Edgbaston Central Campus Development
Hybrid Planning Application

March 2012

Archaeological Technical Appraisal

UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM
This report takes into account the particular instructions and requirements of our client. It is not intended for and should not be relied upon by any third party and no responsibility is undertaken to any third party.
Contents

1 Introduction 1
   1.1 Background to Project 1
   1.2 Location & Status of Site 2
   1.3 Aims & Objectives 2
   1.4 Methodology 3

2 Planning & Legislative Framework 3
   2.1 Legislation 3
   2.2 National Policy 4
   2.3 Regional Policy 4

3 Historical & Archaeological Background 7
   3.1 Historical Background 9
   3.2 Archaeological Background 10
   3.3 Map Summary 13
   3.4 Land Use 14

4 Discussion & Conclusion 15
   4.1 Possible Impact of Development 15
   4.2 Recommendation for further Investigations 15

5 References & Bibliography 16

Tables

Table 1: Proposed Projects within Proposed Development Site
Table 2: Definition of Archaeological Time Periods
Table 3: Heritage Assets within the footprint of the Scheme
Table 4: Heritage Assets within 500m of the Site
Table 5 Metchley Forts Phasing (Jones, 2004b)
Table 6: Archaeological Activity within and directly adjacent to the Site

Figures

Figure 1 Heritage Assets within 500m of the Proposed Development Site
Figure 2 Gun Barrels Public House - Project No. 1b (north facing)
Figure 3  Demolition of Gun Barrels Public House & South Car Park – Project No. 1b (south-west facing)
Figure 4  Bungalow adjacent to South Car Park – Project No. 1c (west facing)
Figure 5  Pritchatts Road Car Park – Project No. 17 (west facing)
Figure 6  Western Part of Pritchatts Road – Project No. 17 (west facing)
Figure 7  Eastern Part of Pritchatts Road – Project No. 17 (east facing)
Figure 8  Site of Proposed Access Road – Project No. 5 (north-west facing)
Figure 9  Current Library – Project No. 11b (north facing)
Figure 10  Old Gym Building – Project No. 9 (west facing)
Figure 11  Chemistry West Building – Project No. 8 (north-west facing)
Figure 12  Terrace Huts – Project No. 7 (north-east facing)
Figure 13  Car Park directly North of Library – Project No. 15c (south facing)
Figure 14  Open area directly south of Library – Project No. 10a (south-west facing)
Figure 15  Munrow Sports Centre – Project No. 14 (north facing)
Figure 16  Sports Pavilion – Project No. 2 (south-west facing)
Figure 17  Location of new Pedestrian Route to the Vale Student Village – Project No. 21 (north facing)
Figure 18  Canal & Railway Line directly west of University Campus (south facing)

Appendices

Appendix A
Archaeological Data
1 Introduction

1.1 Background to Project

Arup has been commissioned by the University of Birmingham to undertake an Archaeological Technical Appraisal in respect of a proposed development at the University of Birmingham’s Edgbaston Central Campus site (hereafter, the ‘proposed development site’). It should be noted that the upstanding heritage assets (listed buildings) on the site are being assessed independently by Alan Baxter & Associates LLP in the Strategic Heritage Assessment.

The proposed development includes several individual projects, involving demolition, landscaping and re-development. For ease of reference, these have been summarised within Table 1 and referred to as ‘proposed projects’.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Number</th>
<th>Proposed Project</th>
<th>Figure Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1a</td>
<td>New Sports Centre and Car Park</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1b</td>
<td>Demolition of Gun Barrel Public House</td>
<td>2, 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1c</td>
<td>Demolition of Bungalow</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1d</td>
<td>New Accessible Pedestrian Route from Sports Centre to Student Services Hub</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Partial Demolition of Old Sports Pavilion</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Grange Road Car Park</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Aston Webb: New Student Services Hub</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Grange Road Bridge Crossing (off Selly Oak New Road)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>New Grange Road Student Residences and Sports Pavilion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Demolition of Terrace Huts and replacement car park</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Demolition of Chemistry West</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Demolition of Old Gym</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10a</td>
<td>‘Green Heart’ Landscaping - Phase 1</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10b</td>
<td>‘Green Heart’ Landscaping - Phase 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10c</td>
<td>‘Green Heart’ Landscaping, Temporary car park to the north of Muirhead Tower</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11a</td>
<td>Demolition of Old Brick Store</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11b</td>
<td>Demolition of Existing Library Building</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Demolition of Substation 24</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>New Main Campus Library</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Demolition of Munrow Sports Centre</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15a</td>
<td>Library Enabling Works including new vehicular route linking from Ring Road to Pritchatts Road. Removal of existing sports track.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Archaeological Technical Appraisal forms the initial stage in a phased programme of archaeological investigations designed to determine the location and extent of any archaeological remains within the site boundary in advance of redevelopment. This report has been carried out in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists’ ‘Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment’ (IFA, 2001), Code of Conduct (IFA, 2002) and with government advice in Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment.

### 1.2 Location & Status of Site

The proposed development site is located approximately 4.5km to the south west of Birmingham city centre, at National Grid Reference: SP 04811 83856. The site is bound to the south by the Bristol Road (A38), to the west by the canal and railway line, and to the east by Edgbaston Park Road. The site comprises of part of the University of Birmingham Campus.

The site has an elevation of 123.27m AOD in the southern part of the site, rising to 146.27m AOD at the centre at the junction of Pritchatts Road / University Avenue, falling slightly to 138m AOD in the northern part of the site.

The solid geology of the site comprises of the Triassic Bromsgrove Sandstone Formation which underlies the north-western, north and north-easterly areas. In the south and southwest, the underlying solid geology comprises of the Wildmoor Sandstone Formation. The drift geology of the site comprises of mostly Glaciofluvial deposits, with the exception of a small area of glaciolacustrine deposit occupying the western part of the site (in the vicinity of West Gate) and to the south of Ring Road South, where the area is underlain by alluvium deposits associated with the Bourn Brook. Please refer to the ‘Ground Conditions Desk Study and Preliminary Risk Assessment’ for further details.

### 1.3 Aims & Objectives

The aim of the technical appraisal is to provide an overview of readily available documentary data relating to the history and archaeological potential of the site.
1.4 Methodology

1.4.1 Documentary Research

The Archaeological Technical Appraisal comprised of an examination of readily available published and unpublished written records, illustrations, maps and archaeological and geological records. Information was sourced from the Birmingham Historic Environment Record (HER), through online historical resources (such as http://www.british-history.ac.uk/ and http://www.victoriacountyhistory.ac.uk/), Birmingham Central Library and the Archaeological Data Service (ADS).

1.4.2 Cartographic Sources

Historic Ordnance Survey 1:10,560, 1:2,500 and 1:1,250 maps from the 19th century onwards were examined to gain an understanding of the development of the study area, and how this may affect the potential for buried archaeological assets to survive.

1.4.3 Site Walkover

Compilation of the assessment was supported by a walkover survey (Figs.2 – 18) undertaken on the 7th December 2011, to provide familiarity with the application site and the identification of any heritage assets.

1.4.4 Consultation

Consultations were held with the Birmingham City Council Archaeologist (CA) concerning the heritage potential of the site. The CA has suggested possible archaeological implications associated with the demolition of the Chemistry West Building (Project No.8) due to possible archaeological remains relating to Metchley Roman Fort. The CA has advised that a demolition method statement will be required to ensure the demolition of the existing building does not damage any possible archaeological remains.

2 Planning & Legislative Framework

2.1 Legislation

Statutory protection for archaeology is principally provided by the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act of 1979 amended by the National Heritage Act (2002). The Secretary of State for National Heritage maintains a schedule of Nationally Important sites; criteria for designation as such are:

- Extent of survival;
- Current condition;
- Rarity;
- Fragility;
- Connection to other monuments, or group value;
- Potential to contribute to our information, understanding and appreciation; and
- Extent of documentation enhancing the monument’s significance.
2.2 National Policy

Planning Policy Statement 5 (PPS 5): Planning for the Historic Environment was published on the 23rd March 2010, replacing Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning (PPG16) and Planning Policy Guidance Note 15 (PPG 15) Planning and the Historic Environment. PPS 5 draws together the guidance previously issued to provide for a single document covering matters relating to the historic environment and is supported by a practitioners guide ‘Historic Environment Planning Practice Guide’ which provides guidance to various bodies in the application of the PPS.

