# AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL STRIP, MAP AND SAMPLE EXERCISE AT WOODGATE ROAD, EAST LEAKE, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

**Project Code: WRE** 

Report No: 123/2014

Prepared by K. Mapplethorpe and P.Stubbings

2014



General shot looking South-East

Trent & Peak Archaeology © Unit 1, Holly Lane Chilwell Nottingham NG9 4AB 0115 8967400 (Tel.) 0115 925 9464 (Fax.)



# **Quality Assurance**

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Date	11/11/2014		
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Status	Final Report		

### **DISCLAIMER**

This Report has been prepared solely for the person/party which commissioned it and for the specifically titled project or named part thereof referred to in the Report. The Report should not be relied upon or used for any other project by the commissioning person/party without first obtaining independent verification as to its suitability for such other project, and obtaining the prior written approval of York Archaeological Trust for Excavation and Research Limited ("YAT") (trading as Trent & Peak Archaeology) YAT accepts no responsibility or liability for the consequences of this Report being relied upon or used for any purpose other than the purpose for which it was specifically commissioned. Nobody is entitled to rely upon this Report other than the person/party which commissioned it. YAT accepts no responsibility or liability for any use of or reliance upon this Report by anybody other than the commissioning person/party.

#### **SUMMARY**

- Trent & Peak Archaeology was contracted on behalf of CgMs/Davidsons to undertake a targeted Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample exercise required by Nottinghamshire County Council as a condition of a successful planning application.
- The strip, map and sample exercise was undertaken between the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> October 2014 according to a written scheme of treatment which was approved by Chris Robinson of Nottinghamshire County Council. The project was supervised by Kate Mapplethorpe and was managed by Dr Gareth Davies.
- The site encompassed a square area of land measuring approximately 15m x 15m and placed with the purpose of locating a 19<sup>th</sup> century Windmill depicted on an early OS map (1900).
- Topsoil stripping revealed a number of north to south orientated scars in the subsoil
  which are interpreted as post medieval plough scars associated with an open field
  system.
- A further three linear features were observed, which can be interpreted as field drains, one of which appears to have been removed previously.
- A small quantity of artefacts were recovered from the topsoil and subsoil, including 20<sup>th</sup> Century pottery, animals bones, iron artefacts and ceramic building material of varying post medieval to modern date.
- No sub-surface remains relating to the 19<sup>th</sup> century windmill were identified. Given the evident ploughing that had occurred on the site, it is possible that ephemeral remains might have been truncated away.
- Additional watching brief (further to the west) undertaken on the 9<sup>th</sup> of October to search for additional historic structures identified no sub-surface remains.

# Woodgate Road, East Leake, Nottinghamshire Report on an Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample Exercise

Prepared by P. Stubbings/ K. Mapplethorpe

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Figure 2: Windmill depicted on 1900 OS map

#### 1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

- 1.1.1 Site name: Woodgate Road, East Leake, Nottinghamshire
- 1.1.2 Client: CgMs/Davidson
- 1.1.3 Planning application no: 12/02173/OUT
- 1.1.4 WSI: Woodgate Road, East Leake, Nottinghamshire Strip, Map and Sample Exercise. Project Code: WRE. Trent & Peak Archaeology report 119/2014.
- 1.1.5 Proposed development: Housing development
- 1.1.6 Geology/Soils: The geology of the site and surrounding area consist of Bramstone Mudstone Formation, overlain by superficial deposits of Diamicton of the Thrussington Member (mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html).
- 1.1.7 Previous Archaeological work: Land at Woodgate Road, East Leake Nottinghamshire. Archaeological Evaluation Report. (Wessex 2014).

#### **2 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1.1 Trent and Peak Archaeology (TPA), part of the York Archaeological Trust, were contracted by CgMs/Davidson to undertake an archaeological Strip, Map and Sample Exercise on an area of Greenfield land alongside Woodgate Road, East Leake in anticipation of housing development as set out as a condition of their planning application.
- 2.1.2 The excavations were carried out according to a Written Scheme of Investigation which was approved by Dr Chris Robinson, Archaeological Officer for Nottinghamshire County Council in October 2014.
- 2.1.3 Stripping of the area outlined as potentially containing the windmill was carried out between 13<sup>th</sup> October and 14<sup>th</sup> October 2014. Archaeological works were supervised by Kate Mapplethorpe and the project was managed by Dr Gareth Davies.

