



Jerrings Hall Farm, Solihull

Archaeological Watching Brief



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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Sanderson Weatherall LLP to undertake an archaeological watching brief during excavations and intrusive groundworks associated with building construction and related groundworks at Jerrings Hall Farm, Tamworth Lane, Solihull, centred on NGR 412053 276322.

The watching brief was carried out as a condition of planning permission, granted by Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council. The development, which was undertaken in association with the HS2 project, comprised the relocation of The Island School Project to Jerrings Hall Farm. The works included alterations to the main house and ancillary buildings, the construction of new modular buildings, the creation of a new drainage mound, and a car park.

A small number of archaeological features were uncovered across the site, with a greater concentration in the south and east where the land remains undeveloped. The earliest feature was a ditch located in the east, which contained a large unabraded sherd of medieval pottery. It is probable that the ditch was a remnant of the medieval agricultural landscape.

Within the main house, the foundations of a timber framed wall between the family room and kitchen was uncovered, along with the underlying levelling and bedding layers. The remains of an earlier possible brick floor was recorded within the family room, as well as an 18th-century ground raising or levelling layer.

To the south of the main house and barn, a large feature which contained waterlogged fills and timbers was recorded. The location of the feature correlates well with a pond, or partial remains of a moat, shown on the 1842 Tithe map and 1886 first edition Ordnance Survey map (Laing O'Rourke Murphy Joint Venture 2020).

Other features recorded on site included a small brick structure south of the main house, modern drainage ditches and refuse pits, as well as a small number of undated features.

The watching brief has met its aims and objectives.

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Jerrings Hall Farm, Solihull

Archaeological Watching Brief

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project and planning background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Sanderson Weatherall LLP to undertake an archaeological watching brief during building construction and associated groundworks at Jerrings Hall Farm, Tamworth Lane, Solihull, B90 4DX. The monitored works covered 1.7 ha and were centred on NGR 412053 276322 (Fig. 1).
- 1.1.2 The development, which was undertaken in association with the HS2 project, also included the creation of a new drainage mound and a car park.
- 1.1.3 A planning application (PL/2021/01351/HS2S50) submitted to Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council, was granted on 19 November 2021, subject to conditions. The condition relating to the archaeology stated that no intrusive ground works should take place unless an archaeologist was present and that any archaeological remains or artefacts uncovered should be dated, characterised and recorded.
- 1.1.4 The watching brief was undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) which detailed the aims, methodologies and standards to be employed (Wessex Archaeology 2023). The Senior Historic Environment Officer at the Warwickshire County Council Archaeological Information and Advice team approved the WSI, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority (LPA), prior to fieldwork commencing. The watching brief was undertaken intermittently between 03 July and 01 December 2023.

1.2 Scope of the report

- 1.2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the results of the watching brief, to interpret the results within their local or regional context (or otherwise), and to assess their potential to address the aims outlined in the WSI, thereby making available information about the archaeological resource (a preservation by record).

1.3 Location, topography and geology

- 1.3.1 The watching brief was located on land to the west of Tamworth Lane (B4102), 300 m north-west of the village of Cheswick Green. The surroundings largely consist of arable land.
- 1.3.2 Existing ground levels lie at around 140 m above Ordnance Datum. Locally the ground surface descends to the north-west, towards the Stratford-upon-Avon canal and a small stream, unnamed on Ordnance Survey mapping, forming a tributary to the River Blythe.
- 1.3.3 The bedrock geology is recorded as Mercian Mudstone with superficial till and glaciolacustrine deposits (BGS 2023).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 The archaeological and historical background below has been summarised from an archaeological assessment carried out as part of the development (The Environmental Dimension Partnership 2020). Relevant entry numbers from the Warwickshire Historic Environment Record (HER) and the National Heritage List for England (NHLE) are included.

2.2 Previous investigations at the site

Watching brief (2006)

- 2.2.1 The excavation of foundation trenches for a garden room to the south of the main house was monitored, as the site was thought to lie within the bounds of a medieval moat (Rann 2006).
- 2.2.2 No evidence of medieval occupation of the site was revealed, and only 19th-century pottery was recorded. Post-medieval levelling deposits and modern demolition deposits were identified. The lack of a subsoil suggests that construction and demolition of 20th-century buildings in the area had truncated the archaeological horizon.

2.3 Archaeological and historical context

Prehistoric (to AD 43)

- 2.3.1 There is no recorded evidence of prehistoric activity within the site. Within the wider area recorded prehistoric finds and features are sparse. A possible burnt mound is recorded in the HER, 450 m east of the site (HER no. 10999).

Romano-British (AD 43–410)

- 2.3.2 The course of the Roman road known as the Saltway is thought to pass close to the site. However, evidence of Roman activity within the area is extremely sparse. Located 760 m east of the site is The Mount (HER no. 3065) recorded by the HER as an ancient earthwork surrounded by a moat. Excavations undertaken in 1953 recorded Roman pottery; and the Mount was re-used as a moated enclosure, manor house and pleasure grounds in the medieval period.

Medieval (AD 410–1550)

- 2.3.3 No records for early medieval activity (AD 410–1066) are noted in the HER for the site or its environs.
- 2.3.4 The HER suggests that the large pond within the site, immediately south-west of the extant building complex, is the location of a moated building known as Gerins Hall (HER no. 9107). This is unproven, however, and ponds are a common feature of farmland within the surrounding area, although a pond or partial remains of a moat are shown on the 1842 Tithe map and 1886 first edition Ordnance Survey map (Laing O'Rourke Murphy Joint Venture 2020). The Gerins Hall moated site is thought to be associated with the Gerin family, who are recorded in the area in medieval documents.
- 2.3.5 Medieval woodland clearance, the creation of new settlements and subsequent cultivation of the land has resulted in numerous extant areas of ridge and furrow within 1 km of the site.

Post-medieval (1550–1900)

- 2.3.6 The current Jerrings Hall Farmhouse appears to date largely from the 16th and early 17th centuries, with several periods of alteration, most significantly the addition of an east wing and associated farm buildings during the early 18th century, as well as some later additions to the side and rear. The main building is currently Grade II listed (NHLE no. 1076732).
- 2.3.7 Within 1 km of the site there are further post-medieval farmsteads indicating the enclosure of the land at this time.
- 2.3.8 Other post-medieval features recorded by the HER relate to the growth of settlements and the construction of the Stratford-upon-Avon canal in the late 18th/early 19th century.

