

## 4 SOFTWARE AND STRUCTURE OF THE DATABASE

### Aggregates database

The data is presented as a database file (.mdb) in Microsoft Access 2007 format. Each known archaeological intervention is presented as a single record. Where multiple interventions have taken place over time within a single quarry, these are presented as multiple records.

The content and layout out of the database has been modified to take account of the recommendations of the pilot study and the requirements of associated projects which are also using the database.

Changes to the layout have subdivided the form for individual records into sections based on the type of data contained. This is designed for ease of use and does not affect the database structure. The layout on the form is followed in the description of fields below.

Each record contains 61 fields, as follows.

**1. National ID** (AutoNumber) a unique record number used when different databases are combined to a national database for English Heritage. No information should be added to this when inputting data to the database

**2. Project ID** (AutoNumber): a unique record number used when inputting data. The record is auto generated and consists of a 4 digit name as a prefix for the research project with a continuous number sequence following, e.g. ARC1 for the pilot project and NW09 for the north-west region.

**3. Name of project** (free text): an individual project name for the site under consideration, where this is known. Not necessarily the same as the quarry name (e.g. Fleak Close, recorded within Swarkestone Quarry).

**4. Region** (glossary): English Heritage regions. Drop-down selection from the following:

North-East  
North-West  
Yorkshire  
West Midlands  
East Midlands  
East of England  
South-West  
South-East  
London

**5. County** (glossary): Geographical counties, not unitary authority names, a dropdown box with a list of English counties. The counties used are the post 1974 county names including the metropolitan counties such as Greater Manchester and Merseyside.

**6. Valley system** (glossary): Constrained for the north-west region project to:

Artle Beck  
Bollin

Bradshaw Brook

Calder

Dane

Darwen

Dee

Douglas

Eagley Brook

Etherow

Glaze Brook

Greta

Groal

Hindburn

Hodder

Irk

Irwell

Keer

Landgen Brook

Lune

Medlock

Mersey

Moss Brook

Pilling Brook

Ribble

Roch

Roeburn

Stock Beck

Tame

Weaver

Wenning

Wyre

N/A Not applicable (used for non-fluvial and hard rock aggregates extraction)

**7. Name(s) of quarry(ies)** (free text): It has not been possible within the terms of the project to conduct a full historical review of changing quarry names and ownerships. For each quarry, therefore, a single quarry name has been adopted within this field, to ensure consistency, e.g. 'Stanton Harcourt' is used in place of 'Vicarage Field', 'Vicarage Pit', 'Beard Mill' etc.

**8. Aggregate deposit type** (glossary):

- Soft (sand, sand and gravel)
- Hard (crushed rock – limestone, sandstone)
- Unknown

**9. Grid reference easting (world co-ordinates)** (number): constrained to a six-figure integer.

**10. Grid reference northing (world co-ordinates)** (number): constrained to a six-figure integer

**11. HER/SMR location** (glossary): Location of HER record relating to the site. Constrained for the north-west region project to:

Cheshire

Lancashire

Greater Manchester

Merseyside

None

**12. HER/SMR number** (free text): site, event or report number, blank if HER record was not located, multiple numbers can be added separated by a semi-colon.

**13. Scheduled Monument number** (free text): if applicable

**14. Listed building number** (free text): if applicable

**15. Funding body** (glossary)

Department of Environment (DoE)

Ministry of Works (MoW)

Local Authority

Manpower Services

Aggregates Industry

Individual

Other

Unknown

**16 Archaeological organisation undertaking work** (glossary): This box contains a dropdown list of archaeological organisations that have undertaken work in the north-west region. For projects not associated with an organisation there is a category called UN (unaffiliated).

The current list contains:

ARCUS Archaeological Research and Consultancy, University of Sheffield

ASWYAS Archaeological Services: West Yorkshire Archaeology Service

BUFAU Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit and Birmingham Archaeology

Castlering Archaeology

CPAT Clwyd and Powys Archaeological Trust

GAP Gifford and Partners Ltd  
GAT Gwynedd Archaeological Trust  
GMAU Greater Manchester Archaeology Unit  
GSBP Geophysical Surveys Bradford Prospection  
L–P or LPA LP Archaeology  
LMFAS Liverpool Museum Field Archaeology Section/Unit  
LUAU Lancaster University Archaeology Unit (later OAN)  
NA Northamptonshire Archaeology  
NAA Northern Archaeological Associates  
NPAL North Pennines Archaeology Ltd  
OAN Oxford Archaeology North (previously LUAU)  
RAHS Radcliffe Archaeological and Historical Society  
ULRAU University of Liverpool Rescue Archaeology Unit  
UMAU University of Manchester Archaeological Unit  
UN Unaffiliated

**17. Year or year range of intervention** (free text).

**18. Period 1-4** (number): period allocation for the project

0= Period 0 (pre1900)

1 = Period 1 (1900-1945)

2 = Period 2 (1946-1971)

3 = Period 3 (1972-1990)

4 = Period 4 (1991-present)

The allocation was made on the recorded start date of the project, e.g. a project with year range 1942-1955 would be assigned to Period 1.

**19. Size of project** (glossary): This was used as a broad assessment of the relative scope of the project, as judged from the available documentation. The following terms were used:

Small: Minor and/or non-intrusive works, e.g. test-pitting, a small-scale watching brief or geophysical survey

Medium: Intervention involving a significant excavation element, such as evaluation trenching, or more extensive landscape survey work

Large: A large-scale set-piece excavation, or multi-stranded investigations over a larger area

Very large: Long term and spatially extensive investigations including possibly numerous large-scale excavations and/or extensive landscape survey/environmental sampling.

