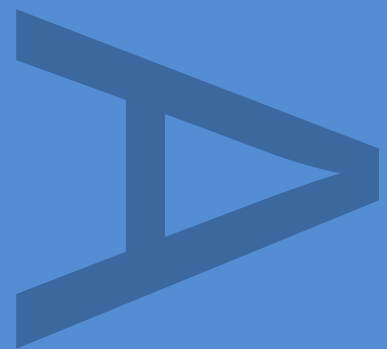


**ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS AT
ELEMORE HALL SCHOOL, PITTINGTON,
COUNTY DURHAM**

APRIL 2013



PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS AT
ELEMORE HALL SCHOOL, PITTINGTON, COUNTY DURHAM**

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**Archaeological Investigations at Elemore Hall School, Pittington,
County Durham**

Central National Grid Reference: NZ 3512 4424

Site Code: ELP 13

Commissioning Client (on behalf of Durham County Council's BSF team):

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1. NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

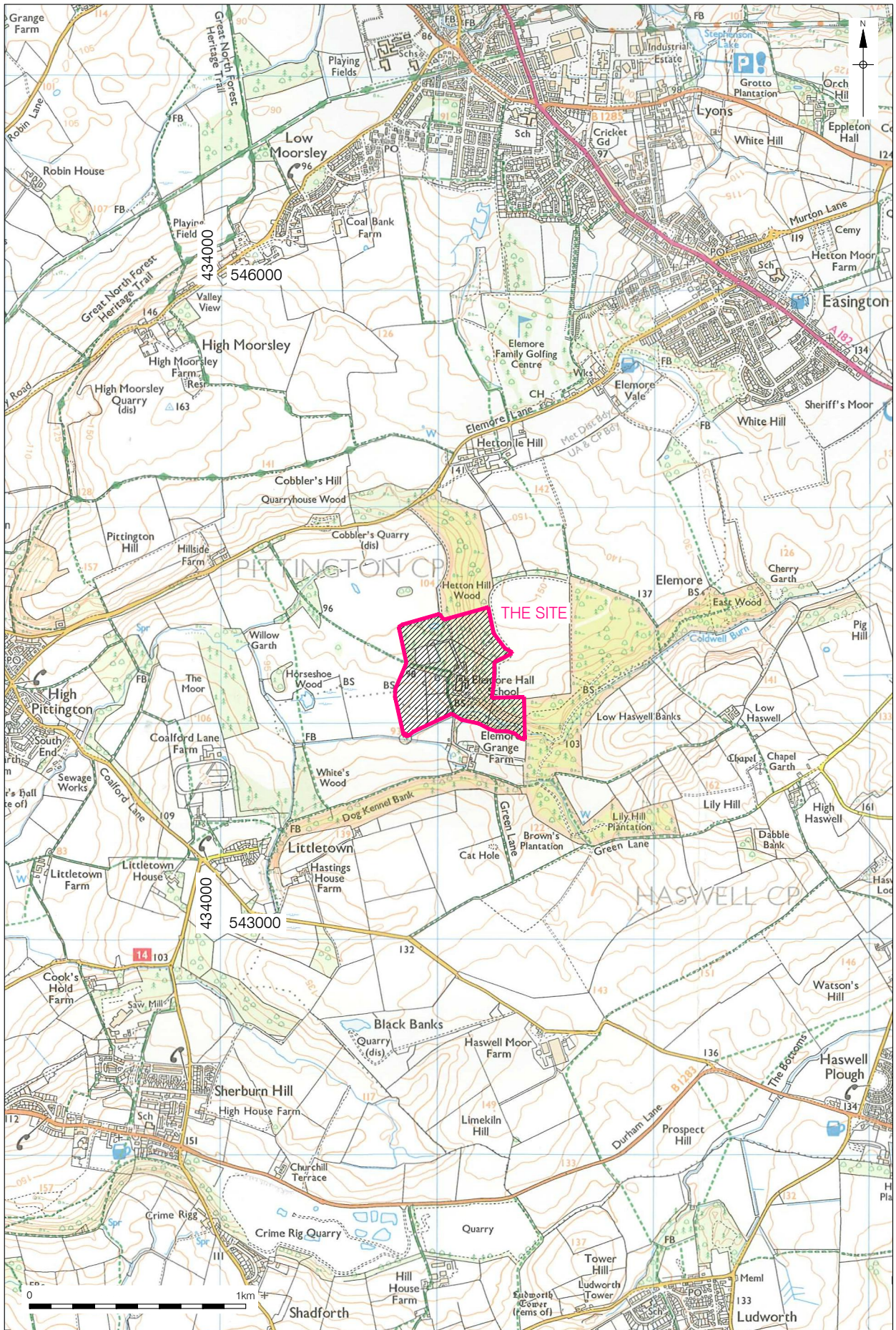
- 1.1 Archaeological investigations were undertaken 3-5 April 2013 by Pre-Construct Archaeology at Elemore Hall School, Pitlington, County Durham, central National Grid Reference NZ 3512 4424. The work was commissioned by Mosedale Gillatt Architects, on behalf of Durham County Council's Building Schools for the Future team, as part of the planning process ahead of the proposed construction of a new sports hall and other accommodation.
- 1.2 Elemore Hall School is a day and residential Special School lying within an extensive mixed use site (farming, woodland and education) which covers c. 16 ha. At the core of the school is Elemore Hall, a Grade I listed building, which dates from c. 1750 when the site of a 16th-century manor house was evidently re-developed, with the Hall the centerpiece of a planned landscape. To the north of the Hall is a stable block/yard annex, mostly of 18th- and 19th-century date and including a Grade II listed Stable Yard Archway. The annex is bounded to the east by a substantial retaining wall, while outbuildings include a Barn and an Ice House, both Grade II listed. Modern additions to the overall complex include a 20th-century classroom block to the north-east.
- 1.3 The archaeological investigations had two elements. The first was a trial trenching evaluation required to test the potential for archaeological remains within proposed development areas around the north-eastern part of the existing complex of buildings. The broad aim of the work was to provide information regarding the character, date, extent and degree of survival of archaeological deposits within those areas. The second was monitoring of geotechnical investigations of a retaining wall which bounds the eastern side of the stable block/yard annex, with the aim of establishing whether the structure incorporates 18th-century or earlier fabric.
- 1.4 The evaluation comprised three trenches (Trenches 1-3). Trench 1 was sited on a level grassed area to the south of the 20th-century classroom block. Trench 2 was located at the north-eastern corner of the same block, at the base of a sloping grass bank. Trench 3 was sited on a level grassed area off the main access drive, to the north of the stable block/yard annex.
- 1.5 All three evaluation trenches exposed natural geological material as the basal deposit. Trench 1 revealed geological material c. 0.60m below existing ground level. Archaeological remains probably representing the 19th-century east garden of the Hall were recorded, comprising a make-up layer, a garden soil incorporating at least one probable planting pit, and what appeared to be structural remains of a north-south aligned garden path, as depicted on Ordnance Survey mapping from the second half of the 19th century. These remains were exposed at a minimum depth of c. 0.35m below existing ground level. Deposits related to modern landscaping and the existing topsoil/turf comprised the uppermost strata.
- 1.6 Trench 2 recorded geological material as shallow as c. 40mm below existing ground level, directly underlying topsoil/turf. No archaeological remains were recorded and the southern part of the trench had been affected by modern landscaping. Trench 3 recorded geological material generally at c. 0.25m below ground level with a single, undated, feature recorded in section to the south, directly below topsoil/turf. No other archaeological remains were recorded, apart from a modern deposit, again related to landscaping, to the north.

- 1.7 Geotechnical investigations of the eastern retaining wall comprised horizontal borehole coring of wall fabric on its western elevation and vertical ground resistance penetration testing undertaken to the immediate east of the structure. None of the borehole cores penetrated the outermost skin of brickwork, which is of 19th-century date, and the penetration testing provided only very limited archaeological information.
- 1.8 In summary, archaeological remains of significance were probably recorded in Trench 1, these likely relating to the 19th-century east garden of the Hall. Trenches 2 and 3 recorded no archaeological remains of significance. Very limited archaeological information of note was recorded during monitoring of the geotechnical investigations of the eastern retaining wall.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 General Background

- 2.1.1 This report details the methodology and results of archaeological investigations undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited (PCA) 3-5 April 2013 at Elemore Hall School, Pitlington, County Durham (Figure 1).
- 2.1.2 The work was commissioned by Mosedale Gillatt Architects (MGA) on behalf of Durham County Council's (DCC) Building Schools for the Future (BSF) team and was required as part of the planning process ahead of a proposed development at the north-east corner of the existing complex of school buildings. The complex is dominated by Elemore Hall, a Grade I listed building, which dates from c. 1750 when the site of a 16th-century manor house was re-developed. To the north of the Hall is a stable block/yard annex, mostly of 18th- and 19th-century date, including a Grade II listed Stable Yard Archway, and outbuildings include a Barn and an Ice House, both Grade II listed.
- 2.1.3 The archaeological investigations comprised a trial trenching evaluation to determine the potential of two proposed development areas for buried archaeological remains, along with monitoring of geotechnical investigations of a retaining wall which bounds the eastern side of the stable block/yard annex, with the aim of establishing whether the structure incorporates 18th-century or earlier fabric (Figure 2). In addition to the field investigations, PCA was to provide archaeological detail for a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) for the proposed development.
- 2.1.4 A Specification for the archaeological work was compiled by DCC Archaeology Section (DCCAS 2013), in response to which a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared by PCA (PCA 2013a), ahead of the fieldwork elements of the project.
- 2.1.5 The trial trenching evaluation comprised three machine-excavated trenches (Trenches 1-3) in the north-east portion of the existing complex of school buildings. Trench 1 was located to the south-east of a 20th-century classroom block, Trench 2 was located to the north-east of the same block and Trench 3 was located off the main access drive, to the north of the stable block/yard annex.
- 2.1.6 The geotechnical investigations of the eastern retaining wall comprised horizontal borehole coring at three locations (Boreholes 1-3) on the west-facing elevation of the southernmost portion of the wall and vertical ground resistance penetration tests (Cone Penetration Testing - CPT) of the elevated ground immediately adjacent to the east side of the wall, in the footprint of a former greenhouse.
- 2.1.7 The Site Archive (site code: ELP 13) is currently held at the Northern Office of PCA (Unit N19a Tursdale Business Park, Durham, DH6 5PG) and the retained element, comprising the written, drawn and photographic records will be deposited with the appropriate repository for archaeological archives generated by projects within the former Durham City District. The Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) reference number for the project is: preconst1-148056.

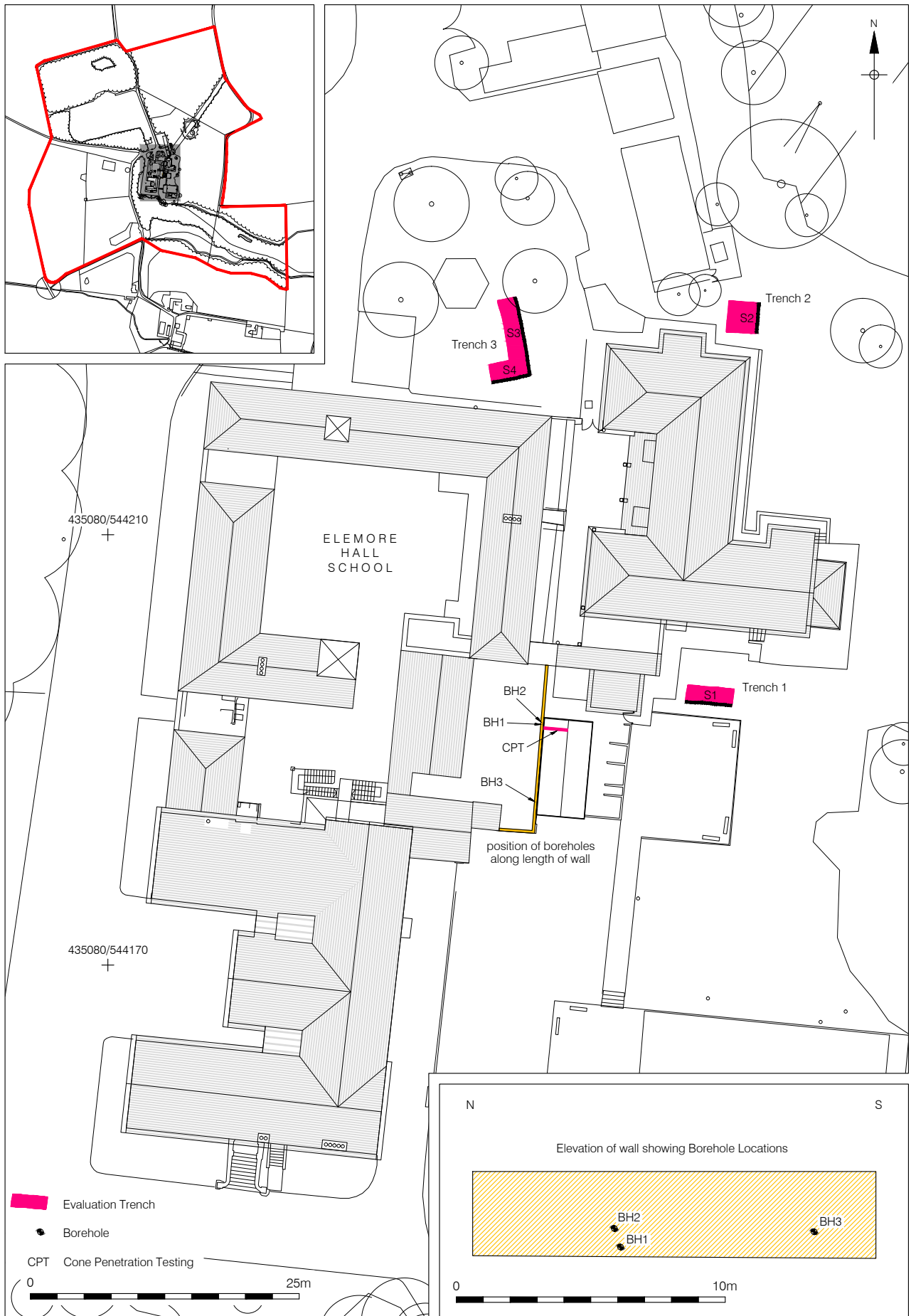


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Figure 1
Site Location
1:25,000 at A4



