KERESLEY SUSTAINABLE URBAN EXPANSION

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

For

THE QUEEN’S COLLEGE, OXFORD, CALA HOMES (WEST MIDLANDS) LIMITED AND BLUEMARK DEVELOPMENTS LIMITED

CA PROJECT: 2809
CA REPORT: 09036

MAY 2009
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SUMMARY

Project Name: Land of Tamworth Road
Location: Coventry
NGR: SP 3126 8400
Type: Desk-Based Assessment

In February 2009 Cotswold Archaeology was commissioned by The Queen’s College, Oxford, Cala Homes (West Midlands) Limited and Bluemark Developments Limited to carry out an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of land off Tamworth Road, Coventry. The objective of the assessment was to identify the nature and extent of the recorded archaeological resource within both the site and its immediate environs.

No remains of designated National cultural heritage value have been identified within the site.

Prehistoric activity in the area appears to have been focused along a north-west/south-east ridge of higher ground which runs south from Burrow Hill, the site of an Iron Age Hillfort, to Hounds Hill, within the northern area of the site. Mesolithic and Neolithic surface material has been recovered from Hounds Hill. The precise limits of this activity have not been defined and there is potential for further surface material and possibly associated below-ground archaeological features to survive within the site, at Hound’s Hill, and possibly in the north-western area of the site.

Medieval settlement within the site appears to have been focused at Keresley and Manor Farm, in the eastern area of the site. Rectangular earthworks (now removed) possibly associated with a medieval moated manor are visible on aerial photographs at Manor Farm. Possible medieval fishponds and a putative house site are recorded in the western part of the site. There is potential for associated medieval agricultural features, such as ditches and furrows to survive elsewhere within the site.

Two post-medieval/modern Grade II Listed buildings, of regional cultural heritage value, are recorded within the southern area of the site. Six Locally Listed buildings, of local cultural heritage value, are also recorded within the site. Initial survey indicates that the remainder of buildings within the site are of negligible or local cultural heritage value. The baseline survey
indicates some potential for below-ground remains of now-removed post-medieval/modern buildings within the site, likely to be of negligible cultural heritage value.

Extant ridge and furrow earthworks of possible medieval origin have been identified in the eastern area of the site. These features are of local interest, at best.

Medieval-modern linear banks and drainage channels, likely to be of local cultural heritage value, have been identified within the southern and central areas of the site. The lines of medieval routeways identified within the site are also considered to be of local cultural heritage value. Ponds recorded on the historic cartographic sources (other than those identified as potential medieval stew ponds) are considered to be of negligible cultural heritage value.

Hedgerows surviving along the line of the historic Keresley Parish boundary, at the northern edge of the site, and along boundaries depicted on 18th-century cartographic sources are considered to have statutory protection under the Hedgerow Regulations 1997.
1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In February 2009, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) was commissioned by The Queen’s College, Oxford, Cala Homes (West Midlands) Limited and Bluemark Developments Limited to carry out an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of land off Tamworth Road, Coventry (centred on NGR: SP 3126 8400; Fig. 1). The report addresses both the below-ground archaeological resource and extant built heritage remains, referred to collectively as the ‘cultural heritage resource’.

Project objectives

1.2 The objectives of the present desk study may be defined as:

- to identify statutory and non-statutory cultural heritage constraints within the site and a study area of approximately 500m around it;
- to gather information on the cultural heritage resource, including previous published and unpublished archaeological investigations and finds;
- to gather information from cartographic and documentary sources on the recorded historic landuse within the site;
- to assess the above baseline information and offer an analysis of the known cultural heritage resource, including its preservation and importance; and
- to assess the potential for currently unrecorded cultural heritage features within the site.

1.3 The site is approximately 236ha in area, and is defined by the Coventry/Warwickshire County Boundary to the north, Tamworth Road (the B4098) to the west and Sandpits Lane to the south. It is largely defined to the east by Bennetts Road, although several fields to the east of the road are also included. Fivefield Road runs north-west/south-east through the site and Thompson Lane runs west/east across the northern area of the site. The main area of the site comprises arable and pastoral agricultural fields with four areas of woodland, Bunsons Wood, Pikehome Wood, and The Alders, and Hall Yard Wood, in the northern part of the site. Settlement within the site is focused at Keresley (formerly Keresley Green), at the Fivefield Road/Bennetts Road junction at the eastern edge of the site, with further buildings spread along the roads bounding the western, southern and eastern site boundaries and along Thompson Land within the northern part of the site.
1.4 The site is located on higher ground to the north-west of the city of Coventry. The ground is highest at Hound’s Hill, in the northern area of the site where a north-west/south-east oriented ridge runs south-east from Burrow Hill, to the north, into the site. Hall Brook runs north-west/south-east in a slight valley to the south-west of Hound’s Hill, through the central area of the site.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 This assessment has been guided by the Standard and Guidance for Desk-Based Assessment issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA 2001, revised 2008). The baseline survey involved consultation of readily available archaeological and historical information from documentary and cartographic sources. The major repositories of information consulted comprised:

*English Heritage*
- List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest;
- List of Scheduled Monuments;
- NMR list of archaeological sites and events;
- Aerial photographs;
- Register of Parks and Gardens of Historic Interest; and
- Register of Battlefields.