PPS 5 highlights the interrelationship between various elements of the historic environment and how collectively these contribute to our understanding and appreciation of the asset. The fragile and irreplaceable nature of the resource is highlighted and the need for Local Authorities to develop policies and developers schemes that provide for the enhancement and preservation of the resource. In those circumstances where physical change to an asset will occur that may result in the permanent loss and or change, which is identified as the least preferred option as once lost such resource are irreplaceable, PPS 5 provides mechanisms to secure appropriate mitigation measures. Key to this is the requirement for appropriate evaluation of the heritage potential of a proposed development to take place prior to the submission of a planning application. Depending on the site, this may involve desk based research, with further detail being provided by geophysical survey and/or trial trenching.

2.3 Regional Policy

Core Strategy Draft – Birmingham Core Strategy 2026

Although the Core Strategy is presently at draft stage, this city-wide plan will set out an overall spatial strategy for Birmingham to 2026 and will replace chapters 2 – 7 of the Unitary Development Plan (UDP). The Strategy has nine key objectives that will help shape the emerging strategy. Objective 9 states:

“To protect and enhance the city’s heritage and historic environments – Birmingham is a city that is proud of its historic past and aims to protect and utilise its historic environment to create a sense of place and a locally distinctive character”.

Birmingham Unitary Development Plan 2005

Conservation Areas

Policy 3.27, states:

“In order to define the special character of Conservation Areas, Conservation Area Character Appraisals and Management Plans will be prepared for all of the City’ Conservation Areas. Development proposals within Conservation Areas will be considered in the light of the following policies:-

- the development should preserve or enhance the character or appearance of the area, and the demolition of buildings or removal of trees or other landscape features which make a positive contribution to the area’s character or appearance will be resisted.
• outline planning permission will not be granted for development within Conservation Areas unless supported by detailed proposals showing siting, design, external appearance and means of access.

• consent to demolish a building in a Conservation Area will be granted only where its removal or replacement would benefit the appearance or character of the area.

• the development should respect the character of the existing architecture, in scale, grouping and materials, and should generally reflect the character and appearance of the area”.

Policy 3.28, states:

“Proposals for development adjacent to Conservation Areas should respect the character and appearance of the Conservation Area”.

Historic Landscapes

Policy 3.29, states:

“The City Council will continue to work with English Heritage to complete the Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest for Birmingham. Historic landscapes which do not merit inclusion in the National Register, but which have special local significance, will be added to the City’s Local List Planning proposals should respect the historic context of sites on the Register of Parks and Gardens and their settings. In determining applications the Council will take full account of the historic significance of these areas and seek to protect their distinctive characteristics. Similarly, development proposals that would adversely affect the character and appearance of other parks, gardens and open spaces and their settings will not normally be permitted”.

Archaeology

Policy 3.30, states:

“Archaeological remains are the product of human activity over thousands of years and are valuable both for their own sake and for their role in education, leisure and tourism. There are 10 scheduled Ancient Monuments in Birmingham which are statutorily protected because of their national importance. These and other archaeological remains are included on the Birmingham Sites and Monuments Record”.

Policy 3.31, states:

“There is a need for further improvements to this Record which will continue to be monitored and updated. Wherever possible, sites and remains included on this register and their settings, and in particular scheduled ancient monuments, will be protected and enhanced according to their merits, as will further archaeological remains which may be added to the list”.

Policy 3.32, states:

“The development of the educational, recreational and tourist potential of archaeological remains through management and interpretation will be encouraged where appropriate and where it does not have an adverse effect on the integrity of the remains and their setting”.
Policy 8.35 Development affecting Archaeological Remains, states:

“Development proposals affecting archaeological remains will be considered in the light of the following policies:-

- an assessment of the archaeological aspects of development proposals will be required from applicants before the planning application is determined. Planning permission will not be granted in cases where the assessment of the archaeological implications is inadequate.
- development proposals which will have an adverse effect on scheduled ancient monuments and other nationally important archaeological remains and their settings will not be allowed.
- where appropriate, Section 106 agreements will be negotiated to protect, enhance and interpret archaeological remains”.

Archaeology Strategy: Building the future, protecting the past, 2004

The Archaeology Strategy was adopted as Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance on 16th July 2003 and following a consultation period was adopted as Supplementary Planning Guidance by the City Council’s Cabinet on 8th December 2003.

Policy 10, states:

“Archaeological remains of national importance: The City Council will seek advice from English Heritage where it considers that archaeological remains affected by development proposals are of national importance and will consult English Heritage on specialist areas such as archaeological science and unusual site types”.

Policy 11, states:

“In-situ preservation of archaeological remains: The City Council will encourage innovative design to ensure in-situ preservation of archaeological remains as part of new development”.

Policy 12, states:

“Preservation in situ and preservation by record: Where the City Council considers that preservation in situ of archaeological remains which are not of national importance is appropriate and feasible, it will require design which ensures this. Where it considers that preservation of archaeological remains by record is acceptable because preservation in situ is not feasible or necessary, or there is an opportunity for enhancing knowledge of particular areas or periods, the City Council will require archaeological mitigation measures which maximise the return of archaeological information. Innovative approaches to achieve this will be encouraged”.

Policy 13, states:

“Post excavation analysis and publication: Where the City Council considers that preservation by record of archaeological remains is acceptable and it imposes conditions requiring archaeological excavation in advance of commencement of development, the scheme of investigation
must include provision for excavation, post excavation assessment, analysis, preparation of a publishable report and publication in a recognised journal or series. Conditions will not be discharged until the on-site archaeological work has been completed to the satisfaction of the City Council and there is proof that the applicant has satisfactorily secured the implementation of post-excavation assessment, analysis, preparation of a publishable report and publication in a recognised journal or series, deposition of the archive, including finds, arising from the work, and deposition of an electronic archive with the Archaeological Data Service”.

Birmingham Draft Core Strategy, 2026: A plan for sustainable growth

The purpose of the Core Strategy is to set out a clear spatial framework for the growth of Birmingham up to 2026. This Emerging Core Strategy document has been produced for consultation purposes – but its scope, structure and content reflect what the Council currently considers should be included in the final Strategy; therefore this is a draft version of that final Strategy.

Policy SP50: Archaeology and the Historic Environment, states:

“The historic environment, consisting of archaeological remains, historic buildings, townscape and landscapes, including locally significant assets and their settings in addition to designated and statutorily protected features, will be respected, protected, enhanced and managed for its contribution to character, local distinctiveness and sustainability.

- Development proposals will be required to demonstrate a full understanding of historic environment assets affected. Design and access statements accompanying development proposals will be required to assess the historic character of the surroundings of the application site and the impact of the proposed development on the historic character.
- Innovative design which integrates the historic environment into new development will be encouraged.
- Opportunities for information gain through investigations as part of proposed development will be maximised and such information will be widely disseminated.”

3 Historical & Archaeological Background

The archaeological and built heritage baseline, including elements of the historic landscape, is discussed below. Approximate historical periods are described based on the information provided in Table 1; known heritage sites within the footprint of the scheme are listed in Table 2; heritage assets within 500m of the proposed development are listed in Table 3 and heritage assets within 500m of the proposed development site are shown on Figure 1.
### Table 2: Definition of Archaeological Time Periods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time period</th>
<th>Approximate Date Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Palaeolithic</td>
<td>450,000 - 12,000 BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mesolithic</td>
<td>12,000 - 4,000 BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neolithic</td>
<td>4,000 - 2,000 BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bronze Age</td>
<td>2,000 - 600 BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iron Age</td>
<td>600 BC - AD 43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romano-British</td>
<td>AD 43 - 410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anglo-Saxon (early medieval)</td>
<td>AD 410 - 1066</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medieval</td>
<td>AD 1066 - 1485</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Medieval</td>
<td>AD 1485 - 1914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modern</td>
<td>1914 - present</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 3: Heritage Assets within the footprint of the Scheme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HER Site Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>02005</td>
<td>Forts</td>
<td>Roman</td>
<td>Metchley Roman Forts occupied from mid 1st century to 2nd century – also a Scheduled Monument. A Vicus (settlement) on the west side</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 4: Heritage Assets within 500m of the Site

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HER Site Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Distance from Site</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01682 - MBM359</td>
<td>Burnt Mounds</td>
<td>Bronze Age</td>
<td>Metchley Burnt Mounds - three burnt mounds revealed in 1988 during clearance works on Vincent Drive</td>
<td>SP 041 836</td>
<td>326m west</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20204 - MBM1842</td>
<td>Findspot</td>
<td>Anglo-Saxon</td>
<td>Iron spearhead found during sewer works in 1877 at Harrisons Road</td>
<td>SP 04340 84530</td>
<td>376m north-west</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20770 - MBM2428</td>
<td>Relict Watercourses</td>
<td>Medieval</td>
<td>Former course of the Bourn Brook and phases of a mill leat to its south. This implies a medieval date for the Bourn Brook mill and fishponds in Selly Oak</td>
<td>SP 04059 83152</td>
<td>451m south-west</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03041 - MBM922</td>
<td>Watermill</td>
<td>16th to 19th century</td>
<td>Site of Over Mill on Chad Brook. Largely destroyed, but some derelict buildings remain</td>
<td>SP 0561 8375</td>
<td>464m east</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03951 - MBM1572</td>
<td>Park</td>
<td>18th century</td>
<td>Edgbaston Hall Park -late 18th century landscaped Park to Edgbaston Hall, now used as a golf course</td>
<td>SP 0568 8419</td>
<td>138m east</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20590 - MBM2243</td>
<td>Mill Pool/Pond</td>
<td>Undated</td>
<td>Edgbaston Mill Pool/Pond for Over Mill (watermill)</td>
<td>SP 0546 8408</td>
<td>280m south-east</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 3.1 Historical Background