Modern (1900–present)

- 2.3.9 Jerrings Hall Farm was sold in 1910, with much of the associated farmland sold off after this, and by the mid to late 20th century it no longer operated as a farm. Historic maps show that there has been construction and removal of buildings associated with Jerrings Hall Farm during the modern period, although the majority of the open space in the site to the east and south remained undeveloped. The extant buildings comprise the main house, a former threshing barn, a disused stable and cartshed, and an ancillary building known as 'the cottage'.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Aims

- 3.1.1 The aims of the watching brief, as stated in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2023) and as defined in the ClfA *Universal Guidance for Archaeological Monitoring and Recording* (ClfA 2023), were to:
- allow, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established (or established with sufficient accuracy) in advance of the development or other works;
 - provide an opportunity, if needed, for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard; and
 - guide, not replace, any requirement for contingent excavation or preservation of possible deposits.

3.2 Objectives

- 3.2.1 In order to achieve the above aims, the objectives of the watching brief, also defined in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2023), were to:
- determine the presence or absence of archaeological features, deposits, structures, artefacts or ecofacts within the specified works area;
 - record and establish, within the constraints of the works, the extent, character, date, condition and quality of any surviving archaeological remains (a preservation by record);



- place any identified archaeological remains within a wider historical and archaeological context in order to assess their significance; and
- make available information about the archaeological resource on the site by preparing a report on the results of the watching brief.

4 METHODS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the detailed methodology set out within the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2023) and in general compliance with the standards outlined in ClfA guidance (ClfA 2023). The methods employed are summarised below.

4.2 Fieldwork methods

General

4.2.1 The watching brief monitored groundworks relating to:

- the foundations for four replacement sheds;
- the foundations for a modular building to the south of the existing buildings;
- the foundations for a modular building to the north-east of the existing buildings;
- septic tank removal north of the existing buildings and installation east of the buildings;
- ground asbestos removal;
- a new car park in the east of the site;
- ground investigation test pits across the site;
- utility and drainage installation across the site; and
- floor lowering inside Jerrings Hall.

4.2.2 The watching archaeologist monitored all mechanical excavations within the specified area. Where necessary, the surfaces of uncovered archaeological deposits were cleaned by hand to aid visual definition. A sample of archaeological features and deposits was hand-excavated, sufficient to address the aims of the watching brief.

4.2.3 Spoil from machine stripping and hand-excavated archaeological deposits was visually scanned for the purposes of finds retrieval. Artefacts were collected and bagged by context. All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained, although those from features of modern date (19th century or later) were recorded on site and not retained.

Recording

4.2.4 All exposed archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system. A complete record of excavated features and deposits was made, including plans and sections drawn to appropriate scales (generally

1:20 or 1:50 for plans and 1:10 for sections) and tied to the Ordnance Survey (OS) National Grid.

- 4.2.5 A full photographic record was made using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 10 megapixels. Digital images have been subject to managed quality control and curation processes, which has embedded appropriate metadata within the image and will ensure long term accessibility of the image set.

4.3 Finds and environmental strategies

- 4.3.1 Strategies for the recovery, processing and assessment of finds and environmental samples were in line with those detailed in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2023). Guidelines for the treatment of artefacts and environmental remains were in general accordance with: *Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials* (ClfA 2014a), *Environmental Archaeology. a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011) and ClfA's *Toolkit for Specialist Reporting* (Type 1: Description) (ClfA 2022a).

4.4 Monitoring

- 4.4.1 The Senior Historic Environment Officer at the Warwickshire County Council Archaeological Information and Advice team monitored the watching brief on behalf of the LPA.

5 STRATIGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

5.1 Soil sequence and natural deposits

- 5.1.1 The natural substrate comprised mid-orange/reddish brown silty, gravelly clay (102 and 151) and mid-reddish brown silty, stoney sand (115) that was identified in most groundwork interventions. The top of the deposit was recorded between 0.25 and 1.8 m below ground level.
- 5.1.2 Made ground layers, ranging in thickness between 0.22 m and 1.5 m, were recorded within interventions around the main hall, in the new car park area and south of the existing barn building. The layers were probably for ground raising or levelling and consisted of hard core (104; Fig. 4), gravelly, silty sand (127; Fig. 5), sandy, stoney silt (130 and 133) and stoney, silty clay (155; Fig. 6) with demolition rubble inclusions (156).
- 5.1.3 The ground surface in unoccupied parts of the site comprised dark brown sandy silt topsoil (101), while in the courtyard around the existing buildings the surface comprised brick paving (103; Fig. 4). The drive to the existing buildings consisted of loose gravels (124), which overlaid tarmac (123). Within the main hall, the floor surface was constructed from concrete (105). A complete late 19th/20th-century ink bottle was recovered from the topsoil as well as a 19th-century horseshoe.

5.2 Medieval (AD 1066–1500)

- 5.2.1 In the east of the site, a north–south aligned ditch (119; 0.95 x 0.49 m deep) was uncovered. A large sherd of late 13th/early 14th-century pottery was recovered from the clayey, gravelly sand ditch fill (Fig. 7). It is probable that the ditch was a former field boundary.

5.3 Post-medieval (AD 1500–1900)

- 5.3.1 Inside Jerrings Hall, the removal of floor 105 exposed made ground 106 and the base of a brick (107) and timber frame (159) wall (Figs 3 and 8), which separated the kitchen from the living room. The gravelly, silty sand layer (106) butted up against the wall and was probably

a bedding and levelling layer. A sherd of local coarseware pottery, dating to the late 17th/18th century, was recovered from made ground 106 as well as animal bone, an iron nail and 17 fragments of glass bottle, including that of an AD 1720–50 wine bottle.