Map/Survey data provided by Mosedale Gillat Architects, November 2012
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Figure 2
 Location of Investigations
 Plan 1:500 & Elevation 1:200 at A4

2.2 Site Location and Description

- 2.2.1 Elemore Hall School is located c. 5 km east of Durham City at National Grid Reference NZ 3512 4424 (Figure 1). It is a secluded, rural location, c. 2 km east and c. 2.5 km south of the small villages of High Pittington and Hetton-le-Hole, respectively and at the heart of an area designated by DCC as being of 'High Landscape Value'.
- 2.2.2 Elemore Hall is a day and residential Special School lying within an extensive mixed use site which covers c. 16 ha, with extensive areas of woodland and farmland around the educational complex. The school grounds are accessed from the north off Elemore Lane which runs SW-NE between High Pittington and Easington Lane. A belt of woodland - Hetton Hill Wood - skirts the access road to the east with a further, extensive belt of woodland - Elemore Wood - to the south and east of the school complex.
- 2.2.3 The school complex is dominated by Elemore Hall, a Grade I listed building, which dates from c. 1750 when the site of a 16th-century manor house was evidently re-developed, with the Hall as the centerpiece of a planned landscape. To the north of the Hall is a stable block/yard annex, mostly of 18th- and 19th-century date and including a Grade II listed Stable Yard Archway, while to the north-east is a 20th-century classroom block, this with a playground and MUGA to its south and a row of modern garages to its north. Other outbuildings north of the core of the complex include a Barn and an Ice House, both Grade II listed, and a Gardeners' Cottage (now the residence of the school caretaker).

2.3 Geology and Topography

- 2.3.1 In broad terms, the Elemore Hall site lies within the margin between the western edge of the East Durham Limestone Plateau and the Carboniferous bedrock of what was, historically, the West Durham Coalfield. In specific terms, the solid geology of the area occupied by the complex of school buildings, and the majority of the lower-lying ground to the west of the access road, is Carboniferous sedimentary bedrock of the Pennine Middle Coal Measures Formation, comprising mudstone, siltstone and sandstone (*British Geological Survey website*). The overlying superficial material in the area comprises glaciofluvial Devensian Till, this material comprising a variety of alluvial silts, brown sands and heavy glacial clay.
- 2.3.2 The complex of school buildings occupies a terrace of relatively level ground at c. 110m OD, partly created by post-medieval landscaping, overlooking the floodplain of Coalford Beck, at c. 93m OD, to the south-west. Coalford Beck joins Coldwell Burn to the south-west of the school complex, continuing through a wooded dene, the lowermost part of Hetton Hill, to the south and south-east.
- 2.3.3 The 20th-century classroom block forming the north-easternmost element of the school complex occupies a slightly elevated landscaped platform, at c. 113.50m OD. To the east, the ground rises sharply into Hetton Hill Wood, climbing across agricultural land to the summit of Hetton Hill, at c. 150m OD. This higher ground is underlain by Permian sedimentary bedrock of the Yellow Sands Formation and Raisby Formation, the latter dolostone/dolomite rock, with little or no superficial material (*British Geological Survey website*).

2.4 Planning Background

- 2.4.1 The work herein described was undertaken to provide archaeological and technical information in support of a planning application to be submitted for a scheme to build a new sports hall and other new accommodation at Elemore Hall School. Three areas in the school grounds were previously identified as possibilities for proposed development, with the preferred 'Option 3' areas located at the north-east corner of the existing complex of buildings. The developer is DCC's BSF team, which includes *inspiredspaces*, a company set up by Carillion and its joint venture partners to deliver the BSF programme in association with various Local Authorities. In this project, the agent for the BSF team is MGA.
- 2.4.2 In support of the planning application, a HIA is being compiled by MGA, with input from various consultants including Grace McCombie, the North-East Civic Trust (NECT), Fiona Green (Garden Archaeologist) and PCA.
- 2.4.3 The site is dominated by the Grade I listed Elemore Hall, rebuilt in the mid 18th century, as the centrepiece of a planned landscape, on the site of a 16th-century house. The Hall is of three brick storeys, with basement incorporating sandstone fabric of the earlier house. The Grade I listing includes a doorway attached to an extension to the north-western corner of the Hall and an archway attached at right angles to the north-eastern corner of the Hall. To the north of these elements are various buildings collectively forming a stable block/yard annex, including a Grade II listed Stable Yard Archway; elements of this annex are of 18th-century date although it was largely remodelled in the 19th century. Detached outbuildings include a Barn and an Ice House, both Grade II listed, and a Gardeners' Cottage, all to the north of main complex.
- 2.4.4 All the listed buildings at the site are 'designated heritage assets' as defined by current national planning policy regarding the historic environment, as discussed below. All other buildings and structures within the curtilage of the Hall built before 1 July 1948 are considered to be 'curtilage listed' and are thus afforded listed building protection under the *Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990*; this includes the Gardeners' Cottage, which is likely contemporaneous with the Hall (MGA and the NECT 2013). Buildings constructed after 1 July 1948 and which are unattached to the listed buildings are not considered to be 'curtilage listed'.
- 2.4.5 Ahead of the submission of the planning application for the proposed development, a programme of archaeological work was required, of which there are three elements, two being the fieldwork components herein described. The first was an archaeological trial trenching evaluation to determine the potential sub-surface archaeological remains in the proposed development area. The second was to undertake archaeological monitoring of geotechnical investigations on the substantial retaining wall which bounds the stable block/yard annex to the east. This second element was required as a condition of planning permission - application number CMA/4/97/LB – granted specifically for this component of the work, due to the wall being 'curtilage listed', as described above. The third element of the overall archaeological project is to provide archaeological detail to the HIA, which should be consulted for further details.

- 2.4.6 The requirement to undertake the archaeological investigations is in line with planning policy at a national level as set out in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF) (Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) 2012). A key component of the NPPF – retained from the previous national guidance document *Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment* (PPS5) (DCLG 2010a) - is the concept of heritage assets, those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest. Despite the deletion of PPS5 and its replacement with the NPPF, the *PPS5 Historic Environment Planning Practice Guide* (DCLG 2010b) remains a valid and UK Government endorsed document.
- 2.4.7 Until the finalisation of an overarching planning document, the emerging *County Durham Plan*, DCC has ‘saved’ some policies from the 2004 *Durham City Local Plan* to guide decision making regarding development and planning with regard to all aspects of the historic environment. ‘Saved’ policies relevant to the proposed development at Elemore Hall School are:
- Policy E21. Historic Environment;
 - Policy E23. Listed Buildings;
 - Policy E24. Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Remains.
- 2.4.8 The DCCAS, which provides archaeological development control in County Durham, produced the aforementioned Specification to set out the requirements for archaeological work to be undertaken ahead of determination of the planning application. Section 4.15 of the Specification stipulated that a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was required in response to the Specification. This was subsequently compiled by PCA, forming part of a ‘Project Design’ as described in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE) (English Heritage 2006).

2.5 Archaeological and Historical Background

The current draft HIA, particularly Fiona Green’s appraisal of the historic designed landscape at Elemore Hall, was used extensively as the basis for the post-medieval element of the following section; other sources are referenced as appropriate.

Prehistory and Roman

- 2.5.1 Archaeological investigations undertaken in recent years in the wider area around Elemore Hall indicate that this part of County Durham was relatively densely occupied during later prehistory. The site lies within the aggregate-producing areas of County Durham and a recent archaeological assessment concluded that there is potential for Iron Age settlement sites to be situated practically anywhere in such areas (Hewitt, 2011, 62). This conclusion fits in with the results of a wider body of archaeological work undertaken over the last 20 years, work which has challenged established ideas about patterns of settlement and society in the lowlands of south-east Northumberland and Durham during the Iron Age and early Roman period (Proctor, 2009, 90-91; Hewitt, 2011, 61). As more and more settlements with complex and multi-phase sequences of activity have been identified by large scale area excavations, established models of settlement morphology and chronology have become less clear (Petts and Gerrard, 135).

- 2.5.2 The Pig Hill/Haswell area to the east/south of Elemore Hall typifies the character, extent and density of later prehistoric activity in this part of County Durham. Pig Hill, c. 1.8 km to the east of Elemore Hall, is the site of a later prehistoric settlement which has scheduled monument status (National Monument No. 34586; County Durham HER 45045). The site contains complex remains of double-ditched or palisaded polygonal enclosure, with internal cropmarks likely representing traces of later Iron Age settlement. Investigations undertaken ahead of the Cowpen Bewley to Warden Law Gas Pipeline revealed three separate Iron Age settlement sites in the Haswell area, at Pig Hill (beyond the scheduled site), Harehill Moor and High Haswell Farm (Robinson *et al.*, 2004). Evidence for later prehistoric activity was also recorded at the site of High Haswell Wind Farm, c. 1.5 km south-south-east of Elemore Hall. In sum, the Pig Hill/Haswell area in the vicinity of Elemore Hall was clearly a focus for complex multi-phase occupation and landscape management in later prehistory.
- 2.5.3 Recent archaeological work to the west of Elemore Hall also indicates exploitation of topographically advantageous locations in the landscape towards Durham City during later prehistory. At Hilltop Farm, c. 3.5 km to the west of Elemore Hall, a programme of archaeological work in 2007 revealed a ditched habitation enclosure of probable Iron Age date. In a more recent piece of work, a radiocarbon date of c. 450 BC was obtained from material within a field boundary to the north of the enclosure, with that and another boundary post-dated by two successive rectilinear ditched enclosures (PCA 2013b).
- 2.5.4 The County Durham HER has no known sites of Roman date in the wider area of Elemore Hall.

Medieval

- 2.5.5 In the medieval period, the land in which Elemore Hall stands belonged to Finchale Priory, part of the manor of Little Haswell. The wider area around Elemore Hall contains several known medieval sites of note, including designated heritage assets in the form of two scheduled monuments and a listed building.
- 2.5.6 The hamlet of Hallgarth (HER 1140), c. 2.2 km south-west of Elemore Hall, was a relatively important medieval settlement with earthwork remains of the village surviving in good condition. It contains the site of Prior's Hall, a scheduled monument (National Monument No. 131; HER 1156), the manor house of the Priory of Durham, of mid 13th-century, possibly earlier, origin.
- 2.5.7 St. Laurence's Church (HER 35374) in Hallgarth is the parish church of Pittington. A Grade I listed building, it has long been believed to be of Saxon or Saxo-Norman origin, although an assessment of the building in 2000 concluded that the earliest structural fabric – the walls of the western four bays of the nave - is certainly Norman, with a date of c. 1100 considered possible (Ryder 2000). Much of the church was altered and restored in the 19th century.
- 2.5.8 Archaeological investigations close to St. Laurence's Church at Hallgarth House have revealed evidence for medieval occupation dated to the mid 11th to early 13th centuries, including traces of buildings and a number of possible animal pens (HER 5029). Hallgarth Mill (HER 1139) was located south-west of Hallgarth during the medieval period, towards the village of Sherburn (HER 6880), which is also of medieval origin. The mill – 'Pittington Mill' - is depicted on Greenwood's map of Durham from 1820, which names Hallgarth as 'Pittington Hall Garth'.

- 2.5.9 High Haswell Chapel (National Monument No. 34584; HER 1150) is a scheduled monument located to the north-west of High Haswell village, c. 1.4 km to the south-east of Elemore Hall. The monument comprises a platform in the western part of a field known as Chapel Garth, known to be the site of a medieval chapel associated with the manor of High Haswell, which first appears in documentary records in the early 13th century.
- 2.5.10 Elemore Hall lies c. 2 km to the east of the closely associated villages of High Pittington (formerly North Pittington) and Low Pittington. The place name Pittington (HER 6863) is possibly derived from the Old English 'Pytta's hill' or 'the hill at or called Pytting, the place called after Pytta' (Watts 2002, 95). The place name 'Piddington towne' appears on the first printed map of Durham, engraved by Augustus Ryther in 1576 and described by Christopher Saxton (*Genmaps* website).

Post-medieval (up to c. 1750)

- 2.5.11 In 1553, following the dissolution of the monasteries, Bartram Anderson, a Newcastle merchant (also sheriff, mayor and MP for the city in the 1550s-1560s) acquired Little Haswell estate, including the land in which Elemore Hall stands, from Finchale Priory. Gosden summarised the available documentary evidence relating to the early history of the house Anderson built at Elemore, the remains of which are effectively overlain by the existing Hall (Gosden 1982, 31). Inventory evidence indicates that Anderson built an 'E' or 'U' shaped manor house at Elemore prior to his death in 1571. Anderson's will listed a hall, two parlours, "*kitching*", "*pastrie*", buttery, "*mykle house*", workhouse and barn. In 1587 "*Elimoure Hall*" is first mentioned in documentary records, when a sum of money was paid towards bread and wine for the nearby parish church of St. Laurence.
- 2.5.12 Gosden's summary of the documentary material relating to Elemore Hall continued the history of the property into the 17th century. By 1605 the house belonged to Henry Anderson and an inventory on his behalf listed over 20 rooms. Probably during the first half of the 17th century, another Newcastle merchant, William Hall, purchased the estate of Little Haswell, including the house at Elemore, from Sir Henry Anderson (1582-1659), grandson of Bartram Anderson, for £4,600. William Hall's son, Sir Alexander Hall, left one third of the estate to his five sisters and the two-thirds to his cousin, the Rev. Nicholas Hall, whose probate inventory described the house at Elemore as having "*two parlours with chambers above*".
- 2.5.13 'North', 'middle' and 'south' parts of the house are referred to in a 1669 document describing the "*mansion of Elimore Hall*" which had a "*north part together with the chamber over the kitchen and the slaughterhouse under it*" with "*ingress and egress at the North doore leading down the staires under the sellars of Thomas Hall*", this being the son of the aforementioned Rev. Nicholas Hall. The 1674 Hearth Tax return assessed Thomas Hall for seven hearths. A lease of 1693 again referred to 'south' and 'middle' parts of the house, as well as mentioning a 'Stone Court' and a 'Green Court', the latter probably a formal garden, while an 'Orchard' and 'Horse Park' are also mentioned. Another legal agreement of 1693 referred to the "*south part of ye great garden*" and "*all ye little garden*", evidently located to the south of the house.