In Birmingham, early prehistoric activity is largely evidenced through artefact finds such as stone axes, flint arrowheads and pottery. Later prehistoric activity of the Bronze Age and Iron Age is recorded through numerous burnt mounds, with over 40 recorded, and Iron Age farms. Burnt mounds are piles of heated fragmented stone that are believed to have been used to heat water, however additional materials have also been found within the mounds, such as charcoal, pottery, animal and human bone (Bradley, 2005; Hodder, 2002). Within the vicinity of the proposed development site at Edgbaston, a group of burnt mounds was located adjoining a former stream course directly west of Metchley Roman Fort (Jones, 1988).

Metchley Roman Fort is centred on what is now Vincent Drive in Edgbaston. Part of the fort is now within the main campus of the University of Birmingham, and part is in the area of the University's Medical School and the QE Hospital. The location of the Fort was pivotal within the road network established during the Roman military advances in the mid-1st century in the West Midlands. Ryknild (Icknield) Street linked Metchley with Alcester to the south, and Wall and Watling Street to the north (Margary, 1973). The Metchley site is occupied by two 1st century campaign forts - originally a large fort, 200m x200m (4 hectares (ha)) built AD 50/60s which was later replaced by a smaller fort in AD 60-80s. Directly west of the Fort a settlement, known as a ‘vicus’, was located – a vicus is a settlement of civilian tradesmen, their associated workshops, dwellings and families who would have provided services to the Roman troops (roman-britain.org). Jones (2004b) has noted five distinctive phases of the Metchley Forts (Table 5), which demonstrates extensive demilitarization of the Midlands during the 2nd century.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Main Features</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>AD 40/50s</td>
<td>Square 4 ha fort defended by double ditches &amp; rampart. <em>Vicus</em> outside western defences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2A</td>
<td>AD 50/60s</td>
<td>Continued use of Phase 1 fort by smaller garrison. Layout of eastern, northern and southern annexes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2B</td>
<td>AD 50/60s</td>
<td>Demolition of Phase 1 &amp; 2A buildings in fort interior, use of fort interior as stores depot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>AD 60-80s</td>
<td>Rectangular fort 2.6ha built within Phase 1 fort, with re-cutting of earlier fort ditches to provide outer defences. Re-cutting of eastern annexe ditch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Late 1st – 2nd century</td>
<td>Re-cutting of Phase 3 eastern annexe ditch. Possible double-ditched fort to south of Phase 3 fort. Other military ditches cut to south of Phase 1 fort, possible practice camps. May include small-scale military occupation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Post-Roman</td>
<td>Gradual infilling of fort defences, growth of woodland, cultivation nearby, hunting park, 19th century cultivation. Establishment of University and Q.E. Medical Centre</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Although Anglo-Saxon evidence is negligible within Birmingham, there is activity within the locality. An Anglo-Saxon iron spearhead was found during sewerage work in Harrisons Road in 1877 and place-name evidence - Metchley meaning ‘large enclosed field’ and Edgbaston meaning ‘Ecgbald’s estate’ (Gelling & Cole, 2000).
By the time of the Domesday Survey, Edgbaston was a manor of scattered farmsteads and Metchley was a part of the Manor of Edgbaston. Edgbaston was among the lands of William FitzAnsculf and was held in 1086 by Drew; it had formerly been held by Aschi and Alwi. Edgbaston had five ploughs (one plough equated to a team of eight oxen and the plough itself) indicating small farms with arable land (Morris, 1976). Little is known of the medieval history of Metchley, however pollen evidence from a ditch at Metchley Fort has established that it was a well-established woodland (Jones, 2004). Yet, the name of Metchley is only first recorded in 1530 and that refers to a park (Mawer & Stenton, 1936).

By the 18th century, the Industrial Revolution had arrived to the area. In 1792, construction began on the Worcester & Birmingham Canal to link Birmingham and Worcester. The canal connected with the Stratford Canal at Kings Norton in 1796, which itself was joined in 1802 by a short arm at Kingswood to the Warwick & Birmingham Canal (now the Grand Union), providing the Worcester & Birmingham with a route to the South. An extension of the Dudley canal joined the Worcester & Birmingham at Selly Oak in 1798 where the canal cut directly through the Edgbaston estate. By 1876, the Birmingham West Suburban Railway, built by the Midland Railway Company, opened to allow the development of central southwest suburban Birmingham south into Worcestershire, and the by-passing of railway traffic via the Birmingham and Gloucester Railway into central Birmingham. The effect of this on the Worcester & Birmingham Canal resulted in a huge loss of commercial trade. By 1948, the Worcester & Birmingham Canal was nationalised and is now under the authority of British Waterways, but notably regular commercial traffic did not wholly cease until the early 1960’s (Hodges, 1988).

In 1896, Birmingham Medical School transferred to the Mason Science College and a University College was founded, which four years later was granted a Royal Charter by Queen Victoria. The Calthorpe family (lords of the manor of Edgbaston) gave 10 hectares of their estate to the University College for construction of their new buildings, which were opened in 1909. After World War II, properties and land was bought from the Calthorpe estate to build a student residential area, including several prestigious villas, around an artificial lake at ‘The Vale’ (Arnott, 2008). The villa known as ‘The Vale’ was acquired by University of Birmingham for use as staff accommodation around 1945. Further villa sites were bought by the University in 1954 and considerable remodelling of the ground form was undertaken, and the new campus was laid out in 1959-60 to a plan by the Birmingham landscape architect Mary Mitchell (parksandgardens.ac.uk).

After the University College moved to Edgbaston in 1909, a new hospital – the Queen Elizabeth Hospital - was planned to be built, with construction beginning in 1933 and opening six years later. Between the two World Wars, the Queen Elizabeth Hospital together with the University Medical School formed the largest building scheme in Birmingham (Stephens, 1964). By 2010, a new Queen Elizabeth Hospital had been built adjacent to the former one.

3.2 Archaeological Background

3.2.1 Prehistoric

No Prehistoric remains are known within the proposed development site; however there has been activity in the locality - three burnt Bronze Age mounds 326m west
of the site. It is possible, therefore, that as-yet undiscovered remains dating from this period may exist

3.2.2 Romano-British

Within the proposed development site, there has been an abundance of Roman activity associated with the Scheduled Metchley Roman Forts. These include defensive ditches of the Fort’s southern annex, western and south-eastern edge of the Fort, two roadside ditches, a re-cut enclosure ditch, turf rampart (possible practice camp), oven, trackways and pits associated with the vicus, headquarters building, timber-framed building, granary, hearth, oven, pits, rampart and ditches.

3.2.3 Anglo-Saxon

No Saxon remains are known within the proposed development site; however an iron spearhead was found during sewer works in 1877 at Harrisons Road, 376m north-west of the site. In addition, activity is also substantiated by place-name evidence. It is possible, therefore, that as-yet undiscovered remains dating from this period may exist.

3.2.4 Medieval

No medieval remains are known within the proposed development site; however a former course of the Bourn Brook and phases of a mill leat have been recorded 451m south-west of the site. It is possible, therefore, that as-yet undiscovered remains dating from this period may exist.

3.2.5 Post-Medieval

The proposed development site comprises of the University of Birmingham campus where there are a number of buildings of post-medieval date. In addition, a watermill ‘Over Mill’ (although largely destroyed) is sited on the Chad Brook, 464m east of the site, and directly west is the Worcester & Birmingham Canal and Birmingham West Suburban Railway line (now the Cross City Line).

3.2.6 Modern

The proposed development site comprises of the University of Birmingham campus, where there are a number of modern buildings. In 2005, a concrete foundation associated with WWII defences, was identified (Jones, 2005)

3.2.7 Unknown

There are no sites of unknown date within the study area but there is a mill pool/pond 280m south-east of the site of unknown date.