#### 3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1.1 As part of the present development, both a desk based assessment and trench evaluation had previously been undertaken (Wessex 2014). The the trench evaluation identified no features of archaeological significance. However, the desk-based assessment identified that the development sits in an area containing one important historical feature, a 19<sup>th</sup> century Windmill of unknown form and type, depicted on historic OS survey maps (Figure 2). This site had not been investigated during previous archaeological work.
- 3.1.2 There is low potential for Prehistoric or Roman activity within the area.
- 3.1.3 On the basis of the earlier evaluations, medieval evidence was expected to comprise ridge and furrow, indicating that the site was reserved for agricultural cultivation at this time.

3.1.4 Besides the historic windmill site, a former 19<sup>th</sup> century bridleway is also identified on historic maps running across the site. Former field boundaries could also survive.

#### **4 METHODOLOGY**

- 4.1.1 All topsoil/subsoil stripping was carried out using a toothless ditching bucket with a wheeled JCB 3CX machine. After the bulk of topsoil had been removed a final clean of the remaining topsoil/subsoil was removed to reveal a clean archaeological surface.
- 4.1.2 Topsoil stripping began in the N-E corner of the area, and was pulled back in a southerly direction, moving across the area from east to west. Once the topsoil was removed, subsoil was removed in a similar fashion to ensure a clean surface was produced and any archaeological features were exposed. All features were hand cleaned and planned and a percentage excavated to demonstrate plan/form and to recover any datable artefacts.
- 4.1.3 A detailed methodology is set out in WSI (Appendix 3)
- 4.1.4 Features were sectioned and photographed.
- 4.1.5 Spoil and archaeological levels were searched by eye and hand.

#### 5 RESULTS

- 5.1.1 The site of the windmill as mapped on the historic Ordnance survey maps, was accurately surveyed-in using GPS, and subsequently the area was explored in a square soil strip, approximately 15m x 15m.
- 5.1.2 Machine stripping began in the north-eastern corner. The land rises in the southern edge and falls in the northern edge, meaning that following machine stripping a general slope and a severely sunken area in the north-western corner was visible.
- 5.1.3 Machine stripping revealing a firm purple clay/mudstone natural substrate with patches of orange/yellow sand (0003), underlying a mid orange/yellow silty sand subsoil. Cut into this, three parallel field drains could be seen running on a north to south orientation (Plate 1).
- 5.1.4 Sections were cut through one of the field drains [0004] (Plate 2); revealing a profile with a depth of 0.24m (Plate 3), containing a single fill consisting of dark-mid grey sandy silt. A small number of finds came from within this, a brick, a piece of field drain and an iron object all of modern period date. The artefacts were not retained. The drain appeared to have been previously removed as, besides the single recovered fragment, no more of it was observed in situ.
- 5.1.5 Within the subsoil (0002) a number of scars were visible, close to the interface with the topsoil (0001), no deeper than 0.2m. These are interpreted as evidence of ploughing, and their irregular appearance suggests they are minor plough scrapes rather than deeper ploughing.
- 5.1.6 A significant quantity of brick rubble was found within the topsoil, possibly relating to some sort of demolition event of a once standing building not directly found in the

area excavated. Furthermore some rubble was located in the very upmost part of the subsoil; this is most likely a result of movement and mixing between the two layers due to ploughing.

#### 6 CONCLUSION

- 6.1.1 This strip, map and sample exercise of the windmill site, as depicted on the 1900 ordnance survey map, demonstrated that the windmill does not remain as a subsurface archaeological feature(s). Given the evident ploughing that had occurred on the site, and the significant quantity of brick rubble found within the topsoil, it is possible that ephemeral remains might have been truncated away.
- 6.1.2 No further features of interest were identified. Additional watching brief (further to the west) undertaken on the 9<sup>th</sup> of October to search for additional historic structures identified no sub-surface remains.

#### 7 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

7.1.1 TPA would like to extend our thanks to CgMs and Davidson for their co-operation on site and continued assistance. The fieldwork was supervised by K. Mapplethorpe with assistance from P. Stubbings. The work was project managed by Dr Gareth Davies. Fieldwork was monitored on behalf of Nottinghamshire county Council by Dr Chris Robinson.