- 2.5.14 Above ground, very little remains of Anderson's house in the fabric of the existing Elemore Hall. The lowermost portion of the north wall of the Hall, which is of significant dimension, up to c. 1.50m thick, probably contains early fabric. A blocked door, with chamfered stone surround with four-centred head, is almost certainly a vestige of Anderson's house. It is truncated to the east by a basement sash window, with plain stone surround, this likely from the 18th-century re-modelling of the property as described in due course, with a larger, similar, window interfering with its arch. Gosden postulated that this door was probably the "*North doore*" mentioned in the 1669 document "*leading down the staires under the sellars of Thomas Hall*". Above the doorway are two blocked stone-mullioned windows, one with two lights, the other with three, both likely elements of the earlier house. Large sash windows, both with plain stone surrounds, have been inserted below the blocked windows, these likely from the re-modelling.
- 2.5.15 The documentary material indicates that Anderson's house was of at least two storeys above basement/cellars. The upper storeys may have been stone or possibly timber framed; Gosden mentions that little money was spent on foundation or demolition work, with old (presumably stone) chimneys pulled down, doors and windows walled up and a new stone plinth constructed to encase the (certainly stone) basement. Thus, the highly-weathered ashlar plinth which, externally, forms the lowermost portion of the existing Hall on its west and south elevations is an element of the 18th-century re-modelling, rather than surviving earlier fabric.
- 2.5.16 The two-thirds of the estate inherited by Nicholas Hall passed by marriage to the Conyers family around 1700, then to the Baker family. Orphaned aged two, George Baker V (1723-74) inherited his mother's share of the estate (his father, George Baker IV, having died in 1723), and by 1746 his trustees had acquired the remainder of the estate on his behalf, thereby enabling the re-development of the house, as described below.

Elemore Hall c. 1750 onwards

- 2.5.17 The existing Elemore Hall (HER 36006) was built as a high status mansion for George Baker V and his new wife Judith. Re-modelling of Anderson's house began in 1749 and was concluded by 1752. The architect was Robert Shout of Helmsley. A 1750 plan of the proposals for the Baker re-modelling indicates a mansion house at the heart of an extensive planned landscape. The plan indicates that the new Hall began as a 'U'-shaped building, with central entrance bay to the west, and it appears that this design was largely implemented. The Hall today is of three brick storeys with basement with the principal entrance located in the west elevation and a 'garden door' in the south elevation.
- 2.5.18 The arrangement of ground floor reception rooms in the Hall was designed to take particular advantage of designed parkland and gardens to the east and south. Although the gardens changed over time, the importance of views to the east, west and south of the Hall remained unaltered. To the north-west of the Hall, and largely screened from its view by woodland, was an extensive rectangular walled kitchen garden; the route of a path which skirted the eastern side of the garden is followed today by the main access drive.

- 2.5.19 A large fish pond was created on the course of the Coldwell Burn to the south of the Hall and a leisure feature described as a 'race track' was created in woodland to the east. The last layout of historic significance is considered to be that depicted on Ordnance Survey 1st edition maps (the 6-inch scale version appeared in 1861 and the 25-inch version in 1895 – Figure 9). These depict a formal garden or 'pleasure grounds' to the east of the Hall, divided from it by a strip of orchard trees. This east garden is depicted with a central oval feature bordered by a path connected to paths leading north and south and connecting to a walk which follows the perimeter of the garden, backed to the east by mixed woodland on the lowermost slope of Hetton Hill.
- 2.5.20 The 1750 plan of Baker's re-development proposals show a stable block north of the Hall as a west-east range with yard walls at either end linking the building to the north elevation of the Hall and thus enclosing a stable yard. The plan shows that the yard was accessed from the west and south. The southern entrance survives *in situ*, with its grand arched opening, attached at right angles to the north-eastern corner of the Hall, and this is included in the Grade I listing. The form of the yard had changed by the turn of the 19th century, when an east range was added.
- 2.5.21 Parallel ranges of buildings are depicted on the 1841 Tithe map extending to the north-east of the stable block/yard annex, but these do not appear on the 1st edition and were thus evidently short-lived. The mid 19th-century alterations, as depicted on the Ordnance Survey 1st editions, involved a rebuild of the north and east ranges, construction of buildings along the west side and the addition of buildings, including a clock tower, within the open yard area. This re-development had the effect of creating two courtyards, the south courtyard being accessed from the west side by a pedestrian doorway with elaborate surround; this survives, north of a short extension to the north-western corner the Hall, and is included in the Grade I listing. East of the stable block/yard annex is a substantial retaining wall which probably relates to the original construction of the yard or the aforementioned 19th-century re-development of this part of the complex. The original grand arched entrance on the west side of the stable block/yard annex was evidently repositioned when the west range was built; in its new location, this Stable Yard Archway (HER 35376) has a separate Grade II listing.
- 2.5.22 Outbuildings include the Grade II listed Barn (HER 36007), probably built in the late 18th century to the NNE of the stable block/yard annex, the Grade II listed Ice House (HER 36766), located in the woods c. 100m to the north-east of the Hall and the Gardeners' Cottage, probably built in the mid 18th century and possibly at the same time as the Hall, to the NNW of the stable block/yard annex.
- 2.5.23 George Baker VI died in 1837. In 1844 Isabella Baker married Henry Tower, who changed his name to Baker Baker and the family continued to reside at Elemore Hall into the 20th century.

20th Century

- 2.5.24 In 1931 Henry Conyers Baker Baker inherited Elemore Hall but the family left the property before World War Two. In 1947 DCC purchased the Hall and associated estate. The walled kitchen garden was demolished in the 1950s.

2.5.25 Development of the complex in the 20th century has largely focussed on the stable yard/block annex and land to the east of the annex and Hall. A single storey circulation corridor was built against part of the east range of the annex and a flat roof first floor was added to link two 19th-century buildings in the west range. A classroom block was built on a platform to the north-east of the stable yard/block annex in the 1990s, while other ancillary structures/facilities, including a greenhouse and a playground, were built to the east of the stable yard/block annex, and a row of garages was built to the north-east. Another recent addition is a MUGA constructed to the east of the Hall, in the southern part of the area formerly occupied by the east garden.

3. PROJECT AIMS AND RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

3.1 Project Aims

3.1.1 The project is threat-led with potential to disturb or destroy important sub-surface archaeological remains of the prehistoric, medieval and post-medieval periods. The broad aims of the archaeological investigations are thus to determine the archaeological potential of the proposed development area and to fulfill the planning condition relating to the geotechnical investigations of the eastern retaining wall.

3.1.2 Specific research objectives to be addressed by the project have been formulated with reference to an existing archaeological research framework, *Shared Visions: The North-East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment* (NERRF) (Petts and Gerrard 2006) which highlights the importance of research as a vital element of development-led archaeological work. It sets out key research priorities for all periods of the past allowing commercial contractors to demonstrate how their fieldwork relates to wider regional and national priorities for the study of archaeology and the historic environment. The aim of NERRF is to ensure that all fieldwork is carried out in a secure research context and that commercial contractors ensure that their investigations ask the right questions.

3.1.3 The potential of the site for later prehistoric archaeological remains has been outlined above. The work therefore had the potential to provide a contribution to five Key Research Themes in the NERRF Research Strategy for the Bronze Age and Iron Age:

- *11. Chronology: The failure of chronologies based on settlement morphology and the lack of chronologically diagnostic material culture has led to uncertainty in the dating of later prehistory. This challenge can be met through increased use of absolute dating techniques in both research and development-control fieldwork.*
- *12. Changing landscapes: An improved understanding of later prehistoric landscapes in the North-East is needed, focusing not just on individual settlements but also on their situation within the wider landscape, integrating archaeological and palaeoenvironmental work.*
- *13. Settlement function: Further research is required on the varying patterns of settlement function. In some parts of the lowlands, increased use of large-scale, open-area excavation has improved our understanding of the layout of settlements and their associated networks of enclosures and field systems.*
- *14. Social organisation and identity: Social organisation and cultural identity in later prehistoric society in the North-East are both understudied themes. Settlement archaeology shows distinct regional patterning, the hillforts of the Cheviots being one example, and it may be possible to recognise similar patterns elsewhere in the archaeological record, such as in material culture. The extent to which regional variation reflects social identities should be explored and any advances in the chronology of the period must be exploited in order to identify changes over time.*

- *I5. Material culture: Despite the relatively low level of material culture in later prehistory in the North-East, there is still a need for a more thorough understanding of finds assemblages of this date, especially ceramics, which are now being recovered in greater numbers. As noted above, scientific dating techniques must be employed to achieve a more secure chronological framework for pottery.*

3.1.4 The potential of the site for later medieval and early post-medieval archaeological remains has been outlined above. The work therefore had the potential to provide a contribution to at least two NERRF Key Research Priorities in the Research Agenda and Strategy for the later medieval period:

- *MDi. Settlement: There are still very few excavated sites of this period.*
- *MDxi. The medieval to post-medieval transition: There was clearly a change in the rural landscape, but important questions remains: was there a decline in rural settlements and how did this vary regionally? There were changes in all aspects of the region's architecture, both vernacular and high status and there is a particular need for more research into urban structures of the 16th and 17th century.*

3.1.5 The site contains designated heritage assets in the form of listed historic standing buildings, as described. In addition, the potential of the site for post-medieval archaeological remains representing former structures and elements of the planned landscape, including the gardens of the Hall, has been outlined. The NERRF Resource Assessment for the post-medieval period states: *"There are no certain 16th-century formal gardens in the region and the 18th century was the prime period for gardens in the North-East (Green, F. 2006, 'Designed Landscape', in Petts and Gerrard, 91). In addition to the agrarian landscape, there were also many designed public and private landscapes in the region, including parks and gardens. Although the Northumbria Gardens Trust has carried out an assessment of all designed landscapes in the old county of Northumberland, there is a need to take this southwards into Durham (Petts and Gerrard 2011, 178)".* Therefore, the work had the potential to provide a contribution to NERRF a Key Research Theme in the Research Agenda of the post-medieval period:

- *PM5. Landscapes and mansions of the 18th century: The 18th century was a period of great expansion of stately homes and their associated designed landscapes. Some of these were owned by long-established families of high standing, others by those newly enriched from their involvement in the burgeoning industrial economy. Today many of these houses and landscapes are under threat from partition, development and decay. Among the flagship examples of conservation and research are Gibside (Tyne and Wear) and Hardwick Park, Sedgfield (County Durham), but there is still a need for further research investigations....many minor individual park and garden schemes would merit more intensive study.*

3.1.6 Hewitt (2011, 91) notes that there are a large number of structures of historic and architectural importance within the part of County Durham in which Elemore Hall School lies. In that assessment, the possibility for structures associated with county houses, such as ice houses, fountains and pavilions to survive below ground is highlighted, as is the potential for landscaped park and garden features which would be of considerable archaeological and historical interest.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

4.1 Trial Trenching

4.1.1 The trial trenching evaluation was undertaken in accordance with the DCCAS Specification, the PCA WSI and *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IfA 2009). All groundworks (excluding archaeological supervision, hand cleaning, hand excavation and recording) were undertaken by a plant sub-contractor on behalf of and fully supervised by PCA.

4.1.2 Three archaeological evaluation trenches were excavated to provide a sample of c. 4% of the proposed development area (Figure 2):

- Trench 1 measured 4.30m long by 1.60m wide, on an approximate east-west alignment. It was sited on a grassed area to the south of the 20th-century classroom block forming the north-easternmost element of the complex. Its purpose was to test for archaeological remains of all eras, with particular emphasis on remains of the designed east garden as depicted on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition mapping (Figure 9).
- Trench 2 measured 2.85m by 2.85m square. It was sited on a grassed area at the north-eastern corner of the 20th-century classroom block. Its purpose was to test for archaeological remains of all eras,
- Trench 3 was 'L' shaped with NNW-SSE portion measuring 7.40m north-south by up to 1.70m wide and a return to the WSW at its southern extent measuring 1.90m long by 1.70m wide. It was sited on a grassed area off the main access drive, to the north of the eastern end of the former stable block. Its purpose was to test for archaeological remains of all eras.

4.1.3 Prior to machine excavation, the area of each trench was scanned with a Cable Avoidance Tool. An existing utility survey drawing was also consulted to ensure that the trenches did not disturb buried utilities. The existing turf at each location was removed mechanically and stored for later reinstatement. Ground level in the trenches was reduced by a JCB 3CX using a wide blade, ditching bucket (with no teeth), with all excavation carried out under PCA supervision. Spoil was stored on geotextile adjacent to the trenches.