3.2.8 Other Statutorily Protected Sites

Within the northern part of the proposed development site is The Vale (University of Birmingham) Registered Park & Garden (Grade II) and Edgbaston Conservation Area. Directly west are the Roman Forts at Metchley (Scheduled Monument). To the south-east of the site, is the Selly Park Conservation Area.
3.2.9 Previous Archaeological Investigations

There have been numerous archaeological investigations within and directly south-west of the proposed development site; see Table 6 below.

Table 6: Archaeological Activity within and directly adjacent to the Site

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Archaeological Activity</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>Evaluation</td>
<td>Located a burnt mound, spreads of burnt stones, possible hearths and troughs, and an undated gravel road (Event No. EBM113)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>Excavation</td>
<td>A further burnt mound with pit and gully recorded in section on south side of development site, just north of Vincent Drive. Undated gravel trackway and former stream course found in excavations (event No. EBM567)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>Evaluation</td>
<td>On a site adjacent to the Metchley Roman fort, failed to locate any archaeological features or deposits (Ferris, 1992)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Desk-based Assessment</td>
<td>Revealed the south eastern corner of a Roman fort and part of a southern annexe to the fort lay within the university site (Jones, 1998)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Archaeological Assessment</td>
<td>Carried out in advance of a proposed development on the site of the Roman forts (Jones, 1999a)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Evaluation</td>
<td>Recorded significant Roman features such as a granary, hearth, oven, pit, rampart, ditch, associated with the Metchley forts (Jones, 1999a)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Watching Brief</td>
<td>None available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999 - 2011</td>
<td>Excavation</td>
<td>Metchley Vicus (Area 9) (Event No. EBM579)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Evaluation</td>
<td>Within and adjacent to Metchley Roman Forts, recorded an internal road and elements of the eastern defences (Jones, 2000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Evaluation</td>
<td>Metchley Area 3 (Event No. EBM576)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Evaluation</td>
<td>Area immediately adjoining west side of Metchley Roman Fort. Three phases of use encountered: initially shallow military ditches and trackways; secondly civilian open-fronted buildings and thirdly the buildings were replaced by ditches flanking the fort's W entrance and a ditch defining its western annexe (Jones, 2001)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Evaluation</td>
<td>Of former offices of the Birmingham Battery &amp; Metal Company. Trenches on the floodplain of the Bourn Brook identified former courses of the brook which had silted up and been sealed by alluvium during later episodes of flooding. Another trench identified a watercourse to the south of the Bourn Brook which once served fishponds and a watermill at Bourn brook on the east side of the canal (SMR No. 20726 - MBM2380)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Watching Brief</td>
<td>On two sites within the Scheduled area recorded defensive ditches of the fort's southern annex at the Formulation Engineering building. At the Medical School lawns, recorded no significant archaeological activity (Jones, 2002)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Watching Brief</td>
<td>During flood alleviation work at Farquhar Road, a field boundary ditch and gravel layer were observed but is uncertain if this represents the Roman Ryckfield Street (Jones, 2004a)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Archaeological Activity Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Archaeological Activity</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Excavation</td>
<td>Metchley Pretentura – ‘laundry site’ (Area 12) (Event No. EBM577)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Evaluation</td>
<td>At Vincent House, Vincent Drive identified the Roman fort’s western edge and two roadside ditches (Duncan, 2004).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Excavation</td>
<td>Carried out to the west of the main fort. The corner of a re-cut enclosure ditch and a turf rampart were recorded and interpreted as part of a possible practice camp (Jones, 2004c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Excavation</td>
<td>Carried out on the site of a proposed road scheme. An oven, ditches, trackway and pits associated with the vicus were recorded. Evidence of the abandonment of the vicus and layout of animal pens was also recorded (Jones, 2004d)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Excavation</td>
<td>Metchley (Areas 15 – 16) (Event No. EBM578)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Salvage Recording</td>
<td>Metchley (Area 12a) (Event No. EBM574)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Excavation</td>
<td>Undertaken along and outside the western defences of the fort. Roman defensive and domestic features were recorded. A concrete foundation associated with WW2 defences was also identified (Jones, 2005c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Excavation</td>
<td>Took place within the western part of the interior and defences of Metchley Roman forts in advance of proposed hospital development (Jones, 2005b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Excavation</td>
<td>Undertook within left side of the central range of the Fort in advance of a car park and public transport interchange. Part of the headquarters building, trackway, timber-framed building, an oven, pits and a post-medieval ditch following the fort alignment were recorded (Jones, 2005a)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Salvage Recording</td>
<td>Metchley – haul road to west of fort (Areas 19a) (Event No. EBM575)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Watching Brief</td>
<td>Undertaken on the Selly Oak New Road, no archaeological features were recorded (Event No. EBM405)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Excavation</td>
<td>Undertaken in advance of the replacement steam main feed to the Health Services Research Centre, within the Scheduled area, found a pebble surface (Duncan, 2008)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Excavation</td>
<td>Undertaken in advance of proposed development at Boiler House Drive, no archaeological features were recorded (McNicol, 2008)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Excavation</td>
<td>Metchley Westgate, post-excavation assessment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 3.3 Map Summary

In the late 19th century, the proposed development site is shown to be set within a post-medieval landscape of farms, parks, fish ponds, sizeable houses and a grange. The proposed development site is bounded in the west by the Worcester & Birmingham Canal and Birmingham & West Suburban branch of the Midlands Railway Line (Fig.18); by the route of the tramway and fish ponds in the south; a north-south aligned lane in the east, and post-medieval field boundaries in the north. Within the site, a rifle range and targets, Gun Barrels Inn (Fig.2), a gravel
pit, Camp Cottages, ‘Park Grange’ a building called ‘The Elms’, and a north-west, south-east lane segmenting the site are recorded. Directly west of the site, the footprint of Metchley Roman Fort is noted with the Worcester & Birmingham Canal and Birmingham & West Suburban branch of the Midland Railway segmenting the south-eastern corner.

By 1921, the first phase of ‘Birmingham University’ with its iconic crescent buildings and clock tower are now recorded, along with the new “University Road”. Notably, a gasometer is sited in the western part of the site. 17 years later, an expansion of the University is noted, not only within the site but also directly to the east. The north-west, south-east lane (now termed Pritchatts Road) was re-routed further north to link the university with the railway/canal bridge in the west, the road to the east and University Road to the south. Directly west of the site, a new roundabout and road network circles the newly built Queen Elizabeth Hospital upon the site of Metchley Roman Camp.

By 1968, considerable expansion of the University is shown throughout the site, but it was not until 2006 that a car park (Fig.5) was recorded in the north-western extent of the site. The present 2011 survey shows ‘The Vale Village’ student accommodation directly north of the site; however it fails to record the ‘Selly Oak New Road’ – a 10m wide, 1.5km road that was opened in August 2011, which was built to alleviate traffic pressure on the existing Bristol Road (A38).

![Diagram of Selly Oak New Road](Copyright: Birmingham City Council)

### 3.4 Land Use

The site largely comprises of university buildings, with open areas of recreational spaces including sports grounds and athletics track. There is system of internal road and underground tunnels throughout the site, with car parking facilities located around the campus.
4 Discussion & Conclusion

Baseline data has demonstrated intense development within the proposed development site, consisting of numerous post-medieval and modern buildings. Within the south-western part of the site, beneath the site of and directly west of the Chemistry West Building, is the footprint of the Metchley Roman Forts.

4.1 Possible Impact of Development

It is considered that the demolition of the Chemistry West Building (Project No.8) may affect potential archaeological remains of the Metchley Roman Forts. Additionally, spaces between existing buildings within the known extent of the Fort and its annexes, outside of the individual developments currently proposed, are also likely to contain archaeological remains of the Roman fort and its associated annexes.

4.2 Recommendation for further Investigations

Consultation was undertaken with the Birmingham City Council Archaeologist (CA) regarding the requirement for further mitigation or investigation. The CA stated that given the potential for archaeological deposits within the south-western part of the site, it is recommended that further archaeological investigations should be undertaken. The CA stated:

Within the area of the existing Chemistry West Building –

- To ensure the demolition of the existing Chemistry West Building (Project No.8) does not damage any possible archaeological remains a demolition method statement is to be provided; An archaeological watching brief during the demolition of this building where it may impact upon below ground archaeological deposits (i.e. removal of foundations);

- It should be noted, that whilst only interim landscaping is currently proposed following demolition of the existing Chemistry West Building, archaeological excavation (followed by post-excavation analysis and publication) may be required here in advance of any subsequent development of this particular site depending on the nature of the final proposals.