*Coventry Historic Environment Record (CHER)*
- Database of known archaeological sites, findspots and previous works;
- Published and unpublished documentary sources (including development control site reports); and
- Aerial photographs.

*Warwickshire Historic Environment Record (WHER)*
- Database of known archaeological sites, findspots and previous works;
- Published and unpublished documentary sources (including development control site reports).

*Coventry History Centre*
- Historic maps, documents and publications.
Warwickshire County Record Office

- Historic maps, documents and publications.

Online sources

- Including the DEFRA MAGIC websites.

Site Inspection

- A site visit was made on 12th and 13th February 2009 to assess any visible cultural heritage features surviving within the site, and current landuse.

2.2 All points of cultural heritage interest found in the baseline survey are located on Fig. 2. The gazetteer (Appendix A) correlates points of interest with their reference number on the CHER and WHER, as well as any other relevant statutory designation or status. Points of interest are marked in bold in the body of the text thus, 00.

2.3 The following section, Baseline Survey, identifies, in chronological order, the recorded archaeological resource within the site and its immediate vicinity.

3. BASELINE SURVEY

Designated sites and planning policy

International

3.1 No World Heritage Sites or sites included on the Tentative List of Future Nominations for World Heritage Sites issued by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport are situated within the site or its vicinity.

National

3.2 No Scheduled Monuments, Grade I or II* Listed buildings, Registered Parks, Gardens or Battlefields are recorded within the site. One Scheduled Monument, Corley Camp univallate hillfort, is recorded in the study area, to the north of the site (Fig. 2, 4; EH).

3.3 National policy relating to archaeology and development is contained in Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning (PPG 16) (November 1990) and the 1979 Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act.
Regional and Local

3.4 Local Planning Policy is outlined in the Coventry Development Plan (adopted December 2001). This includes policy BE15 (Saved Policy), Archaeological Sites, which is detailed in full in Appendix B.

3.5 Two Grade II Listed buildings, Akon House (Fig. 2, 19; EH) and Beechwood House (Fig. 2, 22; EH), are recorded within the site. An additional four Grade II Listed buildings are recorded in the study area (Fig. 2, 20-21, 23, 30).

3.6 Six Locally Listed buildings are recorded within the site (Fig. 2, 24-29). An additional two Locally Listed buildings are recorded in the study area (Fig. 2, 31-32), to the west of the site. No Conservation Areas are recorded within the site or the study area.

3.7 Archaeological Constraint Areas, associated with sites recorded on the CHER, are mapped within the site and the study area (not illustrated). These are used by the planning department to highlight which planning applications may need to specifically consider the archaeological resource rather than to highlight areas of assigned value (Anna Wilson, Coventry HER Officer, pers. comm.).

Previous archaeological work

3.8 No intrusive previous archaeological work is recorded within the site. Field survey, including fieldwalking, was undertaken within the site and the study area as part of the Coventry Historic Environment Project (Fig. 2, 54a-b; CHER). This comprised two main areas, one within the northern area of the site (Fig. 2, 54a) and a second to the west of the site (Fig. 2, 54b). Further field survey has been planned for the southern area of the site, but had not been undertaken at the time of the visit to the HER (Fig. 2, 54c; Anna Wilson CHER Officer pers. comm.). Finds and features identified/assessed during this survey are discussed in the relevant period summaries below (Fig. 2, 5, 6, 40, 50-52, 55, 56).

3.9 One programme of intrusive archaeological work is recorded in the study area, excavation was undertaken at Corley Camp Iron Age Hillfort to the north of the site in the 1920s (Fig. 2, 1; Hawkes 1931). This recorded the Iron Age monument as well as prehistoric flint and medieval pottery. Two desk-based assessments are recorded in the study area, one as part of Coventry City Council Building Schools for the Future project, to the south of the site (Fig. 2, 2, AOC Archaeology Group 2008) and
a second of land adjacent to Coventry Colliery, to the east of the site (Fig. 2, 3; ULAS 1998).