**20. Nature of fieldwork (primary)** (glossary): Identification of the primary type of fieldwork undertaken during the project.

Survey/geophysics

Fieldwalking

Evaluation

Excavation (used for pre-PPG16 rescue excavation in addition to post-PPG 16 mitigations)

Building recording

Environmental

Finds

Watching brief

Unknown

**21. Site code Fieldwork (primary)** (free text): if applicable

**22. Nature of fieldwork (secondary):** (glossary). As in field 20, this allows for secondary fieldwork elements, for example an excavation stemming from discoveries during evaluation.

**23. Site Code Fieldwork (secondary)** (free text): if applicable

**24. Fieldwork required by regulatory conditions** (glossary):

Scheduled monument consent

Planning condition

Not required

Unknown

**Archaeological Period** (There are a series of yes/no boxes which can be ticked to confirm the presence of an archaeological period on the site. More than one box can be ticked if required)

**25. Palaeolithic**

**26. Mesolithic**

**27. Neolithic**

**28. Bronze Age**

**29. Iron Age**

**30. Roman**

**31. Early medieval**

**32. Medieval**

**33. Post-medieval**

**34. Modern**

**35. Undated Prehistoric**

**36. Early prehistoric**

**37. Later prehistoric**

**38. Prehistoric or Roman**

**39. Multi-period**

**40. Uncertain**

**41. Site type class** (glossary): NMR Monument Class descriptors were used, as follows:

- Agriculture and subsistence
- Civil
- Commemorative
- Commercial
- Defence
- Domestic
- Gardens and parks
- Industrial
- Maritime
- Object
- Recreation
- Religious, ritual or funerary
- Transport
- Unassigned
- Water and drainage
- Multiple

**42. Nature of discoveries** (free text): A summary of the project results where known. (This field formerly contained information on the organisation undertaking the work. This has now been separated into a separate field, no. 16).

**43. Current project status** (glossary): Older projects were considered complete by definition. The status of more recent projects was determined where possible in consultation with the organisations responsible.

Active	Multi-stage projects where more fieldwork is expected, or projects where post-excavation work is ongoing
Stalled	Multi-stage projects where more fieldwork is expected, but a significant time-lapse has occurred
Complete	Completion of all anticipated fieldwork, with post-excavation complete and a client report submitted
Not known	

**44. Most recent project stage** (glossary):

In the pilot this originally only contained stages identified in MAP2. This was found to be problematic when dealing with projects not following MAP2 and additional terms have been added to cope with such projects.

- Ongoing fieldwork
- Fieldwork complete
- Post-excavation in progress
- Developer report submitted

Publication work in progress

Publication complete

Evaluation (MAP2)

Excavation (MAP2)

Site archive completion (MAP2)

Assessment (MAP2)

Analysis (MAP2)

Dissemination (MAP2)

Archive deposition (MAP2)

**45. Archive location known/unknown (glossary):**

Known

Unknown

**46. Archive details** (free text): Location and accession numbers, where available. Includes developer reports where submitted to SMR/HER.

**47. Published references** (free text): The following abbreviations of journal titles were used:

A	Antiquity
AIP	Gazetteer of Archaeological Investigations undertaken in England: Archaeological Investigations Project (AIP)
AJ	Antiquaries' Journal
ANW	CBA Archaeology North West
B	Britannia
BAB	British Archaeological Bibliography
BA	British Archaeology
CA	Current Archaeology
JCAS	Journal of the Chester Archaeological Society
JRS	Journal of Roman Studies
MA	Medieval Archaeology
PPS	Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society
TAJ	The Archaeological Journal
TLACAS	Transactions of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society

**48. Significance of data retrieved from project (glossary):**

Local:	Negative or limited archaeological evidence, meriting a grey literature report or a brief note in a local journal
Regional:	Significant archaeological evidence, meriting a longer report in a local journal

National: A major archaeological site, meriting full publication in a national journal or in monograph form

International: Term not used.

In cases where an organisation has carried out a number of interventions over time within a single quarry, the assessment of importance has been made on the total evidence, rather than on a single season's work.

**49. Dissemination complete** (glossary): Is dissemination of the project complete and of an appropriate level?

Yes

No

Not known

This assessment was based on the *significance of data retrieved from project attributes* described above, as follows:

Projects with *local* significance should have a grey literature report available in a local SMR/HER if results were negative or negligible, and a brief local journal note in addition, if small-scale archaeological evidence was recovered.

Projects with *regional* significance should have a full treatment in a local/county journal.

Projects with *national* significance should have full publication in a national journal, or full monograph publication.

**50. Suggested level of dissemination** (glossary): Only completed if dissemination was regarded as incomplete or inappropriate.

Assessment

Analysis

Publication

**Proposed further work** (There are a series of yes/no boxes which can be ticked to confirm the work required to complete the suggested level of dissemination as suggested in field 50. More than one box can be ticked if required).

**51. Completion of archive**

**52. Full assessment and appropriate analysis**

**53. Analysis of assessed material**

**54. Deposition of archive**

**55. Brief journal note**

**56. Short journal article**

**57. Inclusion in Synthetic Regional/National Study**

**58. Monograph or major journal article**

**59. Wider dissemination of grey literature report**

**60. Popular publication/ dissemination**

**61. Associated projects** (free text)