- 5.3.2 Beneath the wall was a single layer of brick (161), potentially part of an earlier brick floor. Beneath the bricks were five ground levelling or raising layers (108–112) comprising stoney silty sand or sandy silt (Fig. 9). Deposits of ash, charcoal and burnt sand were also present, possibly representing an ash cap to level or seal off layers below.
- 5.3.3 To the south of the main hall, the foundations of a small brick structure (113; Fig. 10) measuring around 2.2 m square was uncovered. The internal space had been backfilled with a dark grey sandy silt, from which 19th/20th-century glass bottles and pottery, and a metal saucepan were recovered, but not retained.

5.4 Modern (1900–present)

- 5.4.1 In a utility trench to the east of the cottage building, a pit (116; 1.78+ x 0.77 x 0.51 m) was uncovered containing two fills of charcoal rich silty sand and sandy, gravelly clay (Fig. 11). Finds of modern pottery, including two sherds of heavily burnt and vitrified industrial ware, animal bone, modern window glass, the handle of an iron bath or wash tub and clay pipe were recovered from the pit. It is probable that the pit was used for refuse.
- 5.4.2 A curving drainage ditch (148; 2.3 x 2 m deep) extended south-east from the pond and had a ceramic drain at its base.
- 5.4.3 Pit 152 (1.12 x 0.87 m deep; Fig. 6) contained two fills of charcoal rich silty sand and stoney sand, from which finds of worked wood, plastic, iron nails, a door latch, and a fragment of modern peg tile were recovered.

5.5 Uncertain date

- 5.5.1 Pit 131 (Fig. 12) and pond or moat 134 (Fig. 13) were recorded south of the existing barn. The pit was large (around 5 m in diameter and 0.82 m deep) and filled with building rubble, probably the remains of a former building. Feature 134 (over 3 m wide and 1.5 m deep) was recorded extending between the pond and barn; the silty clay fills (135–138) contained organic material, potentially waterlogged, indicating that the feature was a former pond or moat, indeed, it correlates well with a pond or partial remains of a moat shown on the 1842 Tithe map and 1886 first edition Ordnance Survey map (Laing O'Rourke Murphy Joint Venture 2020). Timbers (139–145; Fig. 14) were also recovered from within and adjacent to the feature, possibly the remains of a structure such as a jetty or revetment.
- 5.5.2 Feature 121 (2.08 x 0.65 m deep) was recorded at the base of a narrow utility trench and because of this its character and function are unclear. The feature was filled with a sandy silt, from which no finds were recovered.
- 5.5.3 In the east of the site, in the area assigned to a new car park, two features of uncertain date were recorded. Ditch 125 (0.75 x 1 m deep) was aligned north-east to south-west and contained a single fill of sandy clay. Pit or ditch terminal 128 (2.14 x 1.19 m deep) was recorded south of 125, on a parallel alignment. The feature was filled with a sterile sandy clay.
- 5.5.4 South of the car park, in a drainage trench, a small gully (157; 0.54 x 0.18 m) was uncovered on an east–west alignment. The gully contained a clayey, gravelly sand (Fig. 15) and was possibly a drainage gully.

6 FINDS EVIDENCE

6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 A small assemblage of finds (61 objects; 7237 g) consists of a single sherd of medieval pottery and modern (post 1850+) artefacts (Table 1). The finds have been cleaned and quantified by material type within each context. This data has been recorded using a timestamped digital database, which forms part of the project archive. The finds were recovered by hand excavation. Reporting conforms to ClfA's *Toolkit for Specialist Reporting* (CIFA 2022a) Type 2, Appraisal level, which aims to characterise the finds assemblage, with specific references to dating where possible.

Table 1 Finds by trench, context, material type and count and weight (in grammes)

Feature	Context	Animal bone	CBM	Clay tobacco pipe	Glass	Iron	Pottery	Wood (retained)	Total
		No/Wt.	No/Wt.	No/Wt.	No/Wt.	No/Wt.	No/Wt.	No/Wt.	No/Wt.
Topsoil	101					1/1328	1/114		2/1442
Made ground	106	22/197			17/425	1/35	1/27		41/684
Pit 116	117	1/16					2/11		3/27
Pit 116	118			1/5	1/12	1/200	2/39		5/256
Ditch 119	120						1/31		1/31
Moat/pond 134	137							2/3660	2/3660
Pit 152	153		1/13			5/124		1/1000	7/1137
	Total	23/213	1/13	1/5	18/437	8/1687	7/222	3/4660	61/7237

6.2 Pottery

- 6.2.1 The pottery provides the primary dating evidence for the site (Table 1). In total, seven sherds, weighing 222 g, were recovered from five contexts: two cut features, a made ground deposit and topsoil. The mean sherd weight is 31.1 g. Most of the sherds survived in a very good condition and exhibited relatively fresh breaks that were un-abraded. Two sherds, possibly from a single bowl-type vessel, had been exposed to high temperatures which had caused the outer surfaces to vitrificate.
- 6.2.2 The sherds from each context were divided into fabric groups using the system developed by Ratkai (2009) where appropriate and quantified by number and weight of the pieces. Where possible, detail of the vessel form and other diagnostic features have been noted and a spot date for each context has been assigned. The level of recording is consistent with the 'basic record' advocated for the rapid characterisation of pottery assemblages (Barclay *et al.* 2016, section 2.4.5).

Medieval

- 6.2.3 A single large, oxidised body sherd of Deritend ware was recovered from ditch 119. It derives from a closed vessel, possibly a jug of late 13th or early 14th-century date.

Modern

- 6.2.4 A body sherd from a local coarseware vessel was recovered from the made ground layer 106. This vessel fragment probably derives from a jar with the thick, iron-rich brown glaze that is typical of vessels of later 17th or 18th-century date.



- 6.2.5 Four relatively modern sherds (c. post 1850) were excavated from two fills within pit 116. The sherds include two fragments, possibly from a bowl, of industrial whiteware that had come in contact with a heat source, causing the outer surfaces to partially melt and vitrify. The others are a body from a brown stone ware mineral bottle and a rim from a large transfer-printed serving plate exhibiting iron staining. A single complete white stoneware ink bottle of similar date was recovered from the topsoil 101.

6.3 Ceramic building material

- 6.3.1 A small fragment from the nib area of a relatively modern tile in an oxidised sandy fabric was retained from pit 152.