**Geology and the Palaeoenvironment**

3.10 The solid geology of the site comprises Carboniferous Keresley Member sandstone (BGS 1994). A small area of Western Glacial Drift Till, brown or reddish brown pebbly clay, is mapped at the south-eastern edge of the site (Fig. 2). No other drift deposits are mapped within the site.

**Prehistoric**

*Within the site*

3.11 Prehistoric flint was recorded within the site during fieldwalking associated with the Coventry Historic Environment Project (Fig. 2, 5-6, 55-56). An assemblage of seventeen pieces of worked flint, which included microliths (Mesolithic) and a Neolithic scraper, were recorded from the eastern edge of a field within the central area of the site (Fig. 2, 5). In the adjacent field to the east 90 worked flints, also of Mesolithic and Neolithic date, were recorded (Fig. 2, 6). In addition, a limited quantity of prehistoric flint was recorded within the eastern area of the site, comprising a single piece of worked flint (Fig. 2, 55) and three pieces of worked flint (Fig. 2, 56).

*The wider study area*

3.12 Corley Camp Iron Age hillfort is located c. 360m to the north of the site (Scheduled Monument; Fig. 2, 1, 4). This is a sub-square univallate hillfort covering approximately 4ha. Quantities of Mesolithic to Neolithic flint (Fig. 2, 7) have been recorded from Corely Camp, showing that activity here pre-dated the construction of the fort. Worked flint has also been recovered from the area immediately south-west of the hillfort (Fig. 2, 8).

3.13 Also to the north of the site, prehistoric flint has been recorded from two adjacent areas (Fig. 2, 9, 10). These comprise: an extensive scatter of prehistoric flint, thought to represent a flint working or occupation site (Fig. 2, 9); and surface material comprising over thirty flints of Neolithic to Bronze Age date (Fig. 2, 10). A bronze artefact, type not specified, is also recorded from the latter (Fig. 2, 10).
Roman
3.14 The site lies c. 16km south-west of the small Roman settlement at High Cross (Venonis), which lies at the junction of the Fosse Way and Watling Street (OS 2001). The site itself is c. 12km south of Watling Street and c. 13km west of the Fosse Way. No Roman finds or features are recorded within the site. Two Roman finds were recorded from Corley Camp in the 1970s, these comprise a knife handle (Fig. 2, 11) and a brooch (Fig. 2, 12).

Early medieval
3.15 A Saxon Charter boundary has been mapped to the south-west of the site, as a place name detailed in the charter is located in this area (Fig. 2, 13). No early medieval finds or features are recorded within the site.

Medieval
3.16 The site is historically located within the Hamlet of Keresley, a detached part of the Parish of St Michael’s, Coventry (VCH 1969, 77). Settlement was focused at Keresley (Keresley Green; Fig. 2, 15), within the eastern part of the site, and at Keresley Heath, to the south of the site, outside the study area (not illustrated). No extant medieval features are currently recorded within the village of Keresley.

3.17 A 15th-century Manor House is recorded at the site of Manor Farm (Fig. 2, 16; VCH 1969, 77). No medieval buildings were identified in this location during the site visit but a rectangular earthwork (now removed) is visible to the west of the extant farm buildings on 1940s aerial photographs (see undated below; Figs. 2 and 13, 57). Although currently undated this could conceivably be the site of a medieval moated manor.

3.18 A focus of probable medieval activity is recorded within the north-western area of the site (Figs. 2 and 13, 14). A possible housesteading (Fig. 13, 14a), with a chain of fishponds running south (Fig. 13, 14b), ending at a large west/east dam (Fig. 13, 14c), is visible on 1940s aerial photographs. Extant earthworks at the site of the possible housesteading and fishponds immediately to its south have been removed. The area to the north of the large dam has been flooded and now forms a single large pond.

3.19 This site (14) is recorded on the CHER as a possible medieval moated manor house, although this remains unproven. The farming of fish in ponds, known as
stewponds, was common practice in the medieval period. It has been suggested that a marshy area within woodland to the south of the large dam may also have been the site of a fishpond, although no clear feature has been identified in this area (Fig. 2, 52).

**Medieval landscape**

3.20 Information on the medieval landscape recorded in 15th-century documentary sources has been transcribed onto Fig. 4 (CHER). Three areas of woodland within the site, Hall Yard Wood, Pikehorn Wood, and The Alders, are recorded in an early 15th-century documentary source (Fig. 4; CHER). These areas of woodland are defined by earthworks: a bank and ditch surround all four sides of Pikehorn Wood; the north-west and south-east sides of the Alders are surrounded by a bank; and at least the eastern boundary of Hall Wood is marked by a bank (further access to this area was not available at the time of the site visit).