4.1.4 The trenches were fully cleaned by hand. Investigation of archaeological levels were carried out by hand and recorded both in plan and in section. Investigations within the trenches followed the normal principles of stratigraphic excavation and were conducted in accordance with the methodology set out in *Fieldwork Induction Manual. Operations Manual I* (PCA 2009) and *Archaeological Site Manual, Third Edition* (Museum of London 1994).

4.1.5 A photographic record was compiled of the trial trenches and all photographs included a legible graduated metric scale. The photographic record was compiled using a standard SLR camera loaded with black and white 35mm film to provide negatives in order to generate a set of prints and a digital SLR camera of 10 megapixels image capability with the 'RAW plus JPEG' camera setting used. Photographic record sheets were compiled.

- 4.1.6 All archaeological features were excavated by hand and recorded in plan at 1:20 or in section at 1:10 using standard 'single context recording' methods. Drawings were on polyester based gridded drawing sheets. The trenches were located relative to the Ordnance Survey grid by appropriate survey means. At least one long section of each trench was drawn to scale.
- 4.1.7 The height of all principal strata and features were calculated in metres above Ordnance Datum (m AOD) and indicated on appropriate plans and sections. The Ordnance Survey Bench Mark (value 110.34m OD) cut into the brickwork at the western end of the north-facing elevation of the former stable block (at NGR NZ 3509 4422) was used to establish a series of Temporary Bench Marks for use during the work. Archaeological deposits and feature cuts were individually recorded on a *pro-forma* 'Context Recording Sheet' and all site records were marked with the unique-number 'Site Code'. This is 'ELP 13'.

4.2 Geotechnical Monitoring: Methodology and Summary of Results

- 4.2.1 Geotechnical investigations of the eastern retaining wall were monitored by PCA. The work comprised horizontal borehole coring at three locations (Boreholes 1-3) on the west-facing elevation of the southernmost portion of the wall (where it forms the boundary of a 'sunken' courtyard) and vertical ground resistance penetration tests (Cone Penetration Testing - CPT) of the elevated ground immediately adjacent to the east side of the wall, in the footprint of a derelict, part-demolished greenhouse (Figure 2).
- 4.2.2 Boreholes 1-3 were excavated using a masonry core drill, 100mm in diameter (Figure 2, plan and inset elevation). The boreholes were excavated to a maximum depth of 130mm into the structural fabric of the wall. This revealed only the existing cement render and the outermost brickwork skin, this of 19th-century date.
- 4.2.3 CPT was undertaken using a small tracked mounted drilling rig. A solid cone probe was driven at four locations c. 0.25m apart on a line at right angles to the line of the retaining wall (Figure 2). The test was advanced in 1m sections using driving rods. At each location little or no resistance was met at a depth of 2-3m; the geotechnical report should be consulted for full details.

4.3 Post-excavation

- 4.3.1 The stratigraphic data generated by the trial trenching evaluation is represented by the written, drawn and photographic records. A total of 28 archaeological contexts were defined in the three trenches (Appendix B). Post-excavation work involved checking and collating site records, grouping contexts and phasing the stratigraphic data (Appendix A). A written summary of the archaeological sequence was then compiled, as described below in Section 5.
- 4.3.2 During the evaluation, no artefactual material was collected and thus no material was recovered that required specialist stabilisation or an assessment of potential for conservation research. Fragmented ceramic building material observed in section during hand cleaning of exposures was recorded but not collected.

- 4.3.3 The palaeoenvironmental sampling strategy of the project was to recover bulk samples where appropriate, from well-dated (where possible), stratified deposits covering the main periods or phases of occupation and the range of feature types represented, with specific reference to the objectives of the evaluation. To this end, no appropriate deposits were encountered and therefore no bulk samples were recovered. No other biological material was recovered.
- 4.3.4 The complete Site Archive, in this case comprising only the written, drawn and photographic records (including all material generated electronically during post-excavation) will be packaged for long term curation. In preparing the Site Archive for deposition, all relevant standards and guidelines documents referenced in the Archaeological Archives Forum guidelines document (Brown 2007) will be adhered to, in particular a well-established United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC) document (Walker, UKIC 1990) and the most recent IfA publication relating to archiving (IfA 2008).
- 4.3.5 The depositional requirements of the body to which the Site Archive will be ultimately transferred will be met in full. This will be the repository which takes on the responsibilities of the Old Fulling Mill, Durham as repository for archaeological archives generated by projects within the former Durham City District. The Archive will be organised as to be compatible with the other archaeological archives produced in the former Durham City District. A completed transfer of title deed will accompany the Site Archive on deposition.

5. RESULTS: THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

During the evaluation, separate stratigraphic entities were assigned unique and individual 'context' numbers, which are indicated in the following text as, for example [123]. The archaeological sequence is described by placing stratigraphic sequences within broad phases, assigned on a site-wide basis in this case. An attempt has been made to add interpretation to the data, and correlate these phases with recognised historical and geological periods.

5.1 Phase 1: Natural Sub-stratum

- 5.1.1 Phase 1 represents superficial geological material, Devensian Till, the basal material revealed in each trench.
- 5.1.2 In Trench 1, the natural sub-stratum consisted of firm, light yellowish brown clay, [116], recorded at a maximum height of 112.87m OD, c. 0.60m below existing ground level (Figures 3-5).
- 5.1.3 In Trench 2, the lowermost natural deposit consisted of loose, mid greyish brown silty sand, [202], overlain to the north by firm, light greyish brown silty clay, [201], this recorded at a maximum height of 113.81m OD, at this point only 40mm below existing ground level (Figures 3 and 6). This material had evidently been truncated to the south, probably during an episode of modern landscaping, as discussed in due course.
- 5.1.4 In Trench 3, the natural sub-stratum consisted of firm, mid greyish brown clay, [304], recorded at a maximum height of 110.77m OD, c. 0.25m below existing ground level (Figures 3, 7 and 8).
- 5.1.5 Natural deposits exposed in Trenches 2 and 3 are considered likely to have suffered horizontal truncation as a result of landscaping in the late post-medieval or modern era, while the absence of a palaeosol above natural clay in Trench 1 also indicates some horizontal truncation of the original ground when the area was developed as a 19th-century planned garden.

5.2 Phase 2: Post-Medieval (19th Century)

- 5.2.1 Phase 2 includes deposits and features of probable mid 19th-century date. Remains assigned to this phase were recorded in Trenches 1 and 3, with the remains in Trench 1 considered likely to represent the remains of the east garden of the Hall as depicted on Ordnance Survey 1st edition mapping (Figure 9 includes the 1:2.500 scale map of 1895).
- 5.2.2 Overlying the natural sub-stratum throughout Trench 1 was a firm, mixed layer, [115], of light bluish grey clay and mid greyish brown clayey silt, with occasional small fragments of ceramic building material observed throughout (Figures 3-5). It had a maximum thickness of 0.18m and was recorded at a maximum height of 112.99m OD. Layer [115] is interpreted as a probable ground consolidation and levelling deposit associated with an episode of 19th-century landscaping related to the setting-out of the east garden of the Hall.

- 5.2.3 To the east, a narrow, rather ill-defined, feature, [117], was recorded cutting through layer [115], to maximum depth of 0.17m. Its base was just discernible crossing the trench north-south at the level of machine clearance and it was thus essentially linear in form, although rather ill-defined, as described. Its fill, [115], comprised soft, mid brown silty clay. A tentative interpretation of the feature is advanced in due course.
- 5.2.4 In the western part of the trench, layer [115] was overlain by a layer, [114], of firm, mid brown clayey silt, up to 0.16m thick and recorded at a maximum height of 113.04m OD (Figures 3-5). Truncated to the east, this deposit was observed in section for c. 1.25m, continuing beyond the limit of excavation to the west. Layer [114] is interpreted as the probable remains of a 19th-century garden soil within the east garden of the Hall.
- 5.2.5 Three cut features were recorded in section in the western half of Trench 1 (Figures 3 and 4). The most substantial, pit [113], was located towards the western end of the trench, cutting into the surviving garden soil, layer [114]. With steeply-sloping concave sides and a flat base, it measured 0.59m wide by 0.36m deep. Two fills were recorded, the primary deposit, [112], was 90mm thick and comprised firm, mid greyish brown clayey silt, containing frequent sub-rounded and sub-angular stones and a single fragment of modern brick. The secondary fill, [111], consisted of soft, dark brown clayey silt, up to 0.27m thick. The feature is interpreted as a possible planting pit for a shrub, with the stones in its base therefore to aid drainage.
- 5.2.6 Two smaller intercutting 'pits', [110] and [108], were recorded in section to the east of pit [113] (Figures 3 and 4). The earliest, pit [110], had a rounded profile, measuring at least 0.35m wide, truncated to the east. It contained a single fill, [109], comprising firm, mid brown clayey silt, 0.15m thick, and was truncated to the east by feature [108]. This had a V-shaped profile, with rounded base, and measured 0.52m wide by 0.25m deep, recorded at a maximum height of 113.04m OD. It contained two fills, the earliest, fill [107], comprising firm, mid greyish brown clayey silt, up to 0.10m thick, overlain by fill [106], comprising firm, mid brown clayey silt with a maximum thickness of 0.14m. These features could potentially also represent planting pits, in similar fashion to pit [112]. An alternative, but perhaps less likely, interpretation is that they represent the 'robbed-out' remains of a structural border to a proposed garden path recorded to the east, discussed below.
- 5.2.7 In the eastern portion of the trench, a dump layer, [104], comprising compact, light brownish grey and pink mortar/brick rubble, was recorded in section for c. 2.50m, continuing beyond the eastern limit of excavation (Figures 3 and 4). Up to 0.18m thick, it was recorded at a maximum height of 113.13m OD. Only fragmented bricks were observed within the deposit, although available full dimensions (width 100mm, thickness 50mm), along with the fabric and unfrosted form, combine to indicate a late 18th- to mid 19th-century date. This deposit is interpreted as probably representing the sub-structure of a north-south aligned garden path. The aforementioned feature, [117], which was sealed by layer [104], is tentatively interpreted as potentially representing a 'marking out' impression along the centre point of the path, gouged into the prepared ground to guide the garden construction workers/engineers as the pathway sub-structure was laid out. As recorded, the westernmost extent of dump [104] appeared to slightly overlie fill [106] of feature [108], although it is acknowledged that this may have been the result of the spread of deposit [104] during usage or following disuse of the path.

- 5.2.8 Partially overlying rubble [104] was a thin spread, [103], of compact, light brownish yellow crushed stone. It extended c. 1.40m in section, had a maximum thickness of 80mm and was recorded at a maximum height of 113.15m OD. A very thin lens of grey silt ran through its upper portion. This material is interpreted as probably representing the remains of the surface treatment of the garden path.
- 5.2.9 A small feature, [302], with steeply sloping sides and a flat base, was recorded within the north-facing section of Trench 3 (Figures 3 and 7). It measured 0.26m wide and 0.15m deep and was recorded at a maximum height of 110.55m OD. A single fill, [301], comprising soft, dark greyish brown clayey silt was recorded. The feature is interpreted as a probable posthole and while it may relate to 19th-century or later activity, its period of origin is largely uncertain.

5.3 Phase 3: Modern (20th Century)

- 5.3.1 Phase 3 represents deposits and features of likely modern date, thus probably largely related to landscaping activity since the site has been in use as a school.
- 5.3.2 The uppermost strata recorded in Trench 1 are considered most likely to be derived from ground raising, consolidation and levelling associated with modern era landscaping, activity which effectively buried the postulated remains of the 19th-century east garden. A layer, [102], was observed in section for c. 3.20m, continuing beyond the western limit of excavation (Figures 3-5). It comprised firm, dark greyish brown sandy silt containing frequent fragments of ceramic building material, mortar and stone. It had a maximum thickness of c. 0.30m and was recorded at a maximum height of 113.26m OD. To the east, layer [102] was overlain by another layer, [101], which comprised firm, mid yellowish brown mixed silty sand and crushed rubble. This was up to 0.14m thick and was recorded at a maximum height of 113.29m AOD. It was observed in section for 2.20m, continuing beyond the limit of excavation to the east.
- 5.3.3 The uppermost deposit in Trench 1 was topsoil/turf, [100], comprising soft, dark brown sandy silt with turfline uppermost, up to 0.24m thick and forming the existing ground level at 113.50m OD (Figures 3-5).
- 5.3.4 In Trench 2, topsoil/turf, [200], directly overlay natural geological material (Figures 3 and 6). It consisted of soft, dark brownish grey clayey silt with ragged turfline uppermost, only c. 40mm thick on the higher ground to the north, but increasing to up to 0.27m thick to the south, where it infilled a cut, [204] (and was thus also numbered fill [203]). This feature was probably derived from modern landscaping undertaken when the classroom block forming the north-eastern element of the existing complex of buildings was constructed. Existing ground level varied across the east side of Trench 2 from 113.85m OD in the north, falling away to 113.47m OD in the south.
- 5.3.5 A modern era deposit, [303], was observed in section, overlying the natural sub-stratum, at the northern extent of Trench 3 (Figure 8). It was a banded layer of cemented, light brownish yellow crushed stone, observed in section for c. 2.40m, continuing beyond the limit of excavation to the north and up to 0.25m thick. The material likely relates to modern era landscaping. Topsoil/turf, [300], in Trench 3 comprised soft, dark greyish brown clayey silt with turfline uppermost, with a maximum thickness of 0.32m thick and recorded at a maximum height of 110.55m AOD, this the existing ground level (Figures 3, 7 and 8).

