1600	1800
	ceramic		land drain	1	4	1840	1950
	ceramic		roof tile	1	10	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	2	6	1800	2000
	glass		vessel	1	6	1800	2000
157	ceramic		pot	1	2	43	400
	ceramic		pot	1	4	1600	1800
	ceramic		roof tile	1	12	1800	2000
	glass		unident	1	4		
158	organic	animal bone	animal bone	1	28		

grid square	material class	material subtype	object specific type	count	weight(g)	start date	end date
	glass		vessel	2	26	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	4	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	1	1800	2000
159	ceramic		pot	3	12	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	2	1750	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	10	1800	1950
	ceramic		unident	1	8	1200	1800
160	ceramic		pot	1	8	1800	2000
161	ceramic		pot	4	10	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	2	2	1750	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	10	1600	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	18	1800	1950
	glass		vessel	4	22	1800	2000
162	ceramic		pot	1	4	1500	1700
	ceramic		pot	1	1	1750	2000
	glass		vessel	1	6	1800	2000
163	ceramic		pot	1	6	1600	1800
	ceramic		roof tile	1	28	1800	2000
164	ceramic		pot	1	18	1800	1950
	glass		vessel	2	44	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	2	10	1800	2000
	ceramic		roof tile	1	20	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	4	1900	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	4	1800	2000
165	glass		vessel	3	36	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	2	4	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	10	1600	1800
166	ceramic		roof tile	1	28	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	3	6	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	2	1600	1800
	glass		vessel	1	10	1800	2000
167	ceramic		pot	1	5	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	2	1760	1790
	glass		vessel	1	3	1800	2000
168	glass		vessel	1	26	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	2	8	1800	2000
169	ceramic		roof tile	1	16	1800	2000
	glass		vessel	2	12	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	1	1800	2000
170	organic	rubber	bottle cap	1	22	1870	1950
	glass		vessel	2	18	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	12	1600	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	1	1800	2000
171	glass		vessel	3	42	1800	2000
172	ceramic		tile	2	64	1200	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	1	1800	2000
173	ceramic		roof tile	2	34	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	4	1700	1800

grid square	material class	material subtype	object specific type	count	weight(g)	start date	end date
	glass		vessel	2	14	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	2	4	1800	2000
	organic	shell	oyster shell	1	4		
	ceramic		pot	1	14	1600	1700
174	stone	limestone	architectural stone	1	176		
	ceramic		pot	2	28	1800	2000
	glass		vessel	7	114	1800	2000
	ceramic		brick	1	6	1800	2000
	metal	iron	iron object	1	30		
176	ceramic		pot	1	8	1600	1700
	ceramic		pot	1	10	1700	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	12	1600	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	6	1800	2000
177	ceramic		pot	1	18	1900	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	2	1600	1800
	ceramic		brick/tile	1	10	1400	1700
	ceramic		tile	1	14	1200	1800
	ceramic		roof tile	1	16	1200	1600
	ceramic		unident	1	1	1200	1800
178	ceramic		pot	2	20	1600	1800
	ceramic		pot	3	14	1800	2000
	glass		vessel	1	32	1800	2000
179	ceramic		pot	1	10	1600	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	2	1800	2000
	glass		vessel	3	10	1800	2000
	glass		window	2	1	1800	2000
180	ceramic		pot	3	12	1800	2000
	glass		vessel	3	26	1800	2000
181	slag	slag(fe)	slag	1	52		
	ceramic		roof tile	1	34	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	6	1900	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	4	1200	1620
183	ceramic		roof tile	1	52	1200	1500
	ceramic		unident	1	4	1200	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	1	1700	1800
	stone	slate	roof slate	1	12	1800	2000
185	ceramic		pot	1	16	1600	1800
	ceramic		brick/tile	1	6	1200	1800
188	glass		vessel	5	34	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	2	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	8	1750	2000
189	glass		vessel	2	39	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	3	10	1800	2000
193	ceramic		pot	1	8	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	6	1800	2000
	glass		vessel	4	24	1800	2000