Within the immediate vicinity of the known extent of Metchley Fort and its annexes -

- An archaeological watching brief during any service works on any open space area between existing buildings.
5 References & Bibliography

Birmingham City Council, *Birmingham Core Strategy 2026 Consultation Draft*

Birmingham City Council, *Birmingham Unitary Development Plan (UDP), 2005*

Birmingham City Council, *Archaeology Strategy: Building the future, protecting the past, 2004*


Jones, A. (2002a) *An archaeological watching brief at Medical School Lawns, University of Birmingham/Report No 1004.* Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit


Jones, A (2004a) *Flood Alleviation Work in Farquhar Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham (Area 15 – 16): an archaeological watching brief.* Birmingham Archaeology


Jones, A (1999a) *University Hospital Birmingham NHS Trust: archaeological assessment.* University of Birmingham


The Birmingham Plan (Birmingham’s Local Development Framework) *Birmingham Draft Core Strategy 2026, A Plan for Sustainable Growth.* December, 2010

**Electronic Sources**

Archaeology Data Service (ADS)
http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/ (accessed 08.12.11)

Arnott, R. (2008) *A Short History of the University of Birmingham Medical School, from 1825*

http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archsearch/record.jsf?titleId=1939290 (accessed 08.12.11)

http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archsearch/record.jsf?titleId=1835159 (accessed 08.12.11)


Institute for Name Studies
http://www.nottingham.ac.uk (accessed 08.12.11)

Jones, A (2005c) *Salvage recording to the West of the Fort Defences, Metchley Roman Forts, Birmingham.* Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit
http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archsearch/record.jsf?titleId=1939392 (accessed 08.12.11)

Jones, A (2004c) *Practice Camps at Metchley Roman Forts, Birmingham. Archaeological Excavation.* Birmingham Archaeology
http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archsearch/record.jsf?titleId=1939401 (accessed 08.12.11)

http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archsearch/record.jsf?titleId=1939398 (accessed 08.12.11)
Jones, A (2002) *An archaeological watching brief at Bioprocess Centre and Formulation Engineering, University of Birmingham/Report No 913*. Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit
http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archsearch/record.jsf?titleId=1923290
(accessed 08.12.11)

Jones, A (2001) *Vincent Drive, Birmingham. Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit*
http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archsearch/record.jsf?titleId=1818317
(accessed 08.12.11)

http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archsearch/record.jsf?titleId=1827408
(accessed 08.12.11)

Jones, A (1999b) Jones A/1999/University Hospital, Birmingham NHS Trust: archaeological evaluation 1999, Areas A and B/Report No 617.02. Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit

Jones, A (1999c) University Hospital, Birmingham NHS Trust: archaeological evaluation 1999, Area C/Report No 617.03. Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit

Jones, A (1999d) University Hospital, Birmingham NHS Trust, Metchley Roman Forts: Area B test-pitting 1999/Report No 617.05. Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit
http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archsearch/record.jsf?titleId=1887514
(accessed 08.12.11)

http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archsearch/record.jsf?titleId=1855006
(accessed 08.12.11)

Jones, A (199l) *Vincent Drive and University Road West, University of Birmingham: watching brief. Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit*
http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archsearch/record.jsf?titleId=1888524
(accessed 08.12.11)

Roman Forts & Settlement Metchley, Birmingham
http://www.roman-britain.org/places/metchley.htm
(accessed 13.12.11)

http://www.british.history.ac.uk
(accessed 14.12.11)

The Vale, Edgbaston, Birmingham
http://www.parksandgardens.ac.uk/component/option,com_parksandgardens/task,site/id,4262/tab_summary/Itemid,292/
(accessed 14.12.11)
Figures
Figure 1  Heritage Assets within 500m of the Proposed Development Site
Figure 2  Gun Barrels Public House - Project No. 1b (north facing)

Figure 3  Demolition of Gun Barrels Public House & South Car Park – Project No. 1b (south-west facing)
Figure 4  Bungalow adjacent to South Car Park – Project No. 1c (west facing)

Figure 5  Pritchatts Road Car Park – Project No. 17 (west facing)
Figure 6  Western Part of Pritchatts Road – Project No. 17 (west facing)

Figure 7  Eastern Part of Pritchatts Road – Project No. 17 (east facing)
Figure 8  Site of Proposed Access Road – Project No. 5 (north-west facing)

Figure 9  Current Library – Project No. 11b (north facing)
Figure 10  Old Gym Building – Project No. 9 (west facing)

Figure 11  Chemistry West Building – Project No. 8 (north-west facing)
Figure 12  Terrace Huts – Project No. 7 (north-east facing)

Figure 13  Car Park directly North of Library – Project No. 15c (south facing)
Figure 14  Open area directly south of Library – Project No. 10a (south-west facing)

Figure 15  Munrow Sports Centre – Project No. 14 (north facing)
Figure 16  Sports Pavilion – Project No. 2 (south-west facing)

Figure 17  Location of new Pedestrian Route to the Vale Student Village – Project No. 21 (north facing)
Figure 18  Canal & Railway Line directly west of University Campus (south facing)
Appendix A

Archaeological Data
## Cartographic Sources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Scale</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Staffordshire</td>
<td>1:10,560</td>
<td>1888</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warwickshire</td>
<td>1:2,500</td>
<td>1890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warwickshire</td>
<td>1:2,500</td>
<td>1904</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staffordshire</td>
<td>1:10,560</td>
<td>1905</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warwickshire</td>
<td>1:2,500</td>
<td>1917</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staffordshire</td>
<td>1:10,560</td>
<td>1921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staffordshire</td>
<td>1:10,560</td>
<td>1938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warwickshire</td>
<td>1:2,500</td>
<td>1939</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordnance Survey Plan</td>
<td>1:2,500</td>
<td>1953 - 1957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordnance Survey Plan</td>
<td>1:2,500</td>
<td>1953 - 1958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional SIMs</td>
<td>1:2,500</td>
<td>1953 - 1970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordnance Survey Plan</td>
<td>1:10,000</td>
<td>1955 - 1956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordnance Survey Plan</td>
<td>1:2,500</td>
<td>1958 - 1965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordnance Survey Plan</td>
<td>1:10,000</td>
<td>1966 - 1968</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordnance Survey Plan</td>
<td>1:2,500</td>
<td>1968 - 1971</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordnance Survey Plan</td>
<td>1:2,500</td>
<td>1970 - 1979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordnance Survey Plan</td>
<td>1:2,500</td>
<td>1970 - 1972</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordnance Survey Plan</td>
<td>1:10,000</td>
<td>1980 -1982</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional SIMs</td>
<td>1:2,500</td>
<td>1983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large-Scale National Grid Data</td>
<td>1:2,500</td>
<td>1992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large-Scale National Grid Data</td>
<td>1:2,500</td>
<td>1993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BGS Sheet 168 for Birmingham, 1996 Solid and Drift edition</td>
<td>1:50,000</td>
<td>1996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10k Raster Mapping</td>
<td>1:10,000</td>
<td>1999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10k Raster Mapping</td>
<td>1:10,000</td>
<td>2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10k Raster Mapping</td>
<td>1:10,000</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A2 Archaeological Data
SMR Number  02005 - MBM370  Site Name METCHLEY ROMAN FORT

Monument Types and Dates
FORT (Roman to 2nd Century - 43 AD to 199 AD?)
Evidence  EARTHWORK