6.4 Clay tobacco pipe

- 6.4.1 The lower portion of a bowl and stem junction (spur broken) from a single tobacco pipe was recovered from pit 116. Unfortunately, the fragment has no diagnostic features to refine its date, but an association with other artefacts from this feature means a post 1850 date for this pipe bowl fragment is likely.

6.5 Glass

- 6.5.1 Seventeen glass vessels fragments were retained from the made ground layer 106, along with a single modern window glass fragment from pit 116. The vessel fragments include the upper portion and body sherds from a dark green wine bottle with a string rim characteristic of a date around AD 1720–50. A number of base and body pieces from at least three dark green beer bottles were present, along with the upper portion from a clear glass phial and other clear glass sherds.

6.6 Ironwork

- 6.6.1 Pit 116 contained the handle from an iron bath or wash tub of mid- to late 19th-century date. A long rectangular tapering shanked nail was present in the made ground layer 106. Similar nail types and a door latch, with catchment plate, was recovered from the fill of pit 152. The final iron item derives from a large horseshoe with square calkins from the topsoil 101. The size and style of the shoe would suggest a heavy horse of 19th-century date.

6.7 Wood

- 6.7.1 Worked wood was recovered from two contexts: the fill (137) of moat or pond 134 and pit 152. Ten large structural timbers, which may have formed part of a bridge or jetty associated with the moat/pond were recorded on site, but not retained. These timbers measured between 0.94 and 1.54 m in length and were all broken at one or both ends.
- 6.7.2 Three smaller timbers were retained for further inspection, of which two came from the moat/pond. One is part of a possible plank which is severely damaged, so no original dimensions could be ascertained. The second piece came from a larger timber, possibly a post with a sawn top and a 20 mm hole drilled obliquely from the top to one of the sides. Cut or axe marks could also be seen on this side.
- 6.7.3 The end of a plank (124 mm wide) was recovered from pit 152. This piece has a finely worked surface on one side and shows signs of burning on the others, which are all damaged. A small hole (12 mm in diameter) has been drilled through the plank, probably so that it could be screwed or nailed in place.

6.8 Animal bone

- 6.8.1 The animal bone came from two contexts of relatively modern date (post 1850). All of the bones were collected via the normal course of hand-excavation. They comprise bovid third phalanx from pit 116 and several further identified bones from made ground deposit 106. The bones from this latter context include two complete sheep/goat foot bones (metacarpal and metatarsal), and the distal ends of a tibia and humerus. The tibia has been chopped through the distal shaft and the humerus is from a lamb. Part of a pig pelvis was also recovered from this deposit. The fragment has several deep cut marks across its surface, most probably resulting from secondary reduction of the hindquarters into smaller meat joints. Two bones, a humerus and carpometacarpus, from the wing of a domestic-sized goose, were also found, together with a number of unidentifiable fragments of mammal bone.

6.9 Conclusion

- 6.9.1 All the finds have been recorded to recommended minimum standards for the archiving of archaeological finds.
- 6.9.2 The portable finds assemblage is relatively modern in date and has local significance. The presence of a single medieval sherd is of local interest. The undated wooden plank fragments may have the potential to provide a radiocarbon date, as they were recovered from the fill of the moat/pond (134) that did not produce any other dateable artefacts. The single plank fragment from pit 152 was associated with a modern roofing tile and has limited potential for any further analysis.
- 6.9.3 The condition of all material types indicate that the preservation conditions are favourable across the area investigated, and therefore any future work on the site has the potential to provide a larger and more informative assemblage.

7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

- 7.1.1 No deposits were uncovered that were deemed suitable for environmental sampling.

8 SUMMARY

- 8.1.1 A small number of archaeological features were uncovered across the site, with a greater concentration in the south and east where the land remains undeveloped. The earliest dateable feature was a north–south aligned ditch located in the east, which contained a large sherd of medieval pottery. It is probable that the ditch was part of a field boundary and a remnant of the medieval agricultural landscape.
- 8.1.2 Within the main house, the foundations of a close studded timber framed wall between the family room and kitchen was uncovered, along with the underlying levelling and bedding layers. The remains of an earlier possible brick floor were also recorded as well as a made ground layer which lay beneath the modern floor in the family room. The made ground layer contained finds dating to the early 18th century suggesting that renovations or alterations had occurred in the room during this period. No evidence of an earlier, potentially medieval, structure was found.
- 8.1.3 To the south of the main house and barn a large feature which contained waterlogged fills and timbers was recorded. The location of the feature correlates well with a pond or partial remains of a moat shown on the 1842 Tithe map and 1886 first edition Ordnance Survey

map (Laing O'Rourke Murphy Joint Venture 2020). No datable finds were recovered from the pond/moat and therefore the date of its construction and later infilling is unknown.

- 8.1.4 Other features recorded on site included a small brick structure south of the main house, modern drainage ditches and pits, as well as a small number of undated features.

9 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION

9.1 Museum

- 9.1.1 Following discussions between the Senior Historic Environment Officer at the Warwickshire County Council Archaeological Information and Advice team and the HS2 Area North Phase 1 Historic Environment Manager, it has been agreed that archive related to the watching brief at Jerrings Hall Farm will form part of the overall HS2 archive. Digital data will be deposited with the ADS; any retained physical archive will be transferred to the HS2 Post-excavation Contractor once they are appointed.

9.2 Preparation of the archive

Physical archive

- 9.2.1 The physical archive, which includes paper records, graphics, and artefacts, will be prepared in accordance with the relevant HS2 strategy and guidance (HS2 2022a; 2022b), and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (Brown 2011; ClfA 2014b; SMA 1995).
- 9.2.2 All archive elements will be marked with the site code 263081, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive currently comprises the following:
- One cardboard box of artefacts, ordered by material type
 - One file of paper records

Digital archive

- 9.2.3 The digital archive generated by the project, which comprises born-digital data (e.g., site records, survey data, databases and spreadsheets, photographs and reports), will be deposited with a Trusted Digital Repository, in this instance the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), to ensure its long-term curation. Digital data will be prepared following ADS guidelines (ADS 2013 and online guidance) and accompanied by metadata.