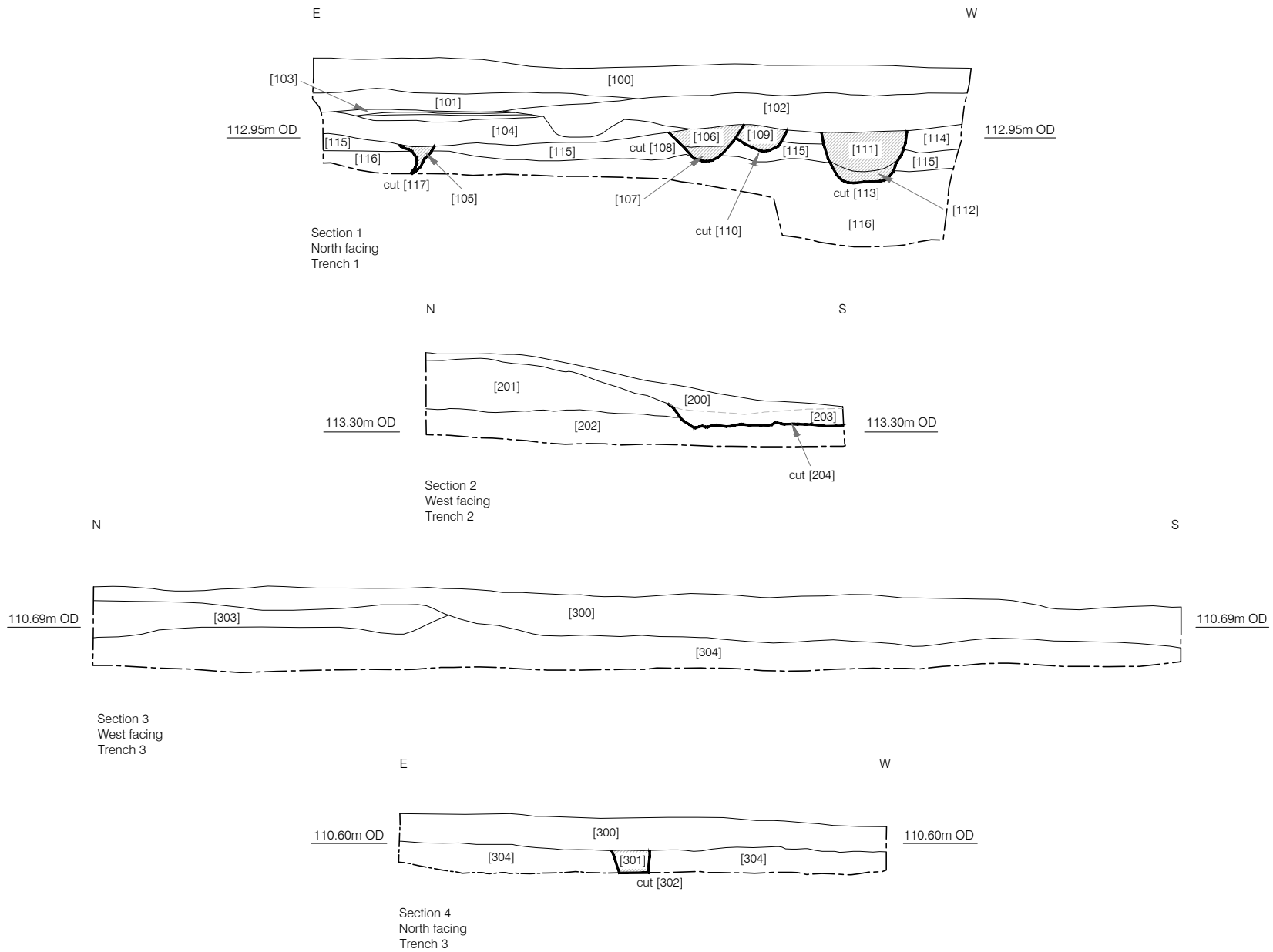


Figure 3
Sections 1-4
1:40 at A4



Figure 4. Trench 1, north-facing section (*2m scale*)



Figure 5. Trench 1, east-facing section (*1m scale*)



Figure 6. Trench 2, west-facing section (*1m scale*)



Figure 7. Trench 3, north-facing section (*1m scale*)



Figure 8. Trench 3, west-facing section, oblique view (*1m scale*)



Figure 9
 Location of Investigations overlain onto
 Ordnance Survey 1st edition at 1:2,500, 1895
 1:500 at A4

6. CONCLUSIONS

6.1 Geological deposits and archaeological deposits and features encountered during the trial trenching evaluation have been assigned to three phases of activity:

- Phase 1, natural sub-stratum: Firm clay representing Devensian Till, the superficial geology of the area, was recorded as the uppermost natural material in all three trenches. In Trench 2 this material had been subject to truncation to the south and an underlying layer of glaciofluvial sand was exposed. Natural material was recorded at minimum depths below existing ground level of c. 0.60m in Trench 1, 40mm in Trench 2 and c. 0.20m in Trench 3.
- Phase 2, post-medieval (19th century): Archaeological remains of the 19th-century east garden of Elemore Hall were probably recorded in Trench 1. The recorded remains comprised a make-up layer overlying the (probably truncated) natural clay sub-stratum, a garden soil incorporating at least one possible planting pit, and what appeared to be relatively substantial structural remains of a north-south aligned garden path, as depicted on Ordnance Survey 1st edition mapping. The remains were initially exposed at a depth of c. 0.35m below existing ground level.
- Phase 3, modern (20th century): Deposits related to modern era landscaping and/or the existing topsoil/turf comprised the uppermost strata in each trench.

6.2 It is concluded that archaeological remains of significance were probably recorded in Trench 1. If these remains do, as it appears, represent the 19th-century east garden of the Hall, then they are a heritage asset of archaeological significance, of importance at a local or even regional level, depending on the extent of their survival. Furthermore, the results of the evaluation indicate that construction groundworks associated with the proposed development have the potential to disturb or destroy archaeological remains of significance in the area of Trench 1. In contrast, the areas of Trenches 2 and 3 appear to be devoid of archaeological remains of significance.

6.3 Where it can be demonstrated that the archaeological remains in the area of Trench 1 are threatened by construction groundworks, for example through consideration of project formation level, utilities layout, *etc.*, an appropriate mitigation strategy should be implemented, comprising of archaeological recording ahead of or during groundworks, as necessary.

6.4 Monitoring of geotechnical investigations of the eastern retaining wall provided little or no archaeological information of note. Borehole coring of the wall fabric did not penetrate the outermost brickwork skin, which is of likely 19th-century date, while ground resistance penetration testing to the immediate east of the structure provided only very limited archaeological information.

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Online Sources

- The *British Geological Survey* website at: www.bgs.ac.uk; for geological information regarding the location of the site.
- The *Genmaps* website at: freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~genmaps/index for early mapping of County Durham.
- The *History of Parliament Online* website at: www.historyofparliamentonline.org; for information on Bartram Anderson.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND CREDITS

Acknowledgements

Pre-Construct Archaeology would like to thank Mosedale Gillatt Architects, particularly Jenny Gillatt, for commissioning the archaeological investigations herein described on behalf of DCC's BSF team.

The input of Alan Todd, Operations and Compliance Manager of inspiredspaces/Carillion, part of DCC's BSF team, is acknowledged.

The role of Lee McFarlane, DCCAS Senior Archaeologist, is acknowledged.

PCA Credits

Fieldwork: Amy Roberts (Site Supervisor), Robin Taylor-Wilson and Scott Vance

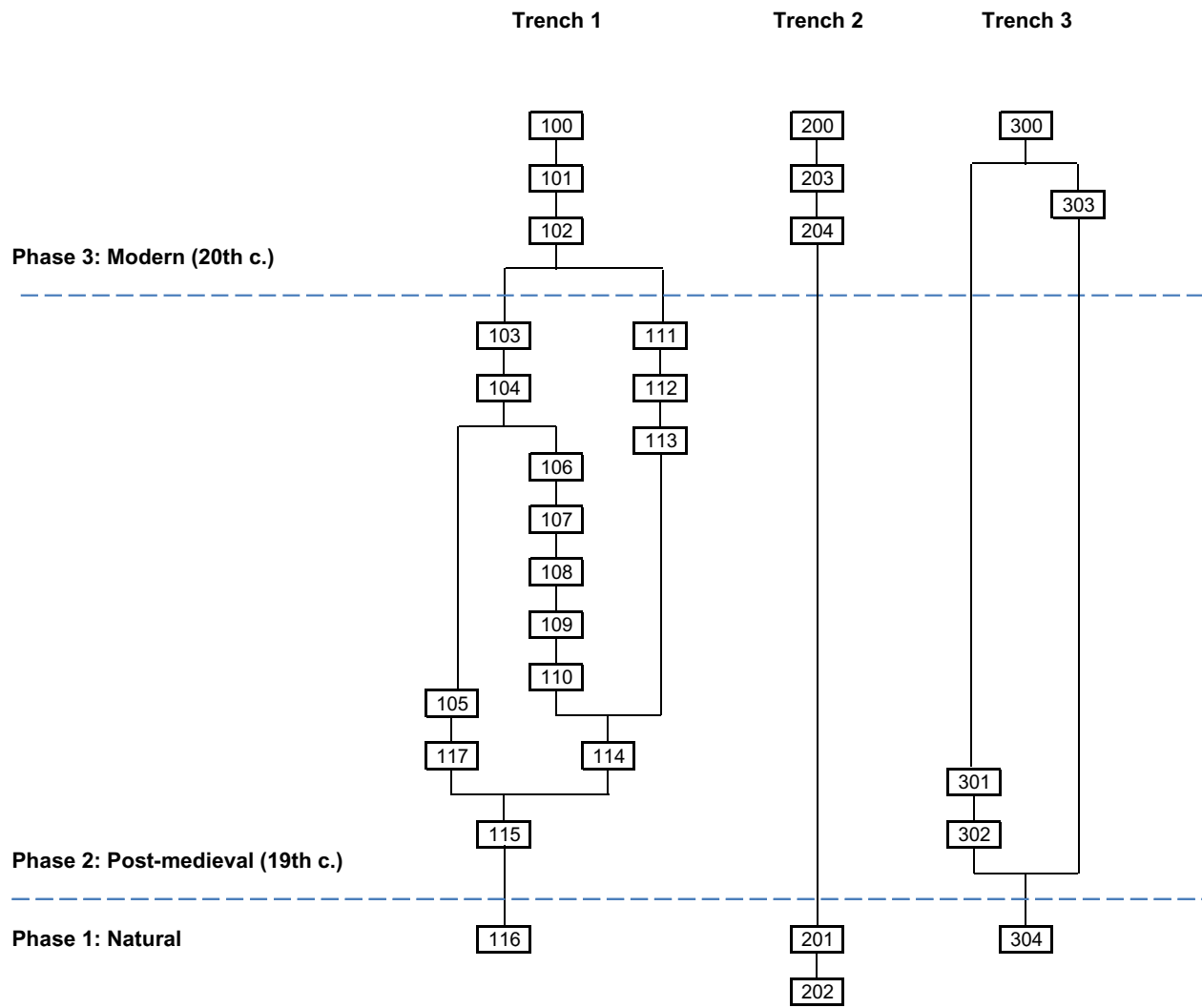
Report: Amy Roberts and Robin Taylor-Wilson

Project Manager: Robin Taylor-Wilson

Illustrations: Hayley Baxter

APPENDIX A
STRATIGRAPHIC MATRICES

ELP 13: STRATIGRAPHIC MATRICES



**APPENDIX B
CONTEXT INDEX**

ELP 13: CONTEXT INDEX

Context	Trench	Phase	Type 1	Type 2	Interpretation
100	1	3	Deposit	Layer	Topsoil
101	1	3	Deposit	Layer	Made ground
102	1	3	Deposit	Layer	Made ground
103	1	2	Deposit	Layer	Garden path surface
104	1	2	Deposit	Layer	Garden path sub-structure
105	1	2	Deposit	Fill	Fill of feature [117]
106	1	2	Deposit	Fill	Secondary fill of feature [108]
107	1	2	Deposit	Fill	Primary fill of feature [108]
108	1	2	Cut	Discrete	Possible planting pit; filled by [106] & [107]
109	1	2	Deposit	Fill	Fill of feature [110]
110	1	2	Cut	Discrete	Possible planting pit; filled by [109]
111	1	2	Deposit	Fill	Secondary fill of feature [113]
112	1	2	Deposit	Fill	Primary fill of feature [113]
113	1	2	Cut	Discrete	Possible planting pit; filled by [111] & [112]
114	1	2	Deposit	Layer	Buried garden soil
115	1	2	Deposit	Layer	Levelling dump
116	1	1	Deposit	Layer	Natural boulder clay
117	1	2	Cut	Linear	Irregular linear feature, possible 'marking-out'; filled by [105]
200	2	3	Deposit	Layer	Topsoil
201	2	1	Deposit	Layer	Natural boulder clay
202	2	1	Deposit	Layer	Natural sand
203	2	3	Deposit	Fill	Fill of feature [204]
204	2	3	Cut	Discrete	Landscaping feature
300	3	3	Deposit	Layer	Topsoil
301	3	2	Deposit	Fill	Fill of feature [302]
302	3	2	Cut	Discrete	Possible posthole; filled by [301]
303	3	3	Deposit	Layer	Made ground
304	3	1	Deposit	Layer	Natural boulder clay

APPENDIX C
DCCAS SPECIFICATION

SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORKS: Proposed Development At Elemore Hall School High Pittington Durham

1 Site Location

- 1.1 The site is centred on grid reference NZ3512944242 approximately 2km due east of High Pittington village and 1.28km NE of Littletown village in Pittington Parish, County Durham (see Figure 1).
- 1.2 The development lies in an area designated as “High Landscape Value” on Durham County Council’s Landscape Character Strategy.
- 1.3 The land is owned by Durham County Council and is currently occupied by *Elemore Hall School* – a Durham County Council day and residential special school for secondary aged pupils.