#### 8 REFERENCES

Davies. G. 2014 Woodgate Road, East Leake Nottinghamshire. Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample Exercise. TPA Report

Wessex Arcaeology. 2014. Land at Woodgate Road, East Leake Nottinghamshire. Archaeological Evaluation Report.

# Appendix 1: Figures



Plate 1: Plan shot showing at the north to south aligned field drains, looking south-east

WRE 2014. An Archaeological Strip, Map and Sampling Exercise at Woodgate Road, East Leake, Nottinghamshire

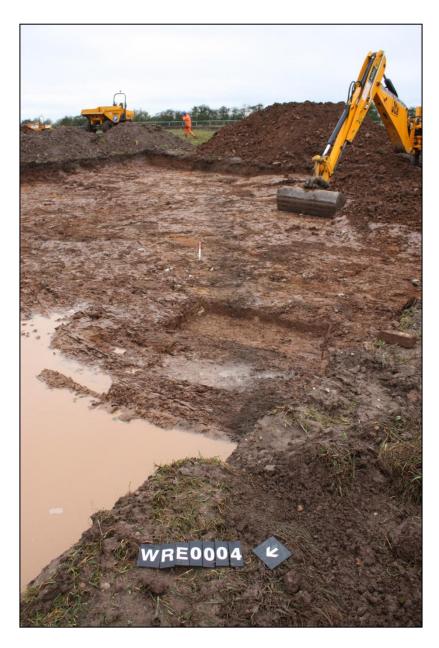


Plate 2: General view of cut [0004], looking east

WRE 2014. An Archaeological Strip, Map and Sampling Exercise at Woodgate Road, East Leake, Nottinghamshire



Plate 3: North facing Section through [0004]

# Appendix 2: summary context list

Context	Category	Description	Max. Depth
0001	Layer	Dark Grey Silty Topsoil	500mm
0002	Layer	Orange/yellow silty Sand Subsoil	500mm
0003	Layer	Purple mudstone/clay and sand Natural	-
0004	Cut	Cut of field drain	240mm
0005	Fill	Medium grey sandy silt fill of field drain	240mm

### **Appendix 3: Written Scheme of Investigation**

# Woodgate Road, East Leake Nottinghamshire

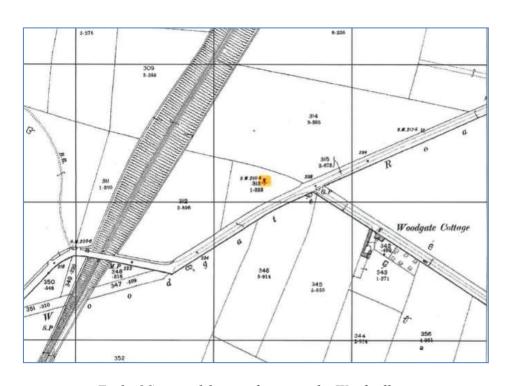
Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample Exercise

**Project Code: WRE** 

Report/doc.no: 119/2014

Prepared by G. Davies

2014



Early OS map of the site depicting the Windmill site

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# Woodgate Road, East Leake Nottinghamshire

# **Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation**

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#### 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation has been prepared for CgMs, in response to the requirement for an archaeological strip, map and sample at Woodgate Road, East Leake SK 54494 25665.
- 1.2 The area of stripping is outlined in Figure 1 and the historic mapped site is shown on Figure 2. The area s 15m (east-west) x 15m (north-south) (although this could be a little smaller/larger larger mapping is inaccurate).
- 1.3 An earlier evaluation (Wessex 2014) identified no archaeological features, but the site of a C19th mapped windmill was not explored.
- 1.4 On this basis Chris Robinson, Archaeological Officer at Nottinghamshire County Council has requested that the footprint of the mapped windmill become the subject of a targeted Strip, Map and Sample excercise. CgMs and the client are to provide detailed co-ordinates for the strip area depicted in Figure 1.
- 1.5 This document is therefore the Written Scheme of Investigation for the Strip, Map and Sample exercise required by Nottinghamshire County Council as a condition of the successful planning application. Please note that NCC will not discharge archaeological conditions on approval of the WSI. The condition requires full completion of the archaeological programme, including reports and archiving, before discharge.

#### 2. OBJECTIVES

2.1. An archaeological Strip, Map and Sample can be defined as:-

A formal programme of appropriate soil-stripping work conducted under archaeological supervision at the commencement of groundworks within a specified area where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be destroyed, followed by hand excavation of archaeological features present. The work will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive.