9.3 Selection strategy

- 9.3.1 It is widely accepted that not all the records and materials (artefacts and ecofacts) collected or created during the course of an archaeological project require preservation in perpetuity. These records and materials will be subject to selection in order to establish what will be retained for long-term curation, with the aim of ensuring that all elements selected to be retained are appropriate to establish the significance of the project and support future research, outreach, engagement, display and learning activities, i.e., the retained archive should fulfil the requirements of both future researchers and the receiving Museum.
- 9.3.2 The selection strategy, which details the project-specific selection process, is underpinned by national guidelines on selection and retention (Brown 2011, section 4) and generic selection policies (SMA 1993; Wessex Archaeology's internal selection policy) and follows ClfA's *Toolkit for Selecting Archaeological Archives* (ClfA 2022b). It should be agreed by all

stakeholders (Wessex Archaeology's internal specialists, local authority and museum) and fully documented in the project archive.

- 9.3.3 In this instance, given the relatively low level of finds recovery, the selection process has been deferred until after the fieldwork stage was completed. Project-specific proposals for selection are presented below. These proposals are based on recommendations by Wessex Archaeology's internal specialists and will be updated in line with any further comment by other stakeholders (museum, local authority). The selection strategy will be fully documented in the project archive.
- 9.3.4 Any material not selected for retention may be used for teaching or reference collections by Wessex Archaeology.

Finds

- Animal bone (23 fragments): small assemblage of relatively modern date. No further research potential. Discard.
- Ceramic building material (1 fragment): the CBM is modern in date. No further research potential. Discard.
- Clay Tobacco Pipe (1 fragment): a mid-19th-century bowl fragment. No further research potential. Discard.
- Glass (18 fragments): a number of relatively modern glass vessel fragments. No further research potential. Discard.
- Iron (8 objects): the ironwork is relatively modern in date. No further research potential. Discard.
- Pottery (7 fragments): the pottery consists of a single medieval sherd, with the remainder modern date. No further research potential. Retain the single medieval sherd to be included into Wessex Archaeology's medieval fabric series and discard the remainder of the assemblage.
- Wood (3 pieces): ten structural timbers were recorded on-site and not retained. Once sub-sampled for tree species identification, and potentially scientific dating, the other three pieces do not merit long-term retention and can be discarded.

Documentary records

- 9.3.5 Paper records comprise site registers (other pro-forma site records are digital), drawings and reports (written scheme of investigation, client report). All will be retained and deposited with the project archive.

Digital data

- 9.3.6 The digital data comprise site records (tablet-recorded on site) in spreadsheet format; finds records in spreadsheet format; survey data; photographs; reports. All will be deposited, although site photographs will be subject to selection to eliminate poor quality and duplicated images, and any others not considered directly relevant to the archaeology of the site.

9.4 Security copy

- 9.4.1 In line with current best practice (e.g., Brown 2011), on completion of the project a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file. PDF/A is an ISO-standardised version of the Portable Document Format (PDF) designed for the digital

preservation of electronic documents through omission of features ill-suited to long-term archiving.

9.5 OASIS

- 9.5.1 An OASIS (online access to the index of archaeological investigations) record (<http://oasis.ac.uk>) has been initiated, with key fields completed (hs2wesse1-517631; Appendix 2). A.pdf version of the final report will be submitted following approval by the Senior Historic Environment Officer at the Warwickshire County Council Archaeological Information and Advice team on behalf of the LPA. Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, copies of the OASIS record will be integrated into the relevant local and national records and published through the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) ArchSearch catalogue.

10 COPYRIGHT

10.1 Archive and report copyright

- 10.1.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative/digital archive relating to the project will be retained by Wessex Archaeology under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. The client will be licenced to use each report for the purposes that it was produced in relation to the project as described in the specification. The museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use conforms to the *Copyright and Related Rights Regulations 2003*.
- 10.1.2 Information relating to the project will be deposited with the Historic Environment Record (HER), where it can be freely copied without reference to Wessex Archaeology for the purposes of archaeological research or development control within the planning process.

10.2 Third party data copyright

- 10.2.1 This document and the project archive may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (e.g., Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which Wessex Archaeology are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferable by Wessex Archaeology. Users remain bound by the conditions of the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of such material.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Context index

Context Number	Type	Category	Fill of/Filled With
101	Layer	Topsoil	n/a
Dark brown sandy silt with common, medium, sub-rounded stones.			
102	Layer	Natural	n/a
Mid-orange brown sandy clay with abundant gravel and medium sub-rounded stones.			
103	Masonry	Floor surface	n/a
Irregular floor surface with straight sides and a flat base. Constructed from sun-bleached pale blue grey unfrogged paving bricks and bonded with sand. Maximum height: 0.07 m.			
104	Layer	Made ground	n/a
Mid-white yellow hardcore.			
105	Masonry	Floor surface	n/a
Rectangular floor surface with straight sides and a flat base. Constructed from concrete. Maximum height: 0.16 m.			
106	Layer	Made ground	n/a
Mid-red brown silty sand with common (30-40%) gravels - fine-coarse (10-80 mm), sub-rounded to well-rounded and poorly sorted.			
107	Masonry	Wall	n/a
Linear wall aligned E-W with straight sides and a flat base. Constructed from handmade, unfrogged, well fired red brick and timber and bonded with pale yellow sandy mortar. Maximum height: 2.10 m.			
108	Layer	Made ground	n/a
Dark brown sandy silt with moderate (15-20%) mortar flecks - fine-medium (10-30 mm), sub-angular to angular and moderately sorted.			
109	Layer	Made ground	n/a
Mid-red silty sand with rare (1-5%) gravels - fine (10-20 mm) and sub-rounded.			
110	Layer	Made ground	n/a
Dark black grey sandy silt with frequent (10-15%) charcoal.			
111	Layer	Made ground	n/a
Light whitish yellow silty sand with frequent (10-15%) gravels - fine-medium (10-40 mm), angular and poorly sorted.			
112	Layer	Made ground	n/a
Mid-brown grey silty sand with common (20-30%) pebbles - fine-coarse (10-90 mm), rounded and poorly sorted.			
113	Masonry	Wall	n/a
Sub-square wall with straight sides and an unknown base. Constructed from red brick and bonded with mortar. Maximum height: 1.00 m.			
114	Fill	Deliberate backfill	113
Dark brownish grey sandy silt with sparse (15-20%), sub-rounded, fine-coarse (10-50 mm) gravels, poorly sorted.			
115	Layer	Natural	n/a
Mid-reddish brown silty sand with common sub-rounded medium sized gravels and pebbles.			
116	Cut	Pit	117, 118
Incomplete pit with steep, straight sides and a flat base. Length: >1.78 m. Width: >0.77 m. Depth: 0.51 m.			
117	Fill	Deliberate backfill	116
Mid-brownish grey sandy clay with sparse (5-8%) sub-rounded fine-moderate (10-25 mm) gravels, poorly sorted.			
118	Fill	Deliberate backfill	116
Dark brownish grey silty sand with common (55-65%) sub-angular/angular coarse (25-35 mm) gravels-pebbles.			
119	Cut	Ditch	120
Linear ditch aligned N-S with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >4.60 m. Width: 0.95 m. Depth: 0.49 m.			
120	Fill	Secondary fill	119