Description

02005 Two C1 campaign forts excavated in 1934, 1941, 1945, 1965 and 1969. The NW corner of larger fort (0413876) reconstructed and timber tunnel erected in 1934. Large fort occupied 14.5 acres, defended by a double ditch and bank. Small fort lies within the larger; Small fort enclosed 26.25 acres with single bank and ditch. Pottery evidence indicates both forts belong to the earliest years of Roman occupation. Length of tenacity is suggested as being from a few weeks to a few seasons based on the amount of broken pottery accumulated, <1 to <5>. St Joseph suggests the fort held a force of half legionary strength, possibly taking part in AD 64.69. <6>. Small fort in northern advance was again suitable for military occupation at a later stage, possibly of double coherent strength. Uniformity of pottery suggests it was not long subsequent, at most within 20 years, <5 to <7>. <8 to <10>. Evaluation in 1986 and 1989 in advance of a hospital extension revealed a series of (undated) parallel ditches and cart ruts (?) and a spread of gravel outside the western section of the fort. Although it is possible that there is a visis in the vicinity, no material of certain Roman date was recovered, and the gravel spread may well be a natural deposit rather than metallising for a road or yard area. <11>. Mentioned in association with excavation of 1888 BUFAU of burnt mound site <12>. A small-scale resistivity survey undertaken in 1984 & 95 with a view to locate the road leaving the Porta Principalis Dorsa of the fort. No obvious features were found but further analysis may be merited. <13>. Extensive works from 1995 onwards included various desk-based assessments, evaluation and larger scale excavations which revealed a S annexe matching the N annexe, a possible E annexe, and a vicus outside W gate. The defences of the Phase 1-3 forts were investigated in several places and remains of internal buildings, including a granary, were located. At least three further phases of double-ditched forts on different alignments to the earlier phases (1 to 3) were found and dated by pottery and other finds to AD 75 into the 2nd century. Reworked summaries. <14 to <19>. Publication of 1967-85 and 1997 excavations. Four main phases. Phase 1 fort, constructed in late AD 40s, was roughly 200m square, defended by double ditches, a rampart and other obstacles. The excavated parts of the fort interior contained a pair of facing barrack blocks, part of a granary, a workshop and store. Later (Phase 2A), ditched annexes were added to the northern, eastern and possibly southern sides of the fort. The deliberate clearance of the interior was immediately followed (Phase 2B) by the construction of temporary, irregularly shaped timber framed buildings, including a store building, a stable or groom's quarters, and associated fenced compounds. The fort may have functioned as a store depot at this time. Following an abandonment of the site, a smaller fort (Phase 3) was built within the larger Phase 1-2 fort. The phase 3 fort was defended by a ditch and turf rampart, later reconstructed in timber. The only contemporary buildings excavated were a small granary and a cookhouse. The Phase 3 fort was abandoned by AD 75, although some later Roman activity, ending by AD 120, is represented. The latest feature in the fort interior, a three-sided ditched enclosure, could be associated with the latest Roman activity at the site, or may have functioned as a game pen, associated with the post-medieval use of the surrounding area as a hunting park. <15>. Publication of 1998-99 and 2002 excavations. Areas investigated included the south-eastern angle of the earliest (Phase 1) fort defences, and the adjoining eastern and southern annexes, not previously identified. The annexes may have been used for storage or security. Few annexes elsewhere have been so extensively excavated. The 1988-9 works also provided the first evidence for continued military or civilian occupation at Metchley up to the end of the 2nd century. The excavated south eastern corner of the Phase 1 fort defences was defined by double ditches, a rampart and a possible corner tower. Later (Phase 2A) annexes were laid out on the eastern and southern sides of the fort, although misaligned with it. The eastern defences of the eastern annex were formed by a ditch and rampart, interrupted by an entrance causeway. A possible entrance causeway was also recorded along the eastern side of the southern annex. The eastern annex ditch was recut in Phases 3 and 4. A group of ovens was associated with the phase 2A-3 eastern annex. In Phases 3 and 4, lengths of the Phase 1 fort defences were re-cut to provide additional, outer defences, and part of the western side of a double-ditched fort was cut to the south of the Phase 1 fort in Phase 4. Other Phase 4 activity involved the cutting of ditches of Parcicol profile, possibly associated with one or more practice camps. A pollen profile shows vegetative change from the Roman abandonment of the complex, scrub developing into woodland, including evidence for the resumption of cultivation, including rye, nearby in the Saxon and medieval period. Trial trenching in the north of the fort also revealed the eastern defences of a possible fort or defended compound, attributed to the latest (Phase 4) activity at the command. The trial trenching also identified trenches of Phase 1 and 2a timber buildings, including a granary and ovens. <16>. Excavation of western annex, civilian settlement to west of fort, and western defences, 1999-2001 and 2004. Western annexe shown to be Claudian, in contrast with others which are Neronian. Civilian settlement Claudian and abandoned in Neronian period. Settlement was succeeded by a series of ditched livestock compounds associated with the Neronian military stores depot of Phase 2B/C. <20 to <30>. Excavation within the central range in 2005. The earliest features identified were pits defining part of a structure of Phase 1A. These were cut by timber framed buildings, one of which was the first formal fort layout (Phase 1C-D), with a gravel road between them. One of the buildings was later extended, partly over the road. In early Phase 2B, those buildings were levelled and three irregular buildings were constructed, accompanied by an oven and pitting. No later Roman phases were recorded. <21>. Excavation outside the eastern defences in 2001 in areas unexcavated in 2000-01 identified a well preserved oven, ditches, a trackway and pits associated with the pre-Flavian vicus. There was a sequence of colutial...
deposits, containing considerable quantities of pottery, associated with the abandonment of the vicus and the layout of animal pens. The only Roman feature post-dating the collium was a narrow trench, possibly a farmhouse line at right angles to the line of the western fort defences. <22> Salvage recording within part of the later praetentura in 2004. The earliest Phase 1 features were an oven, a pit and two post holes. Later in Phase 1 two timber framed buildings were laid out. The latest of these may have been contemporary with a large oval oven which was stone-lined. The latest Roman activity (Phase 2b) was represented by a single beam slot. <23> Archaeological observation, excavation and recording was undertaken in the north annexe in advance of replacement of a steam main. The only possible Roman deposit identified was a pebble surface. <17> Two trenches at Boiler House Drive failed to locate natural at 4m below ground level. It appears that the entire area had been built upon prior to the construction of neighbouring buildings, and was possibly related to the construction of the canal or railway nearby. <18> A watching brief on the south side of the fort located two ditches, one of which probably defined part of the southern side of the southern fort annexe. The second ditch, cut on a different alignment, could also be of Roman date, since no post-Roman artefacts were recovered from its fills. <24> Excavation within the western part of the interior and defences in 2004-5 (Area 18). The earliest features comprised a palisade trench and associated features, possibly associated with a Roman military construction camp (Phase 1A). The excavator sampled a length of the Phase 1B western defences, defined by double ditches, and including the Porta Principalis Dextra, further defined by a double gateway incorporating a single guard chamber. Traces of the Via Sagularis and Via Principalis were recorded, together with a zone of industrial activity in the western intervallum containing several oven and wells. Within the Central Range were the remains of the beam-slots of timber framed buildings laid out on two slightly different alignments (Phases 1C and 1D) which may have formed part of the Principia. Within the Praetentura was identified part of a further timber-framed building. Part of the Praetentura was cleared preparatory to the layout of these ditched enclosures, defined by palisade trenches, within the Phase 2B military stone deposits. Some evidence of small-scale industrial activity was also recorded during Phase 2B within the former central range. Part of the western defences of the Phase 3 fort which comprised a single ditch cut into a V-shaped profile, a contemporary turf rampart, and a single guard chamber, were located on the northern side of the Porta Principalis Dextra. Surviving activity within the Phase 3 fort interior was largely limited to part of a single building, a granary located within the central range. In phase 3/4, the Phase 3 guard chamber went out of use, and was replaced with two rectangular buildings built directly to the south, and partly blocking the Via Principalis. Phase 4A activity was limited to the re-cutting of the Phase 3 ditch, and the excavation of a group of pits of possible industrial function outside the contemporary fort. An irregular ditch and contemporary pitting, cut within the abandoned Porta Principalis Dextra after the military abandonment of the site post-dates the Roman military abandonment of the complex or may even date to the Anglo Saxonic or medieval periods during which the fort's ditch and rampart continued to be visible. <25> Excavation in 2004 south of vicus excavation of 1999-2000 located the south-west corner of a re-cut ditched enclosure. The ditches were mainly cut with a vertically-sloped outer face. No associated pottery was recovered, but the alignment of the southern side of the enclosure was approximately flush with the southern side of the Phase 3 fort. The base of an associated turf rampart was identified to the east of the ditch. The vertical or near vertical-sided outer ditch profile and the lack of weathering of the ditch profiles suggests that the ditches were backfilled rapidly, indicating possible use as a practice camp. Parts of the area investigated in 2004 were heavily disturbed by the movement of heavy plant and machinery during the 1960s-70s, and no evidence of Roman buildings could be identified. <26> Watching brief and salvage recording outside the northern part of the western fort defences in advance of the construction of a new link road. A length of north south ditch forming part of a western annexe or palisade trench was the only Roman feature recorded. A post-medieval ditched field boundary which followed the fort alignment could have originated as in the Roman period as an outer defensive feature. <27> Test pitting included an area in the eastern part of the interior of the Phase 1-3 forts and located surviving Roman deposits including the probable base of the eastern rampart of the Phase 3 fort. <28> Excavation in the right praetentura of the fort 2003. The earliest phase 1 features were ovens and hearths. Later, two timber-framed buildings were laid out, on either side of the Via Praetoria. Structure 1 may be interpreted as a workshop. The Via Praetoria with associated flanking ditches continued in use until phase 3 when it was re surfaced. Structures 1-2 were demolished in Phase 2B. The earliest Phase 2B timber building was represented by clay floors. Later in Phase 2C this phase did not have a palisade trench but had a further rampart. A new discovery was a palisade trench forming a W annexe or enclosure (Phase 1C) which may have been associated with the on-site manufacture of pottery, specifically mortaria. Most importantly, the excavations provided the first structural evidence for a civil settlement at the site (Phase 3). Structures, including some open-sided structures, were laid out along a gravelled trackway leading out of the fort. The W annexe or enclosure and the settlement were contemporary with the first fort. This short-lived settlement was succeeded by an area of complex of ditched livestock compounds (Phase C). A livestock 'funnel' leading to the fort's W gate was an integral part of this arrangement, confirming the nexus between the external livestock enclosures and the livestock enclosures previously recorded within the fort interior. Both the external and internal livestock enclosures belonged to the Norvian military stone depository (Phase 2B). The W livestock compound was abandoned by the early Flavian period. This zone to the W of the military complex was not brought back into use during subsequent occupations of the military complex, which continued up to the end of the 2nd century (Phases 3A, B). <29> Sources