grid square	material class	material subtype	object specific type	count	weight(g)	start date	end date
195	ceramic		pot	1	14	1600	1800
	stone	slate	roof slate	1	8	1800	2000
199	ceramic		brick/tile	1	11	1200	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	1	1750	2000
204	ceramic		pot	1	14	1700	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	2	1800	2000
	glass		vessel	2	18	1600	1900
205	ceramic		pot	1	4	43	400
	ceramic		pot	1	6	1700	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	6	1600	1700
	glass		vessel	2	12	1800	2000
206	ceramic		roof tile	1	32	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	52	1800	2000
	ceramic		tile	1	16	1600	1900
207	glass		window	1	9	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	2	1750	2000
208	ceramic		brick/tile	1	6	1200	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	4	1800	2000
	glass		vessel	1	6	1800	2000
	glass		unident	1	4		
	stone	slate	roof slate	2	10	1800	2000
209	ceramic		land drain	1	10	1840	1950
	ceramic		pot	1	1	1800	2000
210	ceramic		pot	1	1	1500	1600
	ceramic		pot	1	8	1700	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	1	1800	2000
	glass		vessel	1	1	1800	2000
211	ceramic		brick/tile	1	12	1200	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	1	1700	1800
	glass		vessel	2	4	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	2	1750	2000
212	ceramic		pot	1	10	1066	1600
	ceramic		roof tile	1	44	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	4	1700	1800
	glass		vessel	2	12	1800	2000
	plastic		vessel	1	1	1950	2000
213	ceramic		roof tile	1	22	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	3	14	1800	2000
	glass		vessel	2	16	1800	2000
	glass		window	1	4	1900	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	6	1600	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	26	1800	1950
216	ceramic		roof tile	1	26	1800	2000
	glass		vessel	1	2	1800	2000
217	ceramic		pot	1	6	1800	2000
	glass		vessel	1	2	1800	2000
	ceramic		brick/tile	1	15	1200	1800

grid square	material class	material subtype	object specific type	count	weight(g)	start date	end date
	metal		hose terminal	1	536	1900	2000
218	glass		vessel	2	96	1800	2000
	stone	slate	roof slate	1	18	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	2	4	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	2	1	1800	2000
	ceramic		figurine	1	8	1800	2000
219	ceramic		pot	1	1	1700	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	6	1200	1620
	ceramic		pot	2	6	1900	2000
	ceramic		pot	2	4	1800	2000
	stone	slate	roof slate	2	18	1800	2000
220	ceramic		pot	1	10	1500	1700
	ceramic		pot	1	4	1800	2000
	glass		vessel	1	6	1800	2000
	glass		unident	1	4	1600	2000
221	ceramic		pot	1	9	1800	2000
	plastic		comb	1	4	1950	2000
223	ceramic		brick	1	44	1800	2000
	ceramic		tile	1	8	1200	1800
	glass		vessel	1	8	1800	2000
224	ceramic		pot	1	2	1500	1700
	ceramic		roof tile	2	38	1200	1800
225	ceramic		brick/tile	2	24	1200	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	1	1200	1620
226	ceramic		land drain	1	30	1840	1950
	ceramic		brick/tile	1	16	1200	1800
227	ceramic		roof tile	1	19	1800	2000
	ceramic		brick/tile	1	2	1200	1800
228	ceramic		pot	1	4	1200	1600
	ceramic		roof tile	1	38	1800	2000
	ceramic		roof tile	5	116	1200	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	10	1600	1800
	glass		vessel	1	4	1600	1900
229	ceramic		roof tile	3	84	1800	2000
	ceramic		brick	1	24	1600	1900
231	ceramic		pot	1	6	1600	1800
232	ceramic		pot	1	11	1600	1800
233	ceramic		pot	2	16	1500	1700
	ceramic		roof tile	1	56	1200	1800
	stone	slate	roof slate	1	14	1800	2000
241	glass		window	1	3	1900	2000
	ceramic		roof tile	1	30	1800	2000
	ceramic		unident	3	8	1200	1800
242	ceramic		brick	2	96	1600	1800
	ceramic		tile	2	46	1800	2000
	ceramic		brick/tile	3	26	1200	1800
	glass		vessel	5	40	1800	2000