Context Number	Type	Category	Fill of/Filled With
Mid-bluish grey clayey sand with common (40-45%), sub-rounded, fine (10-90 mm) gravels-cobbles, poorly sorted.			
121	Cut	Linear feature	n/a
Incomplete linear feature aligned NE-SW with steep, straight sides and a flat base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: 2.08 m. Depth: 0.65 m.			
122	Fill	Deliberate backfill	n/a
Mid-grey brown sandy silt with sparse (10-15%), fine-moderate (10-25 mm) gravels, poorly sorted.			
123	Layer	Road	n/a
Dark grey to black tarmac.			
124	Layer	Surface	n/a
Mid-yellowish grey silty sandy gravel.			
125	Cut	Ditch	126
Linear ditch aligned NE-SW with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: >0.75 m. Depth: >1.00 m.			
126	Fill	Secondary fill	125
Mid-brownish grey sandy clay with sparse (3-5%), sub-rounded, fine-moderate (10-20 mm) gravels, poorly sorted.			
127	Layer	Made ground	n/a
Light to mid-reddish brown sandy silty gravel.			
128	Cut	Pit or ditch terminal	127
Incomplete pit or ditch terminal aligned NE-SW with irregular, concave sides and an unknown base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: 2.14 m. Depth: 1.19 m.			
129	Fill	Secondary fill	128
Mid-grey sandy clay with rare (1-2%), sub-rounded, fine (5-10 mm) gravels, poorly sorted.			
130	Layer	Demolition layer	n/a
Mid-brownish grey sandy silt with moderate (15-20%), sub-rounded, coarse (30-100 mm) gravels and cobbles.			
131	Cut	Pit	132
Incomplete pit with irregular, irregular sides and an unknown base. Diameter: 5.36 m. Depth: 0.82 m.			
132	Fill	Deliberate backfill	131
Light grey sand, large sub-rounded stones and gravel with fragments of wood.			
133	Layer	Made ground	n/a
Light grey brown silty sand with 30% sub-rounded stones in varying sizes and coarse gravel, poorly sorted.			
134	Cut	Moat or pond	135, 136, 137
Moat or pond aligned NE-SW with moderate, concave sides and an irregular/undulating base. Length: >10.00 m. Width: >3.00 m. Depth: 1.50 m.			
135	Fill	Secondary fill	134
Mottled reddish and grey brown silty sand with 15-20% sub-rounded coarse gravel and small pebbles.			
136	Fill	Secondary fill	134
Mid-bluish grey silty clay with 20-25% sub-rounded small stones and coarse gravel, moderately well sorted.			
137	Fill	Secondary fill	134
Dark grey silty clay with 30-40% decayed organic material and 20% sub-rounded small stones and coarse gravel, moderately well sorted.			
138	Wood	Beam fragment	134
Beam fragment. Preparation: Boxed halved. Length: 0.91 m. Width: 0.17 m. Depth: 0.06 m. (Lifted).			
139	Wood	Beam	134
Beam. Length: 1.54 m. Width: 0.27 m. Depth: 0.07 m. (Lifted).			
140	Wood	Worked timber	134
Worked timber. Length: 1.18 m. Width: 0.24 m. Depth: 0.09 m. (Lifted).			
141	Wood	Wood	134
Wood. Length: 0.14 m. Width: 0.13 m. Depth: 0.11 m. (Lifted).			
142	Wood	Beam fragment	134
Beam fragment. Preparation: Halved. Length: 0.94 m. Width: 0.32 m. Depth: 0.12 m. (Lifted).			
143	Wood	Beam	134
Beam. Length: 1.48 m. Width: 0.18 m. Depth: 0.08 m. (Lifted).			