A contingency for additional time and resources will be made available should dense archaeological deposits be uncovered but will only be enacted after full consultation with the client and NCC.

#### The objective of the Strip, Map and Sample exercise can be stated as:

To preserve by record any elements of the archaeological resource present within the footprint of the proposed development. This will be achieved by an appropriate level of hand excavation and recording to be agreed in conjunction with the Archaeological Officer for NCC and CgMs following completion of the stripping and relative to the density of archaeological features and deposits revealed.

#### 3. WORK PROGRAMME

3.1 Archaeologically Monitored Machine removal of topsoil

Machine removal of topsoil from the footprint of the windmill site will commence under the supervision of TPA staff. All exposed features will be planned and a site visit will then be undertaken by Dr. Chris Robinson of NCC if possible. The initial topsoil strip is programmed to take 1-2 days.

WRE 2014. An Archaeological Strip, Map and Sampling Exercise at Woodgate Road, East Leake, Nottinghamshire

#### 3.2. Further Excavation

Following the site visit and completion of the topsoil/subsoil strip, targeted hand excavation of more archaeological remains will be undertaken as agreed in consultation with the client and the NCC Archaeological Officer.

#### 3.3. Reporting

Appropriate resourcing will be agreed with the client to permit adequate post-excavation analysis and reporting of results, a basic fee has already been agreed for a low level of remains. A full report including specialist contributions will follow in 4 weeks dependant on the need for specialist contributions and the preferred reporting strategy of the client and the Archaeological Officer for NCC.

#### 4. FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY

#### 4.1 Topsoil/Subsoil Stripping

- 4.1.1 Machinery: All machines will be supplied by the client. All topsoil/subsoil stripping will be carried out using an appropriate toothless bucket (containing no holes for escaping spoil), to be used on a 360 □ tracked machine. Spoil will be deposited behind the 360 □ machine to avoid running on freshly stripped areas.
- 4.1.2 Stripping Levels: All machining will be carried out under archaeological supervision, to produce an acceptable flat surface clean of spoil (to minimise hand cleaning), at a level which archaeological features may be clearly discerned. Further machine stripping may be required where layers of colluvium and alluvium are suspected to be present, with the potential to mask archaeological features/horizons/finds/deposits, that may be adversely impacted by the development.
- 4.1.3 Machine Tracking: Machinery will avoid impact on freshly exposed archaeological surfaces. Machinery will not track on freshly stripped archaeological surfaces, until they have been appropriately recorded and excavated. All machinery will avoid tracking over archaeologically sensitive areas during wet conditions (including those below topsoil), to avoid causing damage by deep rutting, compaction and displacement.
- 4.1.4. *Medieval Ridge and Furrow*: During stripping the extent and alignment of any ridge and furrow present will be recorded by rapid survey using GPS/Total Station. A sample of the furrows will be hand excavated in order to recover dating evidence to help establish the period of use and abandonment of the ridge and furrow.
- 4.1.5. *Artefacts.* The location of any artefacts recovered in the topsoil/subsoil will be recorded three-dimensionally or by context/spit if appropriate

#### 4.2. Excavation

- 4.2.1. Site Extent: Excavation will first aim to establish and record the extent of the archaeological remains exposed, with a resulting detailed ground plan to be produced by GPS/Total Station survey.
- 4.2.2. Structural Development: To establish the structural development of the archaeological components on site (e.g. the ditched enclosure etc) intersections between ditches/features, will be excavated (by context or in spits) to identify any stratigraphic sequences or relationships present. To date the various components that are identified, suitable sections of ditch or cuts of

features will be excavated (supplemented by a programme of machined cuts) away from the disturbance of intersections in order to retrieve datable artefacts and environmental samples. All artefacts will be recorded three dimensionally in order to distinguish between feature fills (or by spit/context in the event that substantial quantities are encountered).

4.2.3. Features: To establish the function of archaeological activity on site a sample of associated features will be excavated. All pits and other discrete features will be half-sectioned (50% sample). Features to be prioritised for excavation should be determined once the site/interior of the enclosure is fully exposed following soil stripping. Emphasis will be given to those features best preserved, while consideration will also be made of structural remains or any potential environmental and industrial evidence, with appropriate sampling where necessary. Excavation of the features will attempt to establish their date, form, function and interrelationships. All excavation and recording will be carried out as set within the minimum standards detailed below (Section 4.3-4.6).