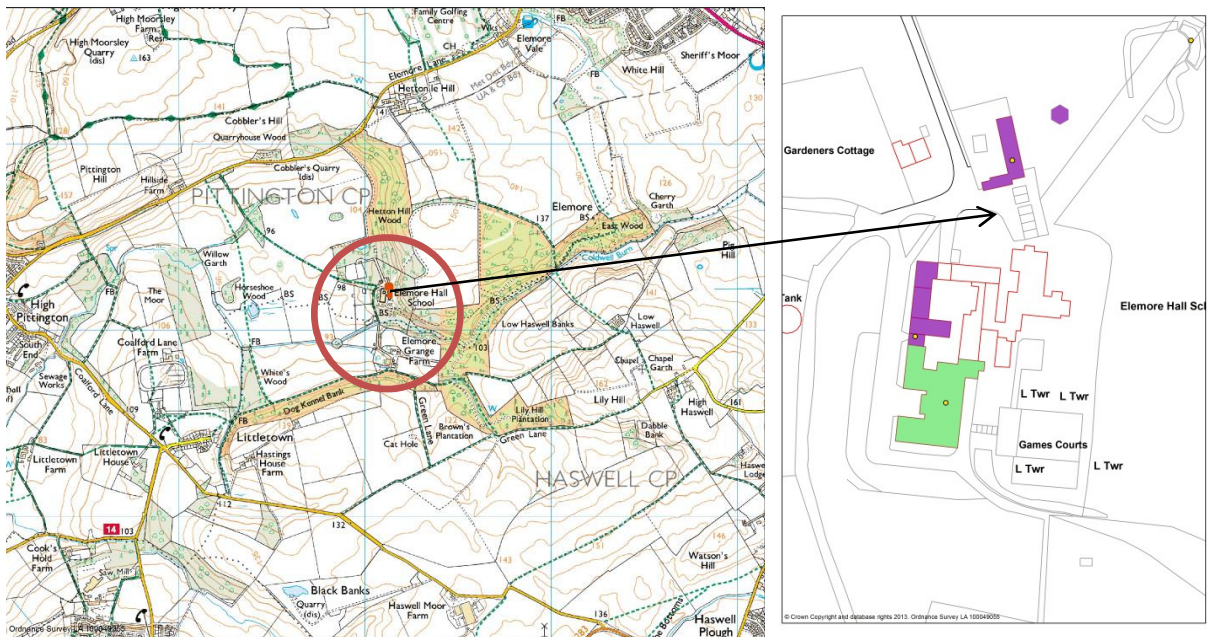


Figure 1: Site location within red circle, and enlarged to the right (©DCC 2013)

2 The Development

- 2.1 This specification is for archaeological works required to support a soon-to-be-submitted planning application.
- 2.2 The client for this work is the Durham County Council *Building Schools for the Future* team, led by Yvonne Edwards. The agent is Jenny Gillatt at *Mosedale Gillatt Architects* assisted

by a multi-disciplinary team including Grace McCombie, Fiona Green and the North-East Civic Trust (NECT).

- 2.3 *Elemore Hall School* are seeking to improve and expand their current facilities by building a new sports hall and associated classrooms. However, as Elemore Hall is a Gr I listed building of exceptional national significance and quality, they are required to ensure that the heritage features, deposits and assets which make the site both unique and nationally important are understood, assessed and adequately managed through both the design and planning processes.
- 2.4 The options review process undertaken by *Mosedale Gillatt Architects* has identified three locations as potential development sites. Option 3 (see Figure 2) is the preferred option (excluding the “New Forest Classroom”). This is located between the Gr II barn and an existing building to the NE of the stables – NB the existing garages will be removed as part of the proposed works.

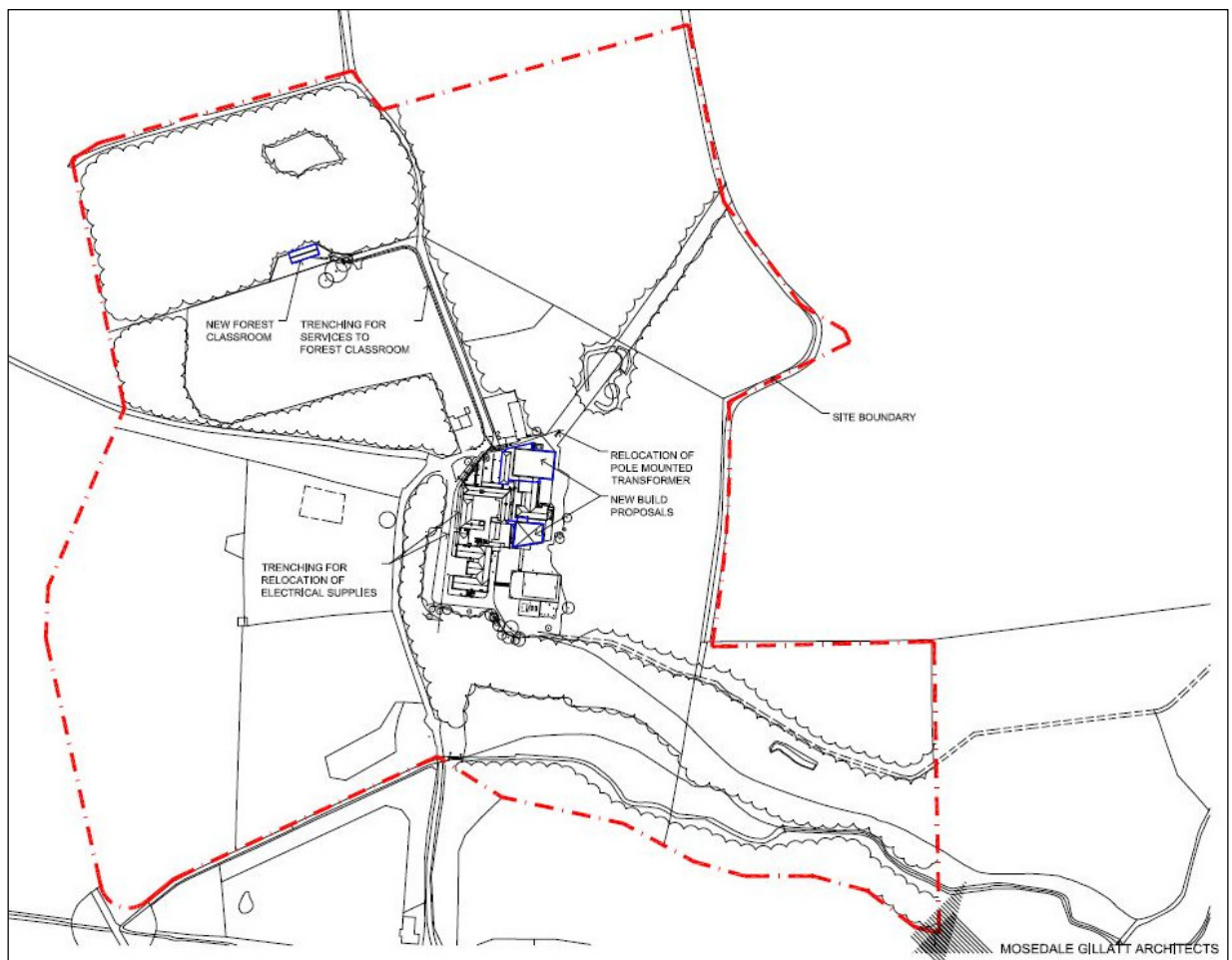


Figure 2: location of preferred Option 3 (© Mosedale Gillatt Architects)

3 Historical and Archaeological Background



Figures 3a: aerial photo (development will be in top left hand corner); and 3b) of the front elevation of Elemore Hall (© Durham County Council)

- 3.1 Elemore Hall (see Figure 3a-b) is a Gr I listed building (designated asset 1120730). The designated asset description is as follows:

PITTINGTON ELEMORE LANE NZ 34 SE (South side) 8/29 Elemore Hall 28/2/52 School and doorway and archway attached GV I

House, now local authority residential school, with doorway attached to north, and archway to north-east. 1749-1753 rebuilding (dated .. 50 on pediment) by Robert Shout of Helmsley (1734-97), with his brother John, for George Baker; on basement of C16 house built for Bertram Anderson, mayor and M.P. of Newcastle upon Tyne. Interior 1752 stucco by Jos. Cortese and P. Robinson. C16 rusticated ashlar basement; C18 tuck-pointed Flemish bond brick (some C20 patching on pointing) with Penshaw sandstone ashlar dressings and alternately-projecting quoins. Roof of graduated Lakeland slates with stone gable copings. E plan. Basement and 3 storeys of diminishing height; 7 bays, the 3-bay central projection and the wings (with 2-bay inner returns) all pedimented. 2-storey, 3-bay left extension links with doorway to former stable yard.

Long central stone steps in 2 flights, the lower wider, have stone balustrades and scroll-buttressed panelled piers, the lowest pair with large acorn finials. Half-glazed double doors in lugged architrave with stepped key and pedimented Ionic Order with rusticated pilasters. Ground floor of each wing has front Venetian window opening onto balustraded stone balcony supported on 4 large scrolled brackets. Architraves to all windows, those over door and over Venetian windows lugged and keyed; all sashes, most with vertical glazing bars. Floor bands. Central top pediment of soft sandstone has eroded richly-carved coat of arms (Baker and Routh) with lion regardant supporters and lion rampant crest; of date 17..50 in lower angles only '50 survives. Roof has tall corniced stacks above eaves on returns and rear.

Floor bands continue on inner returns of wings and on right return to garden, with addition of first-floor sill band; windows in similar style to those of front. Right return 5 bays, the outer 2 wider, has long flight of stone steps, with flat-coped dwarf walls swept out to square piers, in front of half-glazed door in pedimented rusticated surround; bracketed stone balconies to all ground-floor windows. Small central pediment above eaves cornice.

Left extension of main elevation has blank ground floor, and 3 first-floor sashes under roof hipped at left; stable doorway adjoining has pedimented, keyed, rusticated surround. Left return of main building, within former stable yard, has chamfered stone surround to blocked Tudor-arched door at basement level, with 3 and 2 transom lights of 2 wholly-blocked stone-mullioned windows above;

sashes with glazing bars inserted below these; similar sashes on upper floors, all in plain stone surrounds. Some small C20 additions.

Rear stable yard entrance attached at right-angles to rear elevation of house, has high keyed round arch with alternately-projecting quoins and voussoirs.

Interior: includes stucco roses and modillions by Peter Robinson; and ceiling decoration by Jos. Cortese (signatures). Front hall has part dado rail, stucco panelled ceiling and modillioned cornice; 6-panel door in pedimented lugged surround to large central room, now dining room. This has stucco dentilled cornice; fireplace removed from rear wall. Widened arch at right leads to smaller room whose rich stucco frieze has panels of thunderbolts, arrows, oak and laurel foliage, lyre and Pan pipes, crown and scroll, shield and spear, many of these symbols of Jupiter. Paired modillions over frieze support ceiling with central Cupid and Psyche among delicate floral trails. Panelled window shutters and soffits with Greek fret. Door at front wall of this room, now blocked, led to stair hall in right wing, which has open-well cantilevered stone stair to first floor, with narrow moulded handrail on iron balustrade of square-section rods, with corner and central panels of tied scrolls and water-leaves. Dado rail; 6-panel doors with ovolo surrounds to fielded panels; stucco ceiling decoration of central panel showing Jupiter in clouds, holding thunderbolt and wearing crown, with eagle. This has been said to be Neptune but has the characteristics of Jupiter, and given the association of Jupiter with the oak, and with hospitality, it is likely that these rooms in the grandest suite of the house are decorated with Jupiter in mind; Finely-moulded heads fill 4 corner panels of ceiling; delicate floral trails define spaces. Ground-floor room at front of right wing, entered from stair hall, has ceiling decorations of similar quality with vine trails; some accounts refer to this as 'dining room', which seems most likely; 'drawing room' may have been a change of function. Other rooms plainer, many with stucco cornices; many 6-panelled doors in architraves. Top floor has 2-panel doors with L hinges. Basement has 3 C16 chamfered-arched door surrounds; king-post roof with diagonal struts. Sources: Department of Palaeography and Diplomatic, University of Durham, Baker-Baker papers; John Gosden, 'Elemore Hall Transformed 1749-1753', in *Transactions of the Architectural and Archaeological Society of Durham and Northumberland*, new series 6, 1982, pp.31-35. C.H. Hunter Blair, 'The renaissance heraldry of the county palatine of Durham' in *Archaeologia Aeliana*, fourth series, XII, for 1935, pp.xvii-81. J. Lemprière, *Classical Dictionary*, 1788; 1984 facsimile of 1865 edition, p.340. Listing NGR: NZ3510044168

- 3.2 The agents are undertaking a comprehensive Heritage Assessment of the site. This has been supplemented by research carried out by Grace McCombie, Fiona Green (Gardens Archaeologist) and NECT.
- 3.3 A final version of this report is not yet available as it needs additional archaeological detail and input. However, the agent will make sure the current draft is provided to the appointed contractor.

4 Archaeological brief

- 4.1 It is expected that the required archaeological works will be carried out according to archaeological best practice as set out in the following publications: *Yorkshire, the Humber and the North-East: A Regional Statement of Good Practice for Archaeology in the Development Process* (updated by WYAAS 2012), *Standard and Guidance: for archaeological field evaluation* (IFA 2008) and *Standard and Guidance: for archaeological desk-based assessment* (IFA 2008).
- 4.2 This brief sets out the archaeological works required in order to assess the archaeological significance, undertake monitoring of small scale coring, and evaluate the site. Any further works required to mitigate the impact of the proposed development will be dealt with under

a separate brief where necessary as a condition of future planning consent. The report on the current works must be submitted in support of the future planning application.