MonFriRpt Report generated by HERASR from exarGeSIS SDM Ltd
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SMR Number</th>
<th>Site Name</th>
<th>Project Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>02005 - MBM370</td>
<td>METCHLEY ROMAN FORT</td>
<td>Archaeological Technical Appraisal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Index: DoE, 1971. List AME.
SMR Number 02005 - MBM370  Site Name METCHLEY ROMAN FORT

National Grid Reference
Centroid SP 0430 8365 (MBR: 447m by 524m)  SP08SW  Area

Administrative Areas
Historic County Warwickshire
Ward Edgbaston, Birmingham
Address/Historic Names VINCENT DRIVE

Designations, Statuses and Scorings
Associated Designations
Scheduled Monument - 35120 ROMAN FORTS AT METCHLEY Active DBM1

Other Statuses and Cross-References
National Archaeological Record - SP08SW 4 Active
OS Number - SP08S Active
Area of Archaeological Importance - 36 Active
Sites & Monuments Record - 02005 Active
Development Control Area (South) Active

Ratings and Scorings - None recorded

Land Use
Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded

Other Land Classes
Landuse Built over
Landuse Built over
Topography River valley side

Related Monuments - None Recorded

Finds - None recorded

Associated Events/Activities
EBM199 (Event - Survey)
EBM200 (Event - Survey)
EBM203 (Event - Survey)
EBM406 Metchley Area 7 excavation (Event - Intervention)
EBM570 Formulation Engineering Watching Brief (Event - Intervention)
EBM572 Metchley excavations 2004. Practice camps to west of fort (Event - Intervention)
EBM577 Metchley Preantura- "laundry site" Area 12, 2003 (Event - Intervention)
EBM579 Metchley Vicus excavation Area 9 1999-2001 (Event - Intervention)
EBM590 SE corner of Medical School watching brief 2009 (Event - Intervention)
EBM125 Metchley excavations 1934 (Event - Intervention)
EBM129 Metchley Webster excavations 1954 (Event - Intervention)
EBM576 Metchley test-pitting 200, Area 3 (Event - Intervention)
EBM574 Metchley salvage recording 2004 Area 12A (Event - Intervention)
EBM578 Metchley excavations 2004 Areas 15-16 (Event - Intervention)
EBM571 Metchley Area 18 excavation (Vincent House) (Event - Intervention)
EBM420 Metchley Area 20 excavation (Event - Intervention)
EBM575 Metchley salvage recording 2005- haul road to west of fort. Areas 19A and 19B (Event - Intervention)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SMR Number</th>
<th>Site Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EBM416</td>
<td>HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH CENTRE, METCHLEY, BIRMINGHAM (Event - Intervention)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EBM417</td>
<td>BOILER HOUSE DRIVE EXCAVATION (Event - Intervention)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EBM581</td>
<td>Metchley Westgate excavation 2010 (Event - Intervention)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Associated Individuals/Organisations** - None recorded
SMR Number 01682 - MBM359  Site Name METCHLEY BURNT MOUNDS

Monument Types and Dates
BURNT MOUND (Bronze Age - 2350 BC to 701 BC)
Evidence SUB SURFACE DEPOSIT

Description and Sources

Description
A burnt mound revealed during clearance works for new psychiatric hospital close to Metchley Roman Fort. <1> Burnt mound in a small valley bounded by marshy ground, the former course of a small stream. The scatters of burnt stones were plotted by fieldwalking by BUFAL and sondages excavated along the edge of the waterlogged area. A burnt mound was found, cut by post-medieval drainage channels. Features cut into the natural gravels were a rectangular cut interpreted as a trench, shallow scoops filled with burnt stone and an extensive spread of fire-scorched soil sealing a layer of stones set in a fired soil, the hearth. Excavation of further sondages revealed another mound, approx 15m from the first and a trough probably relating to a third approx 40m from the second. <2> A 1989 third site revealed in a machine-cut section during contractors' groundworks. <3> Evaluation 1989 - Excavation concentrated on the investigation of an area threatened by development on the northern valley slope, and revealed information concerning the build-up of sediments during the Palaeogene period. Several widely-dispersed archaeological features were also discovered, tentatively dated to the Post-Medieval period. <4>

Sources
(2) Bibliographic reference: Jones, A. 1988. 31,43
(3) Bibliographic reference: Jones A. 1989. 32,92

Location
National Grid Reference
Centroid SP 041 836 (MBR: 100m by 100m) SP08SW Area
Administrative Areas
Historic County Warwickshire
Ward Edgbaston, Birmingham
Address/Historic Names VINCENT DRIVE (S)

Designations, Statuses and Scorings

Associated Designations - None recorded
Other Statuses and Cross-References
Sites & Monuments Record - 01682 Development Control Area (South) Active
Active

Ratings and Scorings - None recorded

Land Use
Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded
Other Land Classes
Geology boulder clay
Landuse Built over
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SMR Number</th>
<th>Site Name</th>
<th>Landuse</th>
<th>Topography</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01682 - MBM359</td>
<td>METCHLEY BURNT MOUNDS</td>
<td>In use as building</td>
<td>Minor valley</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Related Monuments - None Recorded**

**Finds - None recorded**

**Associated Events/Activities**

- EBM195  (Event - Survey)
- EBM196  (Event - Survey)
- EBM567  Matchley burnt mounds further investigation (Event - Intervention)
- EBM113  Matchley burnt mounds evaluation (Event - Intervention)

**Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded**
### SMR Number
20204 - MBM1842

### Site Name
HARRISONS ROAD SPEARHEAD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SMR Number</th>
<th>Site Name</th>
<th>Record Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20204 - MBM1842</td>
<td>HARRISONS ROAD SPEARHEAD</td>
<td>Find Spot</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Anglo-Saxon iron spearhead, C10/C11, found during sewer works in 1877**

### Monument Types and Dates
(Early Medieval/Dark Age - 410 AD to 1065 AD)

### Description and Sources

**Description**
Anglo-Saxon iron spearhead, C10/C11, found during sewer works 1877. Birmingham Museum Accession number 1923 A 167<1>

**Sources**

1. Bibliographic reference:

### Location

**National Grid Reference**
Centroid SP 04340 84530 (MBR: 20m by 20m) SP08SW

**Administrative Areas**
- Historic County: Warwickshire
- Ward: Edgbaston, Birmingham

**Address/Historic Names**
HARRISONS ROAD

### Designations, Statuses and Scorings

- **Associated Designations** - None recorded

### Other Statuses and Cross-References
- **Sites & Monuments Record** - 20204

### Ratings and Scorings - None recorded

### Land Use

- **Associated Historic Landscape Character Records** - None recorded

- **Other Land Classes** - None recorded

### Related Monuments - None Recorded

### Finds - None recorded

### Associated Events/Activities - None recorded

### Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded
SMR Number 20770 - MBB2428 Site Name BOURN BROOK RELICT WATERCOURSES AND ALLUVIUM

SMR Number 20770 - MBB2428 Site Name BOURN BROOK RELICT WATERCOURSES AND ALLUVIUM Record Type Monument

Former course of Bourne Brook, leat and sequence of alluvial deposition

Monument Types and Dates
LEAT (Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD)

Description and Sources

Description
A trench across the floodplain of the Bourne Brook located a former course of the Bourne Brook and phases of a mill leat to its south. These were radiocarbon-dated to the 15th to 16th cents. This implies a medieval date for the Bourne Brook mill and fishponds in Selly Oak. Pollen from the former watercourses reflect a typical floodplain site. There were some signs of woodland clearance and expansion of grassland and fens, but only limited evidence of human activity, particularly arable agriculture. Material from the former course of the Bourne Brook included small pieces of animal bone and charred grass seeds.<1>

Sources

Location

National Grid Reference
Centroid SP 04059 83152 (MBR: 14m by 97m) SP08SW Area

Administrative Areas - None recorded
Address/Historic Names - None recorded

Designations, Statuses and Scorings
Associated Designations - None recorded

Other Statuses and Cross-References
Sites & Monuments Record - 20770 Active

Ratings and Scorings - None recorded

Land Use

Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded

Other Land Classes - None recorded

Related Monuments - None Recorded

Finds - None recorded

Associated Events/Activities
EBM289 (Event - Intervention)

Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded
SMR Number 03041 - MBM922 Site Name OVERMILL

SMR Number Site Name Record Type
03041 - MBM922 OVERMILL Monument

Watermill on Chad Brook. Largely destroyed. Some of the buildings remain in derelict condition.