#### 4.3. Cleaning/Hand Excavation

- 4.3.1 All excavations will be carried out in accordance with the code of conduct of The Institute for Archaeologists.
- 4.3.2. Features will be hand-cleaned and planned. Features will be sample excavated sufficient to determine their plan and form, and to recover any datable artefacts (for pits this will be 50%).
- 4.3.3. Feature fills will be removed by contextual change (the smallest usefully definable unit of stratification) in spits no greater than 100mm. Features will be excavated to a maximum depth of 1m (dependant on assessment of the stability of the deposits). Below this features will be battered or stepped following health & safety guidelines.
- 4.3.4. All finds of medieval date or earlier will be recorded three dimensionally. Post-medieval finds or abundant re-deposited structural material will be recorded by context/spit.
- 4.3.5. Spoil from IA/RB features or later will be searched where appropriate with a metal detector.
- 4.3.6 In the event of human remains the curator will be contacted and the necessary burial license will be obtained in line with the most recent quidelines from the Ministry of Justice.

#### 4.4. Recording

4.4.1. Plans of all contexts including features will be drawn on drafting film in pencil at a scale of 1:20/1:50 and will show at least:

context numbers,

all colour and textural changes,

principal slopes represented as hachures,

levels expressed as O.D. values, or levelled to permanent features if benchmark absent.

sufficient details to locate the subject in relation OS 1:2500 map (national grid).

- 4.4.2 Sections will show the same information, but levelling information will be given in the form of a datum line with O.D/arbitrary value; the locations of all sections will be shown on plan.
- 4.4.3 Digital images/B&W photos of each context will be taken, together with general views illustrating

the principal features of the excavations: these will be supplemented by colour prints of subjects potentially worthy of publication.

4.4.4 Written records will be maintained as laid down in the TPA recording manual.

#### 4.5. Sampling

- 4.5.1. The necessary resourcing will be provided for a programme of environmental sampling (including pollen, plant macro, insect remains), to recover suitable evidence for the reconstruction of the past environment of the site including any former economic activity present. The sampling strategy will remain flexible and subject to review in the field, including the use of further techniques when appropriate. Where necessary sampling will involve consultation with the appropriate specialist opinion, and follow where practicable, the English Heritage Centre of Archaeology Guidelines, *Environmental Archaeology* 2008.
- 4.5.2. Sampling will be restricted to securely dateable deposits of known archaeological character, with preference for well-preserved or regionally significant deposits.
- 4.5.3. I f possible sample points will be dispersed around the site to detect spatial patterning. In the case of a rectilinear ditched enclosure, sample points along each side will be selected, if time and resources permit. All feature intersections including ditches will be avoided as sample points.
- 4.5.4. Those dateable deposits clearly exhibiting industrial or domestic function/activity (including by products of metalworking or charred plant content) such as hearths, kilns, ovens etc, will be appropriately sampled.
- 4.5.5. The size of the samples will conform to standard practice of 30 litres or 100% of small features for bulk sample of plant macro, sub-sampled for pollen and insect remains.

#### 4.6. Dating

4.6.1. Where appropriate, in order to elucidate the date and sequence of deposits, provision will be made for a programme of radiocarbon dating. Where applicable other dating techniques e.g. OSL, Dendrochronology, will be considered following consultation with the appropriate specialists.

#### 4.7. Curatorial Monitoring

- 4.7.1 The NCC Archaeological Officer will be kept fully informed of the progress of the excavations, and will be consulted if modifications to the excavation strategy are required as a result of unexpected archaeological discoveries. Progress reports will be issued CgMs at regular intervals for updating NCC. The NCC Archaeological Officer will be free to visit site at any time, subject to the necessary health and safety requirements. It is expected that the NCC Archaeological Officer will wish to visit the site when the area has been stripped such that the preservation and density of archaeological features is known.
- 4.7.2. As much prior notice as is possible of the commencement of the work is to be given to the NCC Archaeological Officer.

#### 5. POST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGIES

5.1. All recording will result in 'the preparation of a report and ordered archive', in line with the guidelines of the IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists.