3.21 Medieval lanes are recorded in documents associated with St. Mary’s Priory dated 1410-11 (under different names; Fig. 4; CHER). Within the site these comprise: Thompson’s Lane, Fivefield Lane, and a track along the northern site boundary. The eastern end of Thompson’s Lane (*le Carterlane*) has been metalled but the central and western parts are a dirt track. The western end, between Bunson’s Wood and the junction with Fivefield Road, has the appearance of a medieval sunken lane and is, on average, approximately 1m to 1.5m below the level of the adjacent fields (Fig. 14). Fivefield Road is a well-used metalled road, at its northern end, running between Thompson’s Lane and Tamworth Road, appears sunken. The northern site boundary, which forms the boundary between Coventry and Warwickshire, is a footpath. The footpath is enclosed by hedges at the eastern end, where part of its length is flanked by banks with internal ditches. Watery Lane and Halford Lane/Penny Park Lane, to the east of the site, also have medieval origins (Fig. 4). Field names recorded in the St. Mary’s Priory documentary sources (1410-11) have been transcribed onto Fig. 4.

**The wider study area**

3.22 Two medieval sites are recorded to the north of the site. These comprise the site of a gallows (Fig. 2, 17) and the findspot of a medieval buckle (Fig. 2, 18). Medieval pottery was recorded at Corley Camp during excavations in the 1920s (Fig. 2, 1; Hawkes 1931).
Post-medieval/Modern

The site

3.23 The development of the site through the post-medieval/modern periods is detailed in cartographic and documentary sources, described below. Information from these sources has been transcribed onto Fig. 5. Areas of the site are depicted on 18th-century estate maps (Figs 6-8) and the entire site is first depicted in detail on the 1843 Keresley Hamlet Enclosure Map (Fig. 9). The site is subsequently depicted on the 1846 Keresley Hamlet Tithe Map (Fig. 10), and in the later 19th and 20th centuries by the Ordnance Survey (Fig. 11, First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1888). Main boundaries recorded on the historic maps have been transcribed onto Fig. 3.

3.24 An 1581 survey describes fields in the central area of the site (Fig. 5, Tom Field etc.). A building (apparently removed) is recorded by this source, the precise location of which is not certain, as there is no accompanying map.

3.25 Field names recorded in the 17th-century documentary sources have been transcribed onto Fig. 5. Within the site, these include an early 17th-century reference to Bunson’s Wood. This area of woodland is bounded by a bank and ditch, a steep bank at the northern edge of the woodland may be a man-made or natural feature (see undated below; Fig. 2, 62; Fig. 15).

3.26 The map of 1768 (Fig. 6) depicts the northern part of Bennetts Road, bounding the eastern edge of the site and the eastern end of Thompson’s Lane. It also depicts a pond at the junction of Thompson Lane and Bennetts Road, and two buildings within the eastern edge of the site.

3.27 The map of 1771 (Fig. 7) depicts the south-western area of the site bounded by Tamworth Road and Sandpits Lane. Golden Green Farm is depicted within the south-western corner of the holding (Figs. 2 and 7, 27). The main house, (Locally Listed), is shown with a group of associated farm buildings to its west, and orchard is shown to its north. A small area of woodland, Monks Wood, is depicted at the northern area of the holding. The field to the south of Monks Wood is bounded by woodland. This is characteristic of parkland, although no park is labelled. Two stones are depicted on a footpath in the western area of the holding. These features are not on the later historic mapping and were not observed during the site visit.
Whether they are a post-medieval boundary feature or survivals from an earlier period is unclear.

3.28 Buildings at the eastern end of Sandpits Lane are also depicted on the 1771 map (Fig 7). These comprise Akon House (Grade II Listed; Figs. 2 and 7, 19) and Beechwood House (Grade II Listed; Figs. 2 and 7, 22) and associated buildings.

3.29 The map of 1788 (Fig. 8) depicts the central area of the site, around Bunsons Wood. It depicts buildings at Thompson’s Farm (Fig. 8, A). The road now known at Thompson’s Lane is depicted as an unnamed lane running west from Bennetts Road to a crossroad at the junction with Fivefied Road. A road (now removed) is also shown running along the eastern edge of Hall Yard Wood, at the western side of the holding. Two now-removed field barns are depicted within the site.

3.30 Land-use for the northern area of the site is detailed in a 1792 documentary source (Fig. 5). This indicates that the north-western area of site, where the field name leys is recorded, was meadow (Field 1972, 125).