Monument Types and Dates
WATERMILL (16th Century to 19th Century - 1500 AD to 1899 AD)
Evidence RUINED BUILDING

Description and Sources
Description
Watermill on Chad Brook. Largely destroyed. Some of the buildings remain in derelict condition. <1> There was a mill here in the C16. By the middle of the C17 it was being used for blade grinding. In 1843 it was a metal rolling mill operated by John Spurrer. The Spurrer family occupied the premises until the 1670's...The mill was driven by the lower pool in Edgbaston Park, which has since been drained. Some of the derelict buildings remain. <2> See OS. 25 1890 - Sheet 52 - mill not shown, watercourses and marshy area once occupied by pool shown. <3> Part of the site is a SINC SINC: 0615.<5>

Sources
(2) Map: Sheet 52
(3) Monograph: 1890.
(4) Bibliographic reference: NCC, 01/89, SINC.

Location
National Grid Reference
Centroid SP 0561 8375 (MBR: 10m by 10m) SP08SE

Administrative Areas
Historic County Warwickshire
Ward Edgbaston, Birmingham
Address/Historic Names BRISTOL ROAD (S)

Designations, Statuses and Scorings
Associated Designations
Registered Park or Garden EDGBASTON HALL AND PARK Active DBM19

Other Statuses and Cross-References
Sites & Monuments Record - 03041 Active
Development Control Area (South) Active
Site of Special Scientific Interest Active

Ratings and Scorings - None recorded

Land Use
Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded

Other Land Classes
Geology - alluvium
Topography - River valley footslope

Related Monuments - None Recorded

Finds - None recorded
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SMR Number</th>
<th>Site Name</th>
<th>Record Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20590 - MBM2243</td>
<td>EDGBASTON POOL</td>
<td>Monument</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Monument Types and Dates**

MILL POND (Undated)

**Description and Sources**

Description - None recorded

Sources - None recorded

**Location**

National Grid Reference
Centroid SP 0546 8408 (MBR: 10m by 10m) SP08SE

Administrative Areas
District: Birmingham, West Midlands
Historic County: Warwickshire
Historic Parish: Edgbaston

Address/Historic Names
EDGBASTON PARK ROAD(S)

**Designations, Statuses and Scorings**

Associated Designations
Registered Park or Garden: EDGBASTON HALL AND PARK, Active DBM19

Other Statuses and Cross-References:
Sites & Monuments Record - 20590, Active

Ratings and Scorings - None recorded

**Land Use**

Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded

Other Land Classes - None recorded

Related Monuments - None Recorded

Finds - None recorded

Associated Events/Activities - None recorded

Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded
A3 Historic Map Regression
The proposed development site is shown within a post-medieval landscape of farms, parks, fish ponds, sizeable houses and a grange. The proposed development site is bounded in the west by the Worcester & Birmingham Canal and Birmingham & West Suburban branch of the Midlands Railway Line; by the route of the tramway and fish ponds in the south; a north-south aligned lane in the east, and post-medieval field boundaries in the north. Within the site, a rifle range and targets and the Gun Barrels Inn are noted to the south; with a gravel pit and Camp Cottages directly north. The site is segmented north-west, south-east by a lane travelling towards Rockingham House. The northern part of the site contains the ‘Park Grange’ and a building called ‘The Elms’. Metcheley Park is located directly west of the site with the site of a ‘supposed’ Roman Camp. To the south are the Bourn Brook River, Selly Hill and Selly Oak Pumping Station; and to the east are Edgbaston Pool, the ‘Westmere’ and ‘Park House’ buildings, and a cricket ground.
By this survey, new buildings and a rectangular area are recorded within the southern part of the site, and a new building ‘Garth House’ in the north. The Birmingham Corporate Water Works ‘Elan Aqueduct’ is sited directly to the west, on the same alignment as the railway line and canal. In the south, the tramway is now termed as the ‘Bristol Road’ which then continues towards ‘High Street’; this now bounds an area of urban expansion in the south-east. In the area of the previous fish ponds (to the south of the site), two sand pits and a cycle works are now recorded. To the north, the earlier cricket ground is now a combined area of cricket and lawn tennis, and ‘Prior’s Field’ is noted directly south of Park House.
By 1921, ‘Birmingham University’ with its iconic crescent buildings and clock tower are recorded next to the new ‘University Road’. Directly west, a gasometer is noted. The east-west lane that segments the site is now termed ‘Pritchatts Road’, and ‘University House’, ‘Winterbourne’ and ‘Park Vale’ are recorded to the east. The previous cycle works is now known as ‘Ariel Works’ and is east of two areas of allotment gardens. The previous cricket and lawn tennis area is now a tennis and hockey ground. In the north, a new building ‘Lightfoot Hall’ is now recorded.
17 years since the previous survey, the buildings of Birmingham University have expanded, not only within the site but also directly east. Pritchatts Road has now been re-routed further north to link the university with the railway/canal bridge in the west, the road to the east and University Road to the south. Directly west of the site, a new roundabout and road network (including Metchley Park Road) has been implemented, that encases hospital buildings built on the site of the Roman Camp. To the north, a new school is noted.
Ordnance Survey 1955 - 1956 1:10,000

By this survey, the hospital is termed the 'Queen Elizabeth Hospital’ and the school ‘Blue Coat School’. The previously recorded ‘supposed’ site of a Roman Camp is now confirmed as ‘sites of Roman Forts’ and the footprint of the Forts are now shown. A small area of expansion ‘Garth House’ is noted in the northern part of the site, directly south-west of a building called 'Southfield'.
Since the previous survey, considerable expansion of the University is shown throughout the site. Building expansion is recorded within and directly west of the crescent; University Road now links the University to the new road network in the west (over the canal and railway line) and to the east, the new ‘Winterbourne’ building and tennis courts; playing fields in the north and new sports grounds north and south of the crescent. Directly west of the University and south of the hospital, new buildings are noted next to the roundabout, with further factories recorded to the south.
This survey records numerous additional buildings within and directly north and west of the site. In the south-eastern corner of the site, a car park is noted; with a running track to the south-east. Proposed works can be seen in the north-western extent of the site.
By 1999, activity is recorded in the northern part of the site only, where a building expansion and new bounded area noted.
Since the seven years of the previous survey, the sports ground directly south of the crescent shows a new area contained within it. To the west, additional buildings are noted aside the University Road, near to the canal and railway line. A new car park is now recorded in the north-western extent of the site. Further urban expansion is noted directly south of the site.
This current survey shows ‘The Vale Village’ – student accommodation – and an area of land clearance in the north. An additional building is recorded on the car park site, and a new building located directly south-west of the Roman Forts. Notably, the newly implemented Selly Oak ‘New Road’ that is sited south of the University site is not recorded in this survey.
The north-western section of the proposed development site is shown within post-medieval fields. The site’s north-western boundary follows the route of the Worcester & Birmingham Canal, towing path and the Birmingham & West Suburban branch of the Midland Railway. The footprint of the ‘supposed’ Roman Camp is clearly shown, with earthworks to the north and east, contained within the site. Segmenting the camp, a track is seen travelling towards the bridge, over the canal and railway line, towards the area of Camp Cottages within the site.
Ordnance Survey 1917 1:2,500

By this survey, the track from Metchley Park is now directed towards the eastern earthworks of the Camp onwards to a tree-lined route within the site.
By 1939, a new development, roundabout and road network is recorded upon the footprint of the Roman Camp, directly west of the site. The eastern road, from the roundabout, is sited upon the route of the previous track across the canal and railway line, into the site. In the north, new buildings are recorded.
The new development, west of the site, is now termed the ‘Queen Elizabeth Hospital’. Within the site, a new sports ground is noted and an area of planting in the north. The Roman Camp is now termed in the plural and the north-western earthwork section is recorded. Directly south of the roundabout, upon the footprint of the Roman Camps, additional buildings can be seen.
Ordnance Survey 1970 - 1977 1:1,250

This survey shows an expansion of buildings, including tennis courts, within the site and areas of planting in the north. The northern footprint of the Roman Camps has been further compromised with the implementation of an additional building.
With the exception of an additional building located next to the canal and road, no further development is recorded in this survey.