Context Number	Type	Category	Fill of/Filled With
144	Wood	Worked timber	134
Worked timber. Preparation: Boxed heart. Length: 1.48 m. Width: 0.36 m. Depth: 0.09 m. (Lifted).			
145	Wood	Beam fragment	134
Beam fragment. Length: 1.24 m. Width: 0.30 m. Depth: 0.07 m. (Lifted).			
146	Wood	Beam	134
Beam. Preparation: Boxed heart. Length: 1.48 m. Width: 0.23 m. Depth: 0.21 m. (Lifted).			
147	Wood	Worked timber	134
Worked timber. Length: 1.50 m. Width: 0.24 m. Depth: 0.10 m. (Lifted).			
148	Cut	Ditch	149, 150
Linear ditch aligned NW-SE with steep, straight sides and a concave base. Length: >10.00 m. Width: 2.30 m. Depth: 2.00 m.			
149	Fill	Deliberate backfill	148
Dark grey silty sand with 15-20% sub-rounded stones and coarse gravel, more concentrated towards base and 5-10% decayed organic material.			
150	Fill	Deliberate backfill	148
Mid-reddish brown silty clay with 10-15% sub-rounded medium gravel, moderately well sorted.			
151	Layer	Natural	n/a
Mid-reddish brown sandy clay with 5-10% sub-rounded medium gravels.			
152	Cut	Pit	153, 154
Sub-circular pit with steep, straight sides and an unknown base. Diameter: >1.12 m. Depth: 0.87 m.			
153	Fill	Deliberate backfill	152
Dark grey to black silty sand with 15-20% charcoal.			
154	Fill	Deliberate backfill	152
Dark reddish grey silty sand with 15-20% sub-rounded stones and coarse gravel, poorly sorted.			
155	Layer	Made ground	n/a
Mid-reddish brown silty clay with 30-40% sub-rounded large stones and gravel, moderately well sorted and 10% charcoal flecks.			
156	Layer	Demolition material	n/a
Light reddish brown silty clay with frequent rounded stone inclusions and broken tile.			
157	Cut	Gully	158
Linear gully aligned E-W with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >3.50 m. Width: 0.54 m. Depth: 0.18 m.			
158	Fill	Secondary fill	157
Mid-yellow grey clayey sand with sparse (10-20%) gravels - fine-cobble (10-120 mm), sub-rounded and poorly sorted.			
159	Masonry	Frame	n/a
Sub-square frame with straight sides and a V-shaped base. Constructed from timber, species unknown. Maximum height: 2.50 m.			
160	Masonry	Packing material	n/a
Sub-square packing material with irregular sides and a flat base. Constructed from earth, brick rubble, mortar, gravels and cobbles. Maximum height: 0.13 m.			
161	Masonry	Floor surface	n/a
Linear floor surface with straight sides and a flat base. Constructed from unfrogged, well fired red brick and bonded with pale yellow sandy mortar with white lime flecks. Maximum height: 0.09 m.			



Appendix 2 Oasis summary

OASIS ID (UID): hs2wesse1-517631

Project Name: Jerrings Hall Farm, Solihull: Archaeological Watching Brief

Activity type: Watching Brief

Coordinates: SP 12053 76322

Administrative Areas:

Country: England

County/Local Authority: Solihull

Local Authority District: Solihull

Parish: Dickens Heath

Sitecode(s): 263081

Project Identifier(s): 263081, 263081

Planning Id: PL/2021/01351/HS2S50, PL/2021/01351/HS2S50

Reason for Investigation: Planning: Post determination

Organisation Responsible for work: HS2 Wessex Archaeology

Project Dates: 03-Jul-2023 - 01-Dec-2023

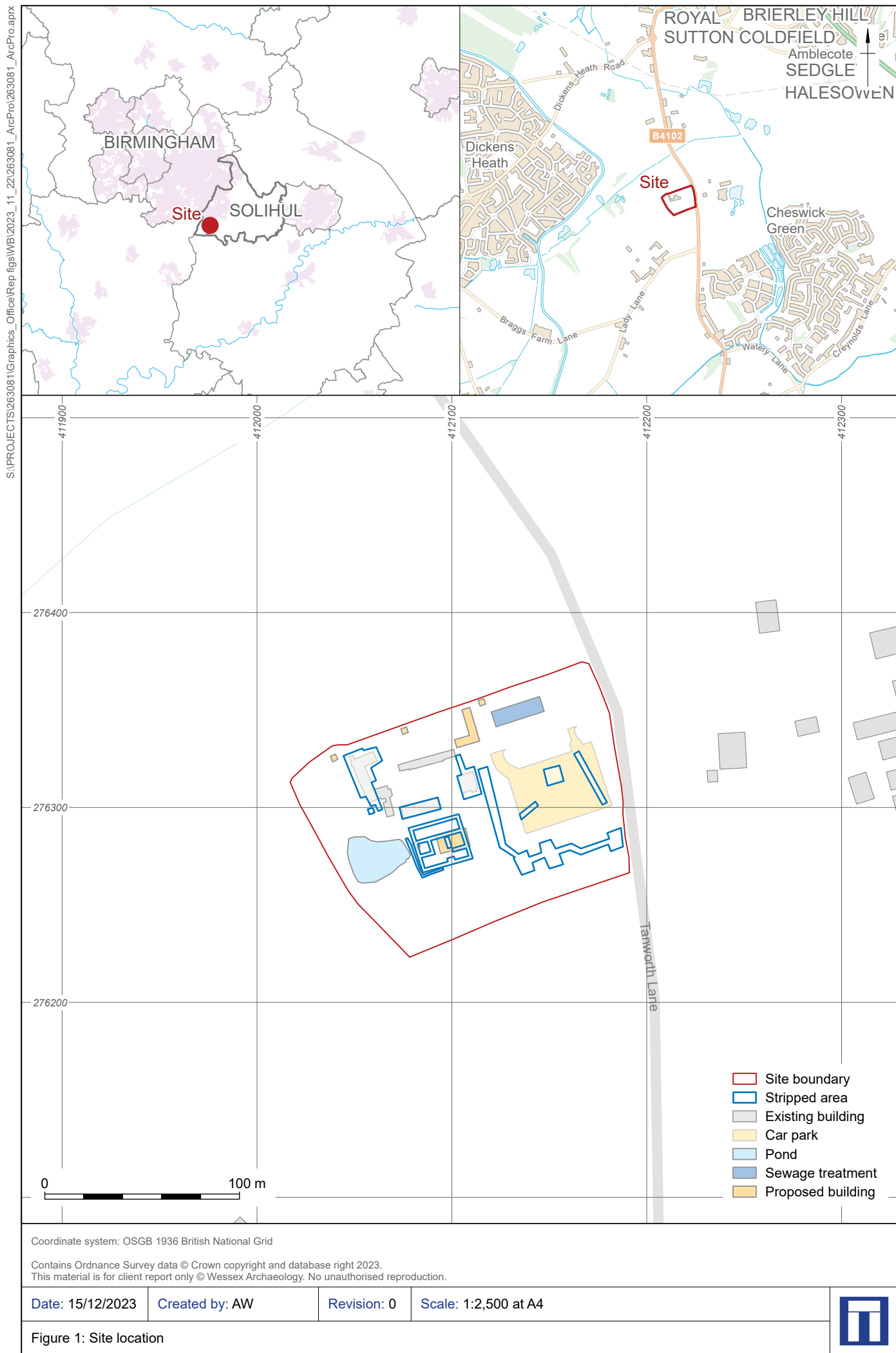
HER: Solihull HER

Project Methodology: Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Sanderson Weatherall LLP to undertake an archaeological watching brief during excavations and intrusive groundworks associated with building construction and related groundworks at Jerrings Hall Farm, Tamworth Lane, Solihull.