3.31 The Warwickshire Record Office estate map catalogue details a map of 1803 showing the central area of the site. Unfortunately the Record Office Staff were unable to locate the map at the time of the Record Office visit.

3.32 The 1843 Keresley Enclosure Map depicts the entire site in detail (Fig. 9). This depicts the site as agricultural fields with areas of woodland. In addition to the buildings shown on the 18th-century maps (Figs. 2 and 9, 19, 22, 27, A), buildings are depicted at Keresley, including Ravenswood House (Figs. 2 and 9, 28) and Durham House Farm (Figs. 2 and 9, 35), Manor Farm (Fig. 9, B), Keresley House (Figs. 2 and 9, 24), buildings east of Keresley House (Fig. 9, C), along Tamworth Road (D), and along Bennetts Road (E, F). This source also depicts a number of ponds across the site, many of which are extant.

3.33 No major changes are shown on the 1846 Keresley Tithe Map (Fig. 10). Field Names detailed in the accompanying Apportionment Register have been transcribed onto Fig. 10. Field names of interest include reference to Brickyard to the west of Keresley and at the north-western edge of the site, and Marl Pit, within the north-eastern and central areas of the site. Marl is clay mixed with calcium carbonate and was used as a soil improver in the post-medieval period (Field 1972, 134).
3.34 Changes shown on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1888 (Fig. 11) include the clearance of woodland in the northern (Fig. 10, Thompson’s Wood) and south-western (Fig. 10, Golden Green Wood) areas of the site. No major building developments are depicted within the site on this source.

3.35 The 1905 Ordnance Survey Map (Fig. 12) depicts Keresley Manor (Figs. 2 and 12, 25) and Keresley Hall (with associated park; Fig. 2, 26), at the western edge of the site, and The Limes (Figs. 2 and 12, 29) at the eastern edge of the site. No major changes are shown on the 1919 or 1920s Ordnance Survey maps.

3.36 In the 1930s new buildings were developed along Thompson’s Lane, and along Bennetts Road, at the eastern edge of the site. A recreation ground was established to the south of Thompson’s Lane. The mid and later 20th-century saw further development at Keresley Green, along Bennetts Road and along Tamworth Road.

*Hedgerows*

3.37 Hedgerows surviving along the line of the historic Keresley Parish boundary, at the northern edge of the site, have statutory protection under the Hedgerow Regulations 1997 (criteria for archaeology and history, reproduced in Appendix C). Hedgerows surviving along boundaries depicted on the 18th-century cartographic sources are also considered to have statutory protection as they can be shown to pre-date the Enclosure Act for the parish. Hedgerows surviving along boundaries shown on the 1843 Enclosure Map are not considered to have statutory protection but may be considered to be of some cultural heritage interest by the Local Authority as they pre-date 1845. The main historic boundaries have been transcribed onto Fig. 3.

*The wider study area*

3.38 Four Grade II Listed post-medieval/modern buildings are recorded in the wider study area, three along Tamworth Road, to the west and south of the site (Fig. 2, 20, 21, 23), and one on Bennetts Road, to the north (Fig. 2, 23). Two Locally Listed buildings, most likely of post-medieval or modern origin, are recorded along Tamworth Road, to the west of the site (Fig. 2, 31, 32). Other post-medieval/modern sites recorded in the study area comprise Newlands House (Fig. 2, 34) and Coventry Colliery (Fig. 2, 33), to the east of the site.
3.39 The site of an anti-aircraft battery is recorded within the site. However, aerial photographs show that this site was located to the south of Sandpits Lane (Fig. 2, 36).

3.40 Field names for the wider study area are detailed in 19th-century documentary sources, including the Keresley, Allesley and Coundon Tithe Apportionment Registers. Consultation of these field names showed that while they record information on the study area they are not of direct relevance to the cultural heritage potential of the site itself and therefore have not been reproduced in this report.

**Undated**

*Ridge and Furrow earthworks*

3.41 Ridge and furrow earthworks are visible within the site on 1940s aerial photographs (Figs. 2 and 13, 37, 38, 39, 40, 45, 46, 49). Ridge and furrow earthworks recently recorded within Bunsons Wood were not visible at the time of the site visit due to vegetation covering (Fig. 2, 40), although they are visible adjacent to Bunsons Wood on aerial photographs. The ridge and furrow earthworks in the eastern and southern areas of the site (Fig. 2, Fig. 13, 38a-c, 39, 41 and 42) are relatively widely spaced and some display a characteristic reverse-S, indicative of medieval origin. With the exception of those now beneath housing development at Keresley, the earthworks at 38a-c and 39 are extant (Fig. 17, 38a). The ridge and furrow earthworks visible on aerial photographs in the western and northern areas of the site are more narrowly spaced (Fig. 2, 45, 46, 49), indicative of post-medieval or modern origin, although some do display a reverse-S shape (Fig. 2, 49). These earthworks were not observed during the site visit, although there is potential for remains of furrows to survive below ground.