grid square	material class	material subtype	object specific type	count	weight(g)	start date	end date
243	glass		window	1	4	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	4	1800	2000
	ceramic		land drain	1	22	1800	2000
	ceramic		roof tile	1	14	1800	2000
244	ceramic		brick/tile	3	34	1200	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	10	1700	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	3	1600	1800
245	ceramic		pot	1	1	1800	2000
246	ceramic		roof tile	1	24	1200	1600
	ceramic		pot	1	12	1600	1800
	glass		vessel	1	1	1800	2000
247	glass		vessel	1	4	1600	1900
	ceramic		unident	2	16	1200	1800
	ceramic		roof tile	1	28	1800	2000
248	organic	animal bone	animal bone	1	176		
	ceramic		pot	1	2	1600	1800
	ceramic		roof tile	1	26	1200	1800
249	organic	animal bone	animal bone	1	18		
	ceramic		brick/tile	1	4	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	2	1600	1700
	ceramic		pot	1	4	1200	1620
	ceramic		roof tile	1	24	1200	1800
	ceramic		tile	1	20	1400	1700
250	ceramic		roof tile	1	40	1600	1900
	ceramic		roof tile	2	42	1200	1800
252	ceramic		unident	1	6	1200	1800
253	ceramic		roof tile	2	92	1800	2000
	ceramic		roof tile	2	52	1200	1800
254	ceramic		roof tile	1	42	1600	1900
	ceramic		pot	1	8	1600	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	10	1690	1790
255	slag	slag(fe)	smithing slag	1	34		
	ceramic		roof tile	1	36	1200	1800
	ceramic		roof tile	1	94	1400	1700
	ceramic		pot	1	18	1200	1600
256	ceramic		pot	1	9	1600	1700
258	ceramic		pot	1	1	1600	1700
	ceramic		roof tile	1	126	1200	1500
261	ceramic		brick/tile	1	6	1200	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	4	1400	1700
	ceramic		pot	1	58	1600	1800
265	ceramic		pot	2	18	1200	1600
	ceramic		pot	1	12	1400	1700
268	ceramic		pot	1	32	1700	1800
	ceramic		unident	1	6	1200	1800

grid square	material class	material subtype	object specific type	count	weight(g)	start date	end date
272	ceramic		pot	1	6	1600	1800
	slag	slag(fe)	slag	2	50		
273	ceramic		pot	1	1	1600	1700
	ceramic		brick	1	12	1800	2000
	ceramic		roof tile	1	32	1800	1900
278	ceramic		pot	1	8	1600	1700
	ceramic		pot	1	7	1200	1620
	ceramic		roof tile	2	42	1200	1800
281	ceramic		pot	1	9	1700	1800
	glass		vessel	1	30	1800	2000
288	ceramic		pot	1	10	1700	1800
	stone	flint	worked flint	1	34	-1500	43
290	ceramic		pot	1	2	1600	1700
	ceramic		pot	1	6	1700	1800
	ceramic		tile	1	10	1200	1800
291	glass		vessel	1	18	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	8	1700	1800
292	ceramic		unident	1	10	1200	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	1	1800	2000
297	ceramic		pot	2	30	1600	1800
	glass		vessel	1	4	1900	2000
299	ceramic		pot	1	4	1600	1800
	ceramic		pot	1	8	1700	1800
302	ceramic		roof tile	1	28	1200	1500
	ceramic		brick/tile	1	14	1200	1800
	stone	slate	roof slate	1	8	1800	2000
	ceramic		pot	1	2	1500	1600
303	ceramic		tile	1	24	1400	1700
	ceramic		tile	1	46	1200	1700