- 4.3 There are three aspects to this brief. Firstly, there is a need to improve the archaeological aspect of the Heritage Statement. Secondly, monitoring of small scale drilling through a potentially historically important retaining wall is required as part of recently consented listed building works. And thirdly, a small scale evaluation is needed within the area of Option 3 to test the archaeological potential.

Heritage Statement

- 4.4 The appointed contractor will be expected to provide the archaeological detail to the current draft Heritage Statement to ensure that the document meets the needs of the planning authority and English Heritage. The contractor will need to work alongside, and integrate into, an existing multi-disciplinary team.
- 4.5 The draft Heritage Statement is well researched and detailed with regards to the standing buildings element of the report, as well as the designed landscape/garden aspects.
- 4.6 However, it requires further “teasing out” of the details related to the Elizabethan manor house which appears to be subsumed into the grand Georgian building that can be seen today. Are there any clues to the earlier Elizabethan building – such as external blocked-in windows/doors? The reference in the Heritage Statement text to an Elizabethan basement needs expanding. The evolution of the house from a 15th/16th century manor house to a large Georgian country house merits more discussion as does the potential for buried archaeological remains within the proposed development areas.

Monitoring of coring through possible manorial boundary wall

- 4.7 The wall to the rear of the hall (adjacent to the 20th century greenhouse to be demolished under CMA/4/97/LB – see Figure 4 for its approximate location) requires assessment as well as monitoring during approved coring work. Is it, for example, on the line of, or remnant of the manorial boundary wall buried under subsequent skins of later brick- or stone-work?
- 4.8 Listed building consent has been granted for some borehole drilling through this wall with an archaeological monitoring condition placed on it. The appointed contractor will monitor this work and include the data from this work in the heritage statement.

Trial Trenching

- 4.9 Depending on the results of the archaeological trenching, further archaeological monitoring or excavation may be necessary as a condition of planning permission. A proposed trenching plan for three trenches is included in this specification (see Figure 4). It includes two 5m x 1.5m, and one 10m x 1.5m trenches within the Option 3 area. These have been located to ensure a sample of approximately 4% of the proposed development site.
- 4.10 In order to determine the potential for archaeological remains in the preferred Option 3 area, the development site must be evaluated by means of trial trenching. Window sampling for geotechnical data has already been undertaken by *Dunelm Geotechnical* and

appears to indicate a substantial depth of made ground across the two areas, but especially around the late 20th century building to the east of the stables. The data indicates that this is c.2.70m in depth in that area – this may preclude any archaeological deposits here, but equally geotechnical engineers can record archaeology as “made ground” so this must be tested. This means that Tr. 3, as marked in Figure 4, may need to be wider than the standard 1.5m. The borehole logs are available to assist with the tendering process if required.

- 4.11 The final trench layout plan must be agreed with the Durham County Council Archaeology Section before excavation commences on site. Where necessary trench lengths may be adjusted to fit the local topography and/or services and trees. The Senior Tree Officer at DCC has confirmed that there are no TPO’d trees in this area.
- 4.12 The overall aim of the archaeological trenching will be:
- to define and identify the nature of potential archaeological deposits on site, and date these where possible;
 - to attempt to characterise the nature of the archaeological sequence and recover as much information as possible about the spatial patterning of features present on the site;
 - to recover a well dated stratigraphic sequence and recover coherent artefact, ecofact and environmental samples, including an assessment of the site’s environmental potential.
- 4.13 The appointed archaeological contractor must provide detailed research aims in relation to the *North East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment* (NERRF – Petts and Gerrard 2006) in particular those relating to prehistoric and later Medieval.
- 4.14 Following the completion of the trenching, the site must be left in a state as agreed with the client. If archaeological remains are found they may require specialist backfilling regimes and a contingency for this must be included in the tender document.
- 4.15 This brief does not constitute the “written scheme of investigation” which must be submitted by the appointed contractor for approval by Durham County Council Archaeology Section prior to work commencing.**

5 Recording

- 5.1 Any topsoil and non-significant overburden are to be removed to the top of archaeological deposits or natural, whichever is encountered first. This may be achieved through use of a mechanical excavator with a toothless grading bucket under complete and continuous archaeological control. Once archaeological deposits are encountered all excavation must proceed by hand until natural or the maximum safety depth is reached.
- 5.2 All archaeological deposits and features must be subjected to appropriate levels of investigation in order to meet the needs of the evaluation.

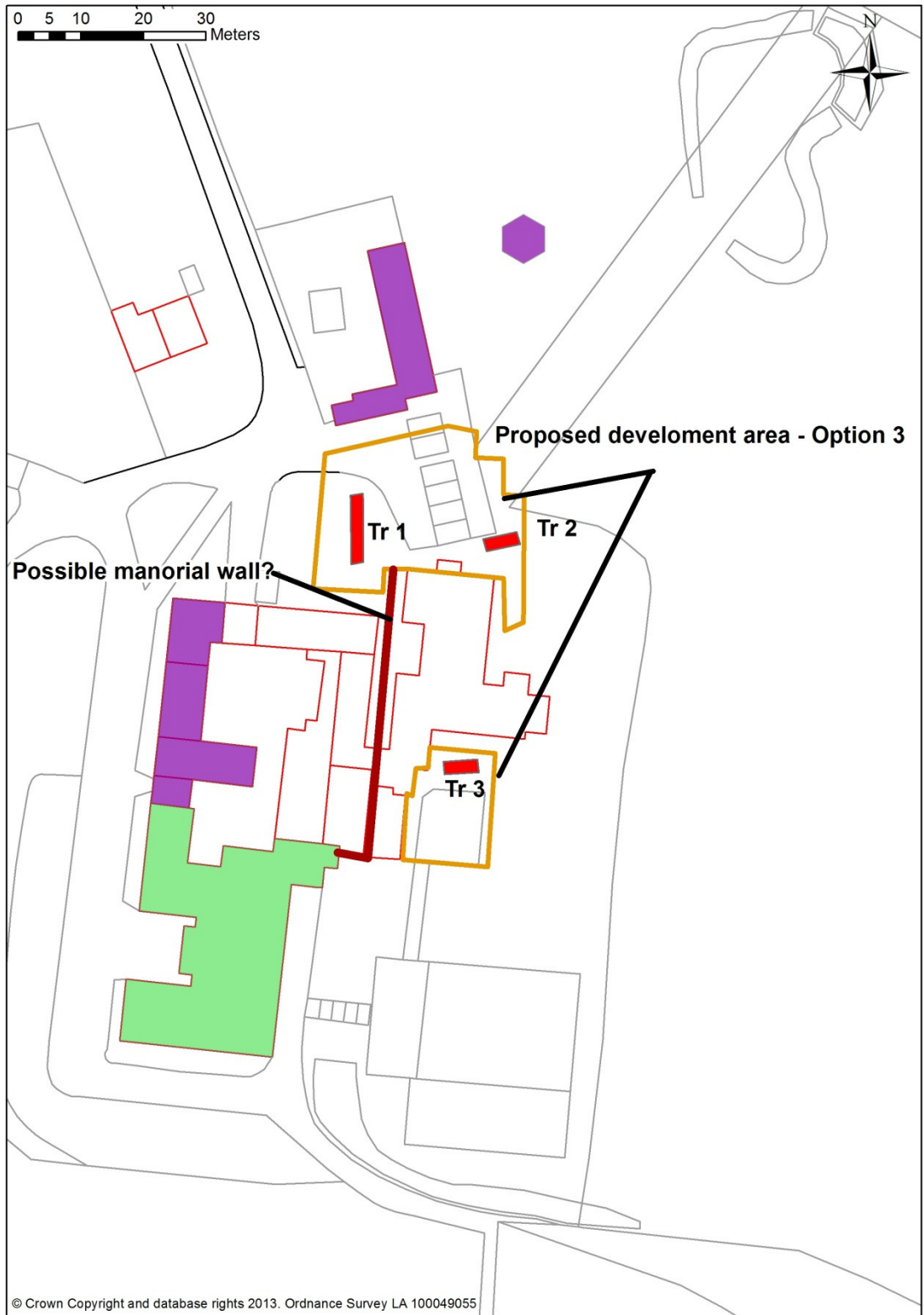


Figure 4: showing location of trenches and possible manorial boundary
 (© Durham County Council)

- 5.3 Where excavation is required for the satisfactory assessment of archaeological deposits, a minimum 20% sample of all linear features must be excavated at appropriate intervals and all intersections, overlaps and terminals must be investigated. A minimum 50% sample of all non-linear features must be excavated and 100% of post-holes. All features must be proven to natural/sterile deposits or to the maximum health and safety depth whichever is reached first.
- 5.4 Any human remains encountered must be accurately recorded, including *in-situ* examination by a palaeo-pathologist, but not removed from site at this stage. Both the client and the DCC Assistant Archaeology Officer must be informed if human remains are found.
- 5.5 Horizontal survey control of the site must be by means of a coordinate grid, using metric measurements. The location of the grid must be established, where possible, relative to the National Grid. Vertical survey control must be tied to the Ordnance Survey datum. Details of the method employed must be recorded, including the height of the reference point.
- 5.6 Sections must be recorded by means of a measured drawing at an appropriate scale. The height of a datum on the drawing must be calculated and recorded. Representative drawn sections of all trenches/test-pits must be recorded and presented in the report even if blank/negative. The locations of sections must be recorded on the site plans, relative to the site grid. Cut features must be recorded in profile, planned at an appropriate scale and their location accurately identified on the appropriate trench plan.
- 5.7 All drawn records must be clearly marked with a unique site number, and must be individually identified. The scale and orientation of the plan must be recorded. All drawings must be drawn on dimensionally stable media. All plans must be drawn relative to the site grid and at least two grid references marked on each plan.
- 5.8 Each archaeological context must be recorded separately by means of a written description. The stratigraphic relationships of each context must be recorded. Pro-forma record sheets must be used throughout. An index must be kept of all record types.
- 5.9 A Harris Matrix showing the stratigraphic relationships in each trench must be produced and included in the site report.
- 5.10 All archaeological features must be photographed and recorded at an appropriate scale. Sections must be drawn at 1:10, and plans at 1:20 or 1:50.
- 5.11 Photographic records must use archival quality black & white prints and colour slide and include a suitably sized metric photographic scale. Suitable digital images of the site for inclusion on the *Keys to the Past* website must be included with the report. Digital images must not be relied on as the primary means of record.
- 5.12 Pottery and animal bone must be collected as bulk samples by context. Significant small finds must be three dimensionally located prior to collection. All finds must be processed to MAP2 standards and be subject to preliminary specialist assessment in order to help date archaeological features and contexts. No artefacts must be discarded without the permission of the Durham County Council Archaeology Service. Provision must be made within the tender for appropriate levels of artefact and ecofact conservation.

- 5.13 Palaeo-environmental sampling must be undertaken in accordance with the Centre for Archaeology Guidelines *Environmental Archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods from sampling and recording to post-excavation* (English Heritage 2002). The English Heritage Regional Scientific Advisor must be informed and given the opportunity to visit the site.
- 5.14 Scientific dating techniques such as the use of high-resolution radiocarbon dating and full analysis of ceramic assemblages (i.e. petrological analysis), including thermoluminescence dating must be applied if the site yields suitable material. X-ray photography of metal objects must be used where appropriate.

6 Specialist Services and Reports

- 6.1 The vast majority of sites where excavation takes place will require the input of archaeological specialists for dating, artefact analysis, palaeo-environmental sampling and conservation. The appointed archaeological contractor must identify in the WSI the names of the specialists who have agreed to undertake analyses for this site. Failure to identify suitably qualified specialists will result in the WSI being rejected
- 6.2 If not identified in the initial costings, contingency sums must clearly be set aside for all of the identified specialist areas and clearly indicated in any tender documents so that the client can clearly understand them. In each case the specialist involved must be kept informed of the start date and progress of sites so that sampling and necessary on-site conservation needs can be timetabled if necessary.
- 6.3 WSI/Project designs which fail to indicate that contractors have discussed the environmental potential of the site with the EH Science Advisor will not be approved.
- 6.4 A contingency amount must be identified for the appraisal of the conservation needs of artefactual material excavated on site and for the initial stabilisation of such finds where needed so that they may be studied as part of the post-excavation for the project

7 OASIS

- 7.1 The Durham County Council Archaeology Section supports the Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) Project. The overall aim of the OASIS project is to provide an online index to the mass of archaeological grey literature that has been produced as a result of the advent of large scale developer funded fieldwork.
- 7.2 The archaeological contractor must therefore complete the online OASIS form at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> within 3 months of completion of the work. Contractors are advised to ensure that adequate time and costings are built into their tenders to allow the forms to be filled in.
- 7.3 Technical advice must be sought in the first instance from OASIS (oasis@ads.ahds.ac.uk) and not from Durham County Council Archaeology Section.
- 7.4 Once a report has become a public document by submission to or incorporation into the HER, Durham County Council Archaeology Section will validate the OASIS form thus

placing the information into the public domain on the OASIS website.

- 7.5 The archaeological consultant or contractor must indicate that they agree to this procedure within the WSI submitted to Durham County Council Archaeology Section for approval

8 Health and Safety Policy

- 8.1 Contractors are expected to abide by the 1974 Health and Safety Act and any subsequent amendments. They are also expected to ensure that all projects which fall under the Construction and Design Management Regulations 2007 follow all necessary requirements of said regulations. Appropriate provision of first aid, telephone and safety clothing as described in the SCAUM manual on archaeological health and safety must be followed. Each site must have a nominated safety officer.
- 8.2 Adequate and secure safety fencing must be placed around excavated trenches in order to inhibit access by the public and to ensure adequate security for the excavation. Clear signage regarding deep excavation trenches must be displayed on the fences and site perimeter as necessary. These items must be agreed with the client prior to work commencing and detailed in the WSI.
- 8.3 Contractors are advised to identify the location of any services or overhead wires which may cross the site and ensure that they are clearly marked before trenching commences so that they can be avoided
- 8.4 The undertaking of a risk assessment prior to the commencement of works is required.
- 8.5 **Given the unique educational setting of this site, all staff employed by the appointed contractor to work on this site MUST be fully CRB checked or they will not be permitted on site.** The appointed contractor must liaise with the client over this issue to ensure certification is noted.
- 8.6 Additional security around trenches being left open overnight may also need consideration. A copy of the risk assessment must be circulated to the client and any other sub-contractors working on the site at the same time.
- 8.7 Contractors must ensure that all staff working on the site are fully briefed on all health and safety issues relating to the site prior to working there.