3.42 Six areas of ridge and furrow earthworks are recorded in the wider study area (Fig. 2, 43-44, 47-48). These are currently undated, but may be of medieval origin as they are widely spaced and display a reverse-S shape.

*Other earthworks*

3.43 A possible plough headland, recorded in Pikehome Wood, survives as a slight ridge (Fig. 2, 51). A possible Holloway recorded within Pikehome Wood, was observed as a shallow linear depression, which could be remnant of a boundary feature (Fig. 2, 50). A large linear earthwork within a wooded belt was observed during the site visit running south from ‘The Alders’ Wood (Fig. 2, 60). This feature is approximately 5m
wide and 0.5m high at its southern edge. The origin of a steep bank observed at the northern edge of Bunsons Wood is uncertain (Fig. 2, 61; Fig. 15). It could be a boundary bank, or possibly of natural origin. While the origin of these features is unproven it is considered likely that they are associated with agricultural activity of medieval-modern date.

3.44 Undated earthworks are visible within the site on 1940s aerial photographs. A rectangular earthwork (now removed), visible at Manor Farm in the eastern area of the site, may be of medieval origin, although could also be associated with post-medieval or modern activity (Figs. 2 and 13, 57). Linear earthworks, including drainage cuts, of uncertain date are visible at Keresley (Figs. 2 and 13, 58) and within the southern area of the site (Figs. 2 and 13, 59). While undated, these features are likely to be associated with agricultural activity or woodland management of medieval-modern date.

3.45 No clear earthworks have been identified at the possible fishpond site in the western part of the study area (Fig. 2, 52). The site comprises a marshy area, and may be of natural or post-medieval/modern agricultural origin.

Other sites

3.46 Place name evidence has been used to suggest a possible Barrow or enclosure site, potentially within the southern area of the site (Fig. 2, 53). The name ‘Keresley Castle’ (‘Keresleyebewre castle’) is recorded in a 14th-century source, probably referring to an area north of Penny Park Lane, east of the site, although the possibility of an associated feature within the site has not been ruled out (CHER). No physical feature has been associated with this site and it remains unproven.

Historic Buildings within the site

3.47 Two Grade II Listed buildings are recorded within the site (Fig. 2, 19, 22). Akon House is a 16th-century timber framed house with 18th-century extension (Fig. 2, 19, EH). Beechwood House is a 16th or 17th-century timber framed house with 18th-century façade (Fig. 2, 22, EH).

3.48 Six Locally Listed buildings are recorded within the site. These comprise: Ash Tree Residential Home (Golden Green Farm), first shown on the map of 1771 (Fig. 2, 27); two buildings first depicted on the map of 1843, Keresley House (Fig. 2, 24) and
Ravenswood House (Fig. 2, 28), and; and three late 19th-century buildings, The Limes (Fig. 2, 29), Keresley Manor (Fig. 2, 25) and Keresley Hall (Fig. 2, 26).

The majority of other buildings within the site are two-storey 20th-century detached and semi-detached dwellings. Initial survey indicates that structures along Thompson's Lane, Bennetts Road, Fivefield Road, Tamworth Road and Sandpits Lane are of negligible and Local cultural heritage value.

4. CONCLUSIONS

4.1 No remains of designated national cultural heritage value have been identified within the site.

4.2 Prehistoric activity in the area appears to have been focused along a north-west/south-east ridge of higher ground which runs south from Burrow Hill, the site of an Iron Age Hillfort, to Hounds Hill, within the northern area of the site. Mesolithic and Neolithic surface material has been recovered from Hounds Hill. The precise limits of this activity have not been defined and there is potential for further surface material and possibly associated below-ground archaeological features to survive within the site at Hound’s Hill and, possibly, in the north-western area of the site.

4.3 Medieval settlement within the site appears to have been focused at Keresley and Manor Farm, in the eastern area of the site. No extant medieval features have been identified within the village of Keresley. Rectangular earthworks, possibly associated with a medieval moated manor are visible on aerial photographs at Manor Farm. Above ground remains of these earthworks have been removed, but there is potential for remains to survive below ground. Possible medieval fishponds and a putative house site are recorded in a third area in the western part of the site. Earthworks associated with the possible house site and some of the fishponds have been removed but an area of fishponds remains extant and there is potential for associated below ground remains. There is potential for associated medieval agricultural features, such as ditches and furrows, to survive below ground elsewhere within the site.