Table 3 Summary of artefacts by grid square

6 Synthesis

The assemblage recovered largely comprises pottery and ceramic building material of Roman, medieval, post-medieval and modern date, with the majority being of post-medieval and modern date. Of the earlier material, several abraded sherds of Roman Severn Valley Ware (fabric 12) of mid-1st to 4th century date have been identified – this is likely to reflect a background scatter from Roman agricultural activity in the area. As with the area immediately to the south (WSM66266), the medieval and early post-medieval material largely comprises abraded sherds of 13th to early 17th century date, and fragments of ceramic roof tile. One fragment of a 13th – 14th century encaustic floor tile is present; as with the fragment recovered from WSM66266, this example is likely to have come from a high-status ecclesiastical building, and appears to be overfired.

At 10.6% of the pottery sherds recovered and 11.4% of the assemblage by weight, the proportion of material pre-dating 1600 is higher than was encountered in WSM66266, at which such material accounted for 6.4% of the sherds recovered and 5.8% of the weight; this is likely to reflect closer proximity to the deserted medieval settlement east of Lower Walcot Farm (WSM41488). Recovery

of material of this date is mapped in Figure 2. It is notable that the majority was recovered from the eastern side of the site. Whilst there are some loose clusters such as that to the west of The Ford House, the actual frequency of material in these stints is generally 1-2 sherds and it is thought that these are the product agricultural practice such as manuring.

Generally the results of fieldwalking concur with the conclusions drawn by the Desk-Based Assessment and Geophysical Survey, identifying a low potential for any significant archaeological activity to be present, although the possibility that sealed archaeological deposits are present beneath the ploughsoil cannot be discounted on the evidence from a surface collection survey alone.

7 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.

A programme of archaeological fieldwalking was undertaken at land to the West of Station Road, Worcestershire (NGR 394780 247300). It was undertaken on behalf of CgMs Consulting, acting for Persimmon Homes, South Midlands, who intend to develop land to the west of Station Road Pershore and for which outline planning consent was granted by Wychavon District Council (W/14/0219) in December 2014. Permission was granted subject to conditions including a programme of archaeological works.

Fieldwalking was undertaken by walking transects, spaced 20m apart and orientated approximately NNW-SSE along the general long axis of the site. Transects were laid out using a Leica netrover GPS and divided into 20m stints. Finds were collected from a strip 1m either side of the transect line.

The assemblage recovered largely comprised pottery and ceramic building material of Roman, medieval, post-medieval and modern date, with the majority being of post-medieval and modern date. Of the earlier material, several abraded sherds of Roman Severn Valley Ware of mid-1st to 4th century date were identified. This is likely to reflect a background scatter from Roman agricultural activity in the area. The medieval and early post-medieval material largely comprised abraded sherds of 13th to early 17th century date, and fragments of ceramic roof tile. One fragment of a 13th – 14th century encaustic floor tile was recovered which is likely to have come from a high status ecclesiastical building.

Stints from which pre-1600 material was recovered was mapped and although there material was largely from the eastern part of the site, there is no clear pattern of distribution apart from some loose clusters. It is concluded that the fieldwalking exercise did not identify clear areas of archaeological activity, rather patterns of agricultural activity, in particular manuring.

8 Acknowledgements

Worcestershire Archaeology would like to thank the following for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project, Steven Weaver, CgMs Consulting, and Mike Glyde, former Historic Environment Planning Officer, Worcester County Council.