Project Results: A small number of archaeological features were uncovered across the site, with a greater concentration in the south and east where the land remains undeveloped. The earliest feature was a ditch located in the east, which contained a large, unabraded sherd of medieval pottery. It is probable that the ditch was a remnant of the medieval agricultural landscape. Within the main house, the foundations of a timber framed wall between the family room and kitchen was uncovered, along with the underlying levelling and bedding layers. The remains of a possible earlier brick floor was recorded within the family room, as well as an 18th-century ground raising or levelling layer. To the south of the main house and barn a large feature which contained waterlogged fills and timbers was recorded. The location of the feature correlates well with a pond, or partial remains of a moat, shown on the 1842 Tithe map and 1886 first edition Ordnance Survey map (DJV 2020). Other features recorded on site included a small brick structure south of the main house, modern drainage ditches and refuse pits, as well as a small number of undated features.

Reports in OASIS

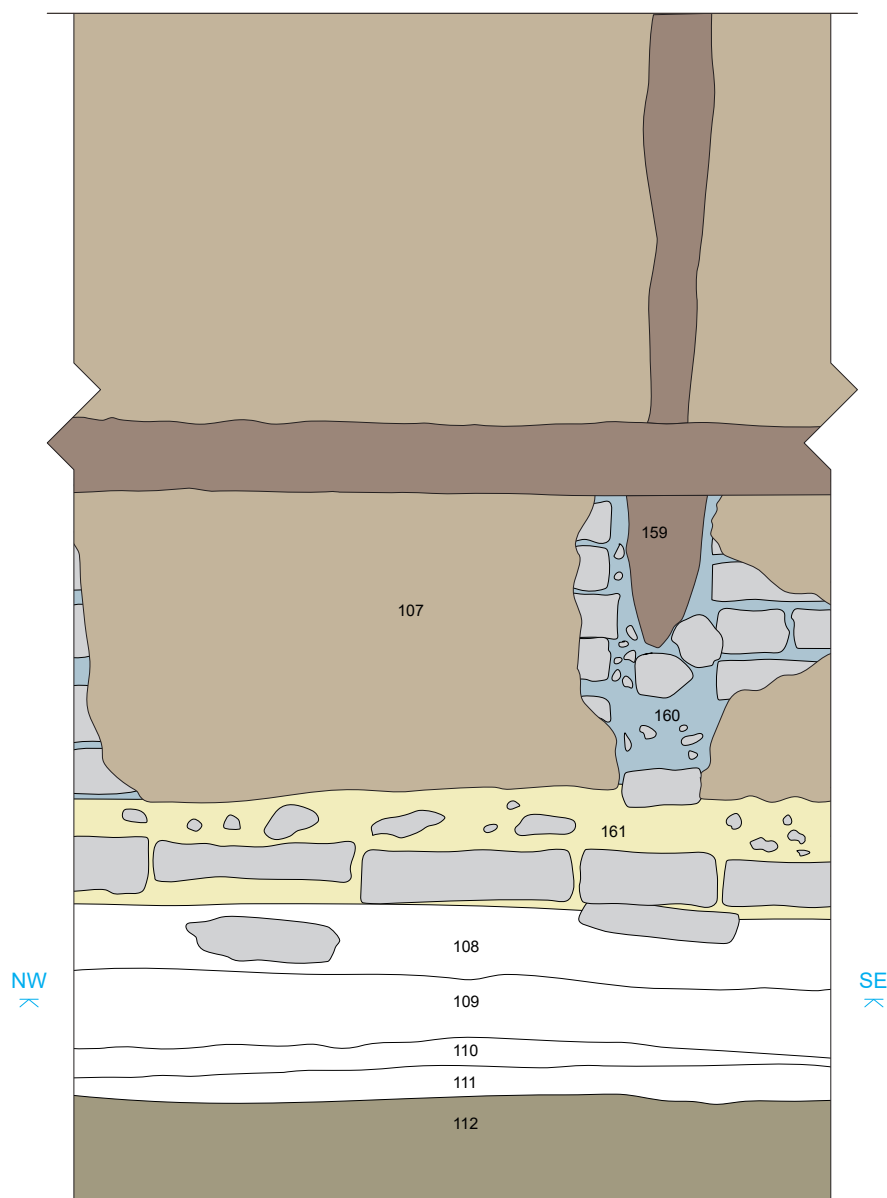
Jackson-Slater, C., (2024). *Jerrings Hall Farm, Solihull: Archaeological Watching Brief*. Sheffield: HS2 Wessex Archaeology. 263081.01.



-

Date: 15/12/2023	Created by: AW	
Scale: 1:600 at A3	Revision: 0	
Figure 2: Plan of exposed features		

Section 1



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Date: 27/11/2023 Created by: EG Revision: 0 Scale: 1:10 at A4

Figure 3: South-east facing section of main building's internal wall (107 and 159)





Figure 4: Brick paving 103 and made ground 104, viewed from the north-east



Figure 5: Brick paving 103 and made ground 104, viewed from the north-east



Figure 6: Pit 152 and made ground 155, viewed from the north-east



Figure 7: Ditch 119, viewed from the south-east, 1 m scale



Figure 8: South-east facing internal wall 107/159 of main building, 1 m scale.



Figure 9: Close-up of layers 108–112 and possible brick floor 161 beneath internal wall 107/159, viewed from the south-east, 1 m scale.



Figure 10: Outbuilding 113, viewed from the south-east, 1 m scale



Figure 11: Pit 116, viewed from the east, 1 m scale



Figure 12: Pit 131, viewed from the north, 2 m scale



Figure 13: Feature 134, viewed from the south-east, 2 m scale



Figure 14: Sample of wood recovered from feature 134, 1 m scale



Figure 15: Gully 157, viewed from the west, 0.5 m scale



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