4.4 Settlement in the post-medieval/modern periods expanded along routeways at the eastern, southern and western edges of the site. Two post-medieval/modern Grade
II Listed buildings (of regional cultural heritage value) are recorded within the southern area of the site. Six Locally Listed buildings, of local cultural heritage value, are also recorded within the site. Initial survey indicates that the remainder of buildings along Thompson’s Lane, Bennetts Road, Fivefield Road, Tamworth Road and Sandpits Lane are of negligible and local cultural heritage value.

4.5 The cartographic and documentary sources indicate potential for below-ground remains of now removed post-medieval/modern buildings, including field barns, within the northern and central areas of the site. Any remains of such buildings are likely to be of local or negligible cultural heritage value.

4.6 Ridge and furrow earthworks are visible within the site on 1940s aerial photographs. Those in the vicinity of Keresley appear to be of medieval origin and are extant. These are considered to be of local cultural heritage value. Other ridge and furrow earthworks visible within the site, which appear to be of post-medieval or later origin, have been removed by 20th-century agricultural practices. The below-ground remains of furrows are considered to be of negligible cultural heritage value.

4.7 Hedgerows surviving along the line of the historic Keresley Parish boundary, at the northern edge of the site, have statutory protection under the Hedgerow Regulations 1997. A number of hedgerows within the northern and south-western areas of the site survive along boundaries depicted on 18th-century cartographic sources. These are also considered to have statutory protection as they pre-date the Enclosure Act for the parish. The majority of hedgerows within the remaining areas of the site lie along boundaries depicted on the 1843 Enclosure Map. These are not considered to have statutory protection but may be considered to be of some cultural heritage interest by the Local Authority as they pre-date 1845.

4.8 Linear banks and drainage channels identified within the southern and central areas of the site are likely to be of medieval-modern agricultural origin. As such, they are likely to be of, at best, local cultural heritage value. The lines of medieval routeways identified within the site are also considered to be of local cultural heritage value. Ponds recorded on the historic cartographic sources (other than those identified as potential medieval stew ponds, see above) are considered to be of negligible cultural heritage value.
4.9 The setting of Corley Camp Scheduled Monument and Listed buildings identified in the wider area should be considered in the formulation of design plans.

5. PROJECT TEAM

5.1 The project was researched and the report produced by Rosemary Blackwell, and illustrated by Lorna Gray. The project was managed by Gail Stoten.

6. REFERENCES

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1846  Keresley Hamlet Tithe Map, CRO search room copy
1886  Ordnance Survey 6” series, sheet 16SE
1887  Ordnance Survey 25” series, sheet 16.11
1888  Ordnance Survey 6” series, sheet 21NE
1888  Ordnance Survey 25” series, sheet 16.15
1889  Ordnance Survey 25” series, sheet 21.3
1890  Ordnance Survey 6” series, sheet 16SE
1903  Ordnance Survey 25” series, sheet 16.11
1905  Ordnance Survey 6” series, sheet 16SE
1905  Ordnance Survey 25” series, sheet 21.3
1906  Ordnance Survey 6” series, sheet 21NE
1919  Ordnance Survey 6” series, sheet 16SE
1913  Ordnance Survey 25” series, sheet 16.15
1914  Ordnance Survey 25” series, sheet 16.11
1889  Ordnance Survey 25” series, sheet 21.3
1913  Ordnance Survey 25” series, sheet 21.3
1915  Ordnance Survey 6” series, sheet 21NE
1925  Ordnance Survey 25” series, sheet 16.11
1925  Ordnance Survey 25” series, sheet 16.15
1925  Ordnance Survey 25” series, sheet 21.3
1926  Ordnance Survey 6” series, sheet 21NE
1936  Ordnance Survey 25” series, sheet 16.11
1936  Ordnance Survey 25” series, sheet 16.15
1936  Ordnance Survey 25” series, sheet 21.3
1838  Ordnance Survey 6” series, sheet 16SE
1838  Ordnance Survey 6” series, sheet 21NE

CRO  Coventry Record Office
WRO  Warwickshire Record Office
## APPENDIX A: GAZETTEER OF RECORDED ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

**KEY:** PH = Prehistoric; Neo = Neolithic; BA = Bronze Age; IA = Iron Age; Rom = Roman; RB = Romano-British; Sax = Saxon; Med = medieval; PM = post-medieval; MOD = modern.