#### 5.2. Post-excavation Processing

- 5.2.1. All finds will be cleaned and stored as recommended in "First aid for finds" (by the Archaeology section of the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation, 2nd edition 1987), and marked with the site and find codes, and relevant accession numbers. These will be deposited with the appropriate Museum on completion of the report, subject to the provisions of the brief and the agreement of the client.
- 5.2.2. Artefacts will be submitted to the following for assessment;

Prehistoric pottery - Dr.D.Knight (TPA)

Romano-British pottery – Alex Beeby (APS)

Anglo-Saxon/Medieval/postmedieval/pottery&tile-L.Elliott/Dr.H.Jones/Dr.D.Strange-

Walker(TPA)

Flint- P.Webb(TPA Associate).

Animal bone - Dr.N.Sykes (University of Nottingham)

IA/RB Metalwork – Dr D Knight/L. Elliott (TPA)

Anglo-Saxon Metalwork – Dr.H.Jones (TPA)

Plant Macro - Alison Wilson (assessment - TPA) Alice Vaughan-Williams/James Rackham

(Indep), Jennifer Miller (Northlight)

Beetles - David Fox (University of Nottingham)

Pollen – (Jane Bunting, University of Hull)

OSL dating – Prof.M.Clarke (University of Nottingham)

Dendrochronology- Alison Arnold & Robert Howard (Nottingham Tree-dating Laboratory).

Conservation- York Archaeological Trust.

#### 5.3. Archive

5.3.1. The archive will be fully indexed and contain where relevant:

copies of correspondence relating to fieldwork

site notebooks/diaries

original photographic records

site drawings (plans, sections, elevations)

original context records,

matrix diagrams showing stratigraphic sequence of all contexts.

artefacts

original finds records

original sample records

original skeleton records

computer discs and printout

#### 5.4. Archive and Finds Deposition

- 5.4.1. Where necessary the documentary archive will be sent to the NMR for copying.
- 5.4.2. Finds will remain the property of the client with deposition to the relevant regional museum subject to their approval. The client will be subject to deposition costs of the respective museum.
- 5.4.3. The paper and digital archive generated by TPA will remain the property of the Unit until deposited within the appropriate public archive.

#### 5.5. Report

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- 5.5.1 A full report on the findings will be sent to the NCC Archaeologist, HER, and CgMs/client, within 8 weeks of the completion of all fieldwork, dependent on specialist reporting.
- 5.5.3. The report will include:

background information, a summary of works carried out, a description and interpretation of the findings, an assessment of the importance of the archaeology found appropriate location plans and illustrations.

- 5.5.4. A summary of any findings will be submitted for publication to the annual county wide archaeological round-up section within the *Transactions of the Thoroton Society of Nottinghamshire*, and where appropriate to the annual round-up sections of the relevant national journals, including *Britannia* and *Medieval Archaeology*.
- 5.5.5. A report will also be submitted for publication to an appropriate academic journal or as a monograph dependent on the significance of the findings.
- 5.5.6. Trent & Peak Archaeology shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports, tender documents or other project documents, under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved excepting that it hereby provides exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project, with no limitation on the number of times that the client may reproduce any report. The client's contribution will be acknowledged in any future use of the work by TPA.

#### 6. STAFFING

Provisional list of staffing. CVs can be supplied on request.

#### Project Manager:

Dr. Gareth Davies MIfA (TPA).

#### **Proiect Advisors**

Lee Elliott BA, PGDip Arch Sci, Head of Projects, (TPA).

#### **Project Supervisors**

Kate Mapplethorpe BA MSc

#### 7. ACCESS, WELFARE, HEALTH & SAFETY, INSURANCES.

- 7.1. The client will arrange access to the land, including space available for car parking, as well as access to toilet and hand washing facilities.
- 7.2. The client will provide plans showing all services/service routes within the development area. If not supplied, extra charges for obtaining them will be passed to the client.

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- 7.3. Any compensation claims for disruption to the land should be directly between the client and landowner.
- 7.4 All health and safety requirements of the client will be adhered to. The procedures outlined in TPA's manual will be followed, a copy of which is available for inspection if required.
- 7.5. TPA will prepare and regularly update task specific risk assessments of archaeological recording tasks for each stage of the archaeological project. Copies of all health and safety documentation prepared for the scheme by TPA will be supplied to the principal contractor's safety representative prior to the start of each phase of archaeological work if required.
- 7.6. TPA is part of York Archaeological Trust, a registered charity and IfA registered organisation. YAT carries all appropriate insurances, copies of which are available for inspection on request.