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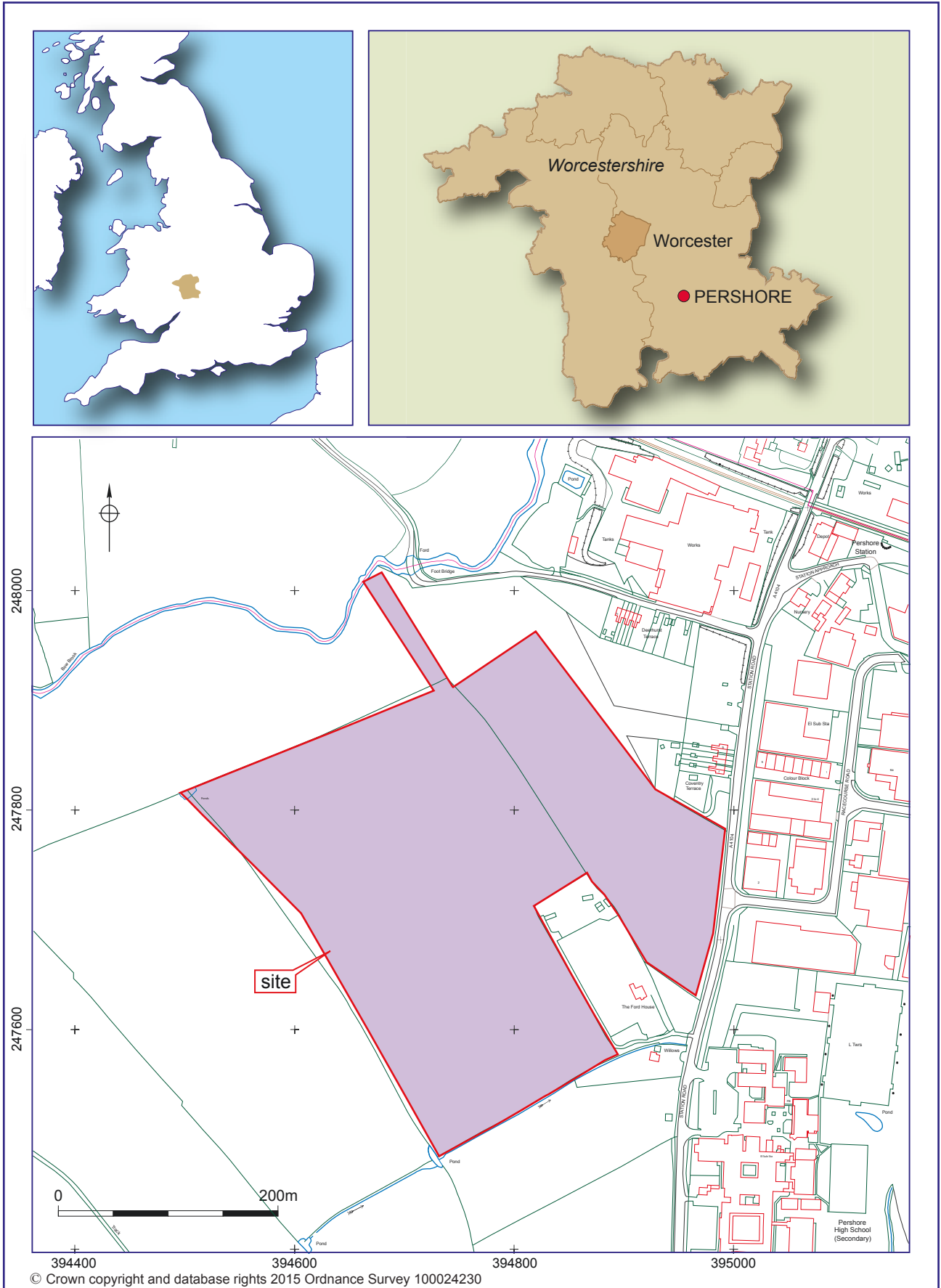
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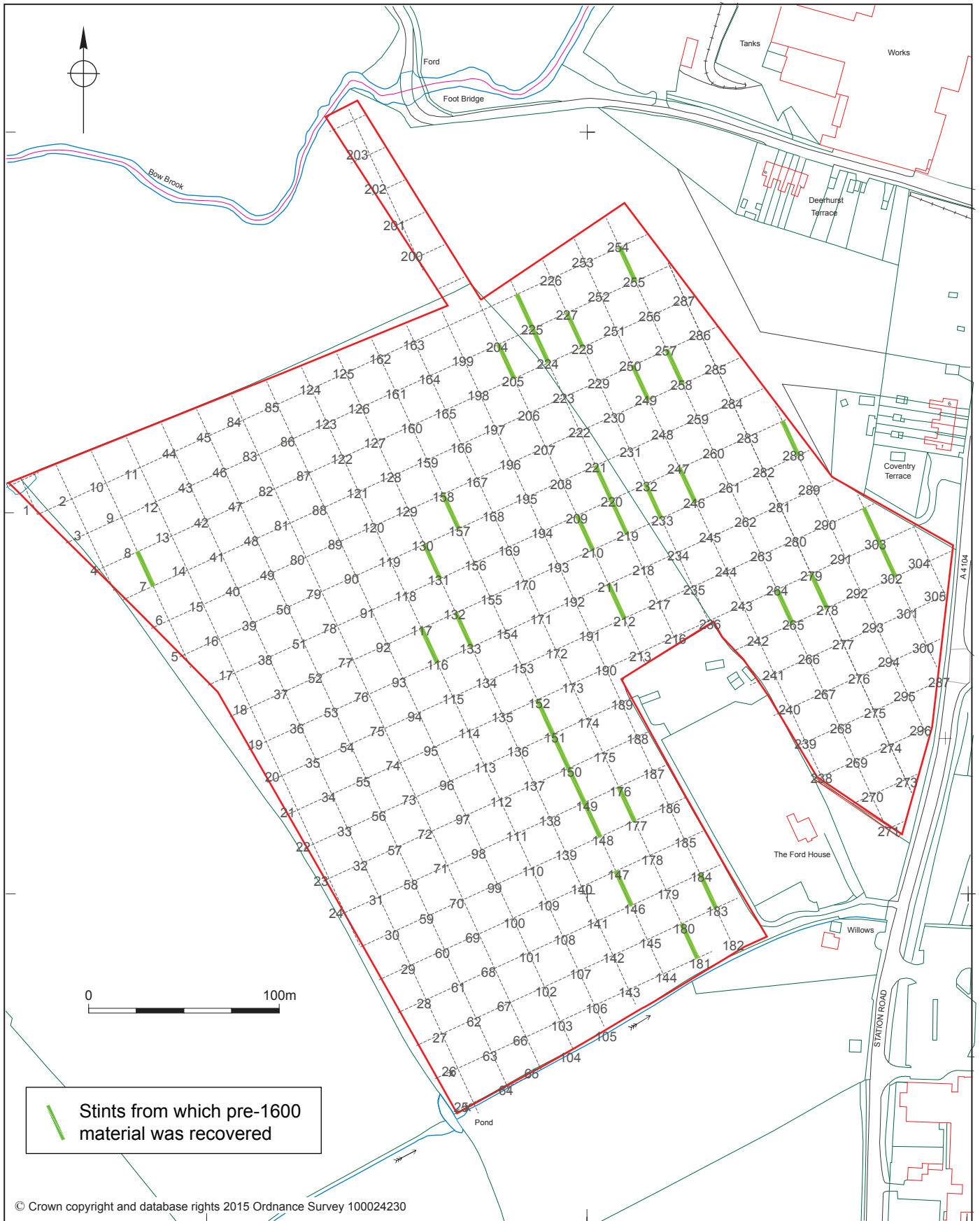
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Figures



Location of the site

Figure 1



Location of stints

Figure 2

Appendix 1 Technical information

The archive (site code: WSM 66266)

The archive consists of:

- 2 Field progress reports AS2
- 1 Box of finds
- 1 CD-Rom/DVDs
- 1 Copy of this report (bound hard copy)

The project archive is intended to be placed at:

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