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<td>3138 8466</td>
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<td>CHER/ Site visit</td>
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APPENDIX B: LOCAL PLANNING POLICY

Coventry Development Plan (adopted December 2001).

BE15 (Saved Policy), Archaeological Sites: There will be a presumption in favour of the preservation of archaeological remains of national importance (whether or not scheduled ancient monuments and whether visible or concealed) and of their setting. Such remains should be accessible for public enjoyment and expert study wherever this is feasible without being significantly detrimental to their preservation. Development adversely affecting known or suspected archaeological remains of less than national importance, or their setting or accessibility, will be permitted only if the benefits of the development clearly outweigh the likely harm. Preservation of remains where they are found, if feasible, is preferred. In any case, all practicable measures must be taken for their assessment, recording and protection. Where the existence or importance of remains is uncertain, suitable assessment may be required prior to the determination of a development proposal.
APPENDIX C: EXTRACT FROM THE HEDGEROWS REGULATIONS 1997

Extracted From Statutory Instruments 1997 No. 1160 The Hedgerows Regulations 1997, Schedule 1: Additional criteria for determining ‘Important’ hedgerows;

PART II
CRITERIA
Archaeology and history

1. The hedgerow marks the boundary, or part of the boundary, of at least one historic parish or township; and for this purpose “historic” means existing before 1850.

2. The hedgerow incorporates an archaeological feature which is-
   (a) included in the schedule of monuments compiled by the Secretary of State under section 1 (schedule of monuments) of the Ancient Monuments and Scheduled Areas Act 1979(g); or
   (b) recorded at the relevant date in a sites and Monuments Record.

3. The hedgerow-
   (a) is situated wholly or partly within an archaeological site included or recorded as mentioned in paragraph 2 or on land adjacent to and associated with such a site; and
   (b) is associated with any monument or feature on that site.

4. The hedgerow-
   (a) marks the boundary of a pre-1600 AD estate or manor recorded at the relevant date in a sites and Monuments Record or on a document held at that date at a Record Office; or
   (b) is visibly related to any building or feature of such an estate or manor.

5. The hedgerow-
   (a) is recorded in a document held at the relevant date at a Record Office as an integral part of a field system pre-dating the Inclosure acts(a); or
   (b) is part of, or visibly related to, any building or other feature associated with such a system, and that system-
      (i) is substantially complete; or
      (ii) is of a pattern which is recorded in a document prepared before the relevant date by a local planning authority, within the meaning of the 1990 Act(b), for the purposes of development control within the authority’s area, as a key landscape characteristic.
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Main historic boundaries

- site
- boundary first depicted on an 18th-century map - extant
- boundary first depicted on an 18th-century map - removed
- boundary first depicted on map of 1843 - extant
- boundary first depicted on map of 1843 - removed
Woodland/roads/field names recorded in medieval documentary sources

- Site
- Road recorded in 15th-century documentary source
- Field name/woodland recorded in 15th-century documentary source
Land off Tamworth Road
Coventry

**FIGURE TITLE**
Extract from the map of 1768

**DRAWN BY**
LG

**SCALE**
not to scale

**PROJECT NO.**
2809

**FIGURE NO.**
6
Project Title: Land off Tamworth Road, Coventry

Figure Title: Extract from the map of 1771

Scale: 1:10,000 2809LG

Location: Tamworth Road, Sandpits Lane
Extract from the map of 1788

Thompson’s Lane

Field Barn

Hall Yard Wood

Fivefield Road

Bunson’s Wood

Field Barn
Extract from the map of 1843

PROJECT TITLE
Land off Tamworth Road
Coventry

FIGURE TITLE

DRAWN BY
LG

APPROX SCALE
1:12,500@A4

PROJECT NO.
2809

FIGURE NO.
9
Extract from the map of 1888
Land off Tamworth Road
Coventry

Extract from the map of 1905

COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

FIGURE TITLE

PROJECT TITLE

Land off Tamworth Road
Coventry

DRAWN BY

LG

APPROX SCALE

1:12,500@A4

PROJECT NO.

2809

FIGURE NO.

12
Land off Tamworth Road
Coventry

Extract from 1940s aerial photographs
14 Thompson’s Lane, view to west

15 Bank at north-east edge of Bunsons Wood (Fig. 2, 61), view to south-west
16 Fishpond (Fig. 2, 14), view to north

17 Ridge and furrow west of Keresley (Fig. 2, 38a), view to east
18 Beechwood House (Grade II Listed, Fig. 2, 22), view to north

19 Akon House (Grade II Listed, Fig. 2, 19), view to west