9 Publication

- 9.1 All assessments, evaluations and watching briefs which do not progress to further excavation and research (with the relevant post-excavation and publication scheme and costs), must have a time and budget allocation identified for publication. This must be to a minimum standard to include a summary of the work, findings, dates, illustrations and photographs and references to where the archive is lodged.
- 9.2 Editors of regional journals, either the *Durham Archaeological Journal* or *Archaeologia Aeliana* must be contacted for information on outline publication costs, fuller figures may be worked out on completion of the watching brief. As the final note is largely unpredictable in

advance a contingency sum must be set aside at the outset of work in the tender.

- 9.3 County Durham Archaeology Section produces an annual publication every March which highlights the archaeological work conducted in the county over the previous 12 months. To this end, a précis of archaeological works conducted in the county must be submitted to the DCC Archaeology Section.
- 9.4 The précis must be no more than 500 words in length and it would be appreciated if TIFF images of 300dpi are also included. The summary must be sent to the County Archaeologist by the beginning of December of the same year in which the work was conducted.

10 The Evaluation Report

- 10.1 At least two copies of the evaluation report (or more if required by the client) must be sent to the client for planning purposes as well as one bound hard copy and one digital copy to the HER. The evaluation report must be written to MAP2 standards (English Heritage 1991) and include the following at the minimum:

- executive summary
- a site location plan to at least 1:10,000 scale with at least an 10 figure central grid reference
- OASIS reference number; unique site code
- contractor's details including date work carried out
- nature and extent of the proposed development, including developer/client details
- description of the site location and geology
- a general trench plan and monitoring area plan to a suitable scale and tied into the national grid
- a specific trench plan and coring plan correctly showing the location and number of all cores and sections in features within each trench specific discussion of the results by trench and context/feature (i.e. context & feature descriptions)
- specialist reports, including assessments of each artefact type as well as environmental data
- general overall discussion of the results pulling together all data
- features, number and class of artefacts, spot dating & scientific dating of significant finds presented in tabular format
- Harris matrices for all trenches
- plans and section drawings of features drawn at a suitable scale with height recorded in metres AOD
- representative sections of trenches, even if negative results, with height recorded in metres AOD
- additional plans/map extracts to display noted and recorded archaeological features as appropriate
- digital images to clarify information, not to be used in lieu of recorded sections/plans
- suggested recommendations regarding the need for, and scope of, any further archaeological work, including publication
- bibliography/references

- 10.2 The report must be presented in an ordered state and contained within a protective cover/sleeve or bound in some fashion (loose-leaf presentation is unacceptable). The report will contain a title page listing site/development name, district and County together with a general NGR, the name of the archaeological contractor and the developer or commissioning agent. The report will be page numbered and supplemented with sections and paragraph numbering for ease of reference. Photographs of trenches and sections may be included, but must not be used as the sole graphic representation.
- 10.3 Durham County Council Archaeology Section must be given copyright permission and/or authorisation to use the report and its contents to fulfil their function as an HER or using the information for educational / outreach purposes.
- 10.4 The report must seek to identify any deposits remaining on or associated with the site that will remain following the completion of the evaluation which may require mitigation by avoidance or recording subject to a suitable planning condition being imposed.

11 The Tender

- 11.1 Tenders for the work must include a method statement for the client and the following:
- 11.2 Brief details of the organisation and the number of staff who are proposing to carry out the work including any relevant specialisms or experience. The earliest date at which the work can be commence.
- 11.3 Details concerning proposed methods of recording and source material.
- 11.4 Statement agreeing to complete the OASIS forms on completion of the watching brief.
- 11.5 An estimate of how long the work will take broken down by time and cost in terms of data collection and report production (the anticipated extent of the work must be confirmed with the client in advance). The tender must include a breakdown of costs attributable to:
- Written scheme of investigation
 - travelling and subsistence
 - fieldwork – 3 trenches; heritage statement detail; monitoring of coring/drilling through wall
 - Security fencing for trenches
 - finds analysis
 - environmental sampling
 - 1 x site monitoring visit by DCCAS
 - report production
 - archiving cost to the Old Fulling Mill Museum (see section 13.1)
 - administration
 - other

Contingency sums must be clearly allocated for the following:

- Contingency trench (5mx1.5m)
- Specialist backfilling regime if required to protect sensitive archaeological remains
- additional 1 x site monitoring visit

- conservation of finds
- scientific dating
- **publication costs including final analysis if required**
- other

12 Submission of Report

- 12.1 This evaluation must be considered as a project in its own right. At least two copies of the report, or more if required, must be sent to the client for planning purposes. One hard copy of the report as well as a digital copy with images (JPEG's) of the site for the *Keys To The Past* website must be sent to the Archaeology Section, Durham County Council for inclusion into the County Durham Historic Environment Record (HER) at:

HER Officer
 Durham County Council
 Design & Historic Environment Team
 Regeneration & Economic Development
 5th Floor County Hall
 Durham
 DH1 5UQ

13 The Archive and Submission to a Museum

- 13.1 The site archive comprising the original paper records and plans, photographs, negatives, and finds etc, must be deposited in the appropriate museum (the Old Fulling Mill Museum, Durham) at the completion of post-excavation. This must be in accordance with both the *County Archaeological Archive policy* and the *Durham County Council Historic Environment Record Revised Charging Scheme*. Both of these are available from DCC Archaeology if required.
- 13.2 On conclusion of the project the records generated must be assembled into an indexed and cross-referenced archive in accordance with the guidance of Appendix 6 of *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage, 1991) and the *Standards and Guidance* of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA, 1999).
- 13.3 Archiving must meet the relevant standards set out in *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for long-term storage* (UKIC 1990) and *Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (AAF 2007). The archive must be deposited with the appropriate museum in accordance with their deposition conditions.

14 Notice

- 14.1 The Principal Archaeologist must be given no less than 48 hours notice, in writing, of the commencement of evaluation works. During such works the Principal Archaeologist or his nominated representative shall be allowed access to the site and excavations at all reasonable times.

15 References

- | | | |
|--|----------------|---|
| Archaeological Archives Forum | 2007 | <i>Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation.</i> |
| English Heritage | 1991 | <i>Management of Archaeological Projects 2</i> |
| | 2002 | <i>Guidelines for Environmental Archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods from sampling and recording to post-excavation</i> |
| Institute for Archaeologists (IFA) | 2008 | <i>Standard and Guidance: for archaeological field evaluation.</i> |
| | 2008 | <i>Standard and Guidance: for archaeological desk-based assessment</i> |
| Petts, D and Gerrard, C | 2006 | <i>Shared Visions: The North East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment</i> |
| United Kingdom Institute of Conservation | 1990 | <i>Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for long-term storage</i> |
| West Yorkshire Archaeological Advisory Service (WYAAS) | 2012 (updated) | <i>Yorkshire, The Humber & The North-East: A regional statement of good practice for Archaeology in the development process</i> |

11th March 2013

Lee McFarlane
Senior Archaeologist
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YORKSHIRE, THE HUMBER & THE NORTH EAST: A REGIONAL STATEMENT OF GOOD PRACTICE FOR ARCHAEOLOGY IN THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

This document contains general principles on Archaeology in the development process and has been endorsed by the organisations listed below:

The intention is to help improve standards of archaeological work in the Yorkshire & the Humber and the North East Regions and to help establish a consistent approach for the benefit of archaeological contractors, consultants, curators and developers who are funding the work, as well as to the historic environment. The historic environment is an encompassing term that includes “all aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time, including all surviving physical remains of past human activity, whether visible or buried, and deliberately planted or managed flora” (English Heritage 2008, Conservation Principles p. 71). It should be noted that there is a presumption within the Region that archaeological interest may apply not only to below ground archaeological remains, but also may apply to upstanding structures / buildings (both listed and unlisted), marine and maritime assets as well as paleoenvironmental deposits.

This document should be read in conjunction with the issued specification/WSI/brief/project design.

The following general principles are expected to pertain to archaeological work carried out as part of the development process in these Regions in accordance with Central Government Guidance and Regional and Local Development Plans and policies:

- Pre-application discussion on the potential archaeological impact of a development is encouraged as is pre-determination evaluation where it is necessary to help define the character, extent and significance of the archaeological remains that may exist in the area of a proposed development prior to a planning decision.
- Archaeological work in the development process should be carried out by a professionally qualified archaeological organisation or archaeologist (PPS5 HE12.3; PPS 5 HE PPG Para 130.1) and the archaeologists undertaking the work should have “the requisite qualifications, expertise and experience” (IFA Code of Approved Practice).
- In accordance with long-standing professional practice (see footnote below) it is expected that all archaeological specifications/WSIs/briefs/project designs will have been agreed in advance with the relevant archaeological curator before archaeological work commences. Any variations to the previously established programme of work must be agreed in writing by the archaeological curator acting on behalf of the local planning authority.
- As part of the implementation of the Planning Consent process archaeological work will be monitored on behalf of the LPA by its archaeological curator (who may seek advice where appropriate from the EH Science Advisor). There may be exceptions, but consultants and contractors should expect monitoring to be the norm unless informed otherwise. To allow monitoring to occur, the relevant

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curatorial archaeologist should be given reasonable notice of intention to commence any fieldwork undertaken as part of the development process and confirmation of the actual start date.

- Archaeological work carried out within the development process is expected to accord with best practice as published in English Heritage guidelines and the IFA's standards and guidance.
- Historic Environment Records (also known as Sites and Monuments Records) are key to understanding and managing the historic environment. Archaeological contractors and consultants should consult the relevant HER / SMR in person prior to producing desk-based assessments or commencing fieldwork (unless otherwise agreed with the relevant curator).
- Archaeological fieldwork carried out as part of the development process should have regard to both national and local published research agenda, and should have an intention of furthering these agenda.
- Archaeological contractors and consultants are expected to discuss any recommendations they make in archaeological reports submitted as part of the development process with the relevant curatorial archaeologist prior to formal submission. If this has not been done, the absence of discussion / agreement should be formally stated in the submitted document. It should be noted that the final decision on the need for and scope of any further works lies with the Archaeological curator acting on behalf of the Local Authority
- All reports and required data produced following archaeological work as part of the development process should be supplied by the archaeological contractor / consultant directly to the relevant HER / SMR within a reasonable timescale following completion of the fieldwork, in the format agreed with the curatorial body, and in accordance with any issued or agreed specification or project design.
- The curatorial archaeologist will make any comments they wish to make on the report within a reasonable timescale of receipt.
- Where considered appropriate by the archaeological curator, and particularly where supported by the relevant research agenda, it is expected that significant archaeological results will be submitted for publication in a suitable journal or journals.
- The archive produced as a result of archaeological fieldwork is expected to be deposited in an ordered and acceptable fashion with an appropriate public repository within a reasonable timescale following completion of the project. Details of the location of the (intended) repository should be included in the archaeological fieldwork report.
- The historic environment is a shared resource. During the course of archaeological work on site, it is normally expected that arrangements will be made for dissemination of information to the general public,

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providing intellectual access where physical access is not possible or appropriate.

Organisations that have accepted and agreed these Principles within Yorkshire & the Humber & the North East are listed below:

Archaeology Section, Design & Historic Environment Team, Durham County Council
City of York Design, Conservation & Sustainable Development Team
Humber Archaeology Partnership
North East Lincolnshire Archaeology Service
North Lincolnshire Council Historic Environment Record
North York Moors National Park Authority Historic Environment Service
North Yorkshire County Council Historic Environment Team
Northumberland Conservation, Northumberland County Council
South Yorkshire Archaeology Service
Tees Archaeology
Tyne and Wear Specialist Conservation Team
West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service
Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority Historic Environment Service

Footnote: the IFA's Standards and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation para. 3.3.1; the IFA's Standard and Guidance for archaeological desk-based assessment para. 3.2.5; the IFA's Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief para. 3.2.5; ACAO Model Briefs and Specifications for Archaeological Assessments and Field Evaluations, Appendix D iv (b))

Revision 1: March 2011 to reflect the replacement of PPGs 15 & 16 with PPS 5

Revision 2: March 2012 to reflect the replacement of PPS 5 with NPPF

APPENDIX D
PCA WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

**WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORKS AT ELEMORE HALL SCHOOL,
PITTINGTON, COUNTY DURHAM**

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<i>Title</i>	Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Works at Elemore Hall School, Pittington, County Durham	
<i>Author</i>	Robin Taylor-Wilson (PCA)	
<i>Derivation</i>	Requirement of Section 4.15 of DCCAS Specification	
<i>Original Version & Date</i>	Version 1	25 March 2013
<i>This Version & Date</i>	Version 2	27 March 2013
<i>Reviser (if applicable)</i>	Robin Taylor-Wilson (PCA)	
<i>Summary of Changes (if applicable)</i>	Amendments following comments received from Lee McFarlane (Senior Archaeologist, DCC), 27 March 2013	
<i>Status of this Version</i>	Draft	
<i>Circulation</i>	Lee McFarlane (Senior Archaeologist, DCC); Jenny Gillatt (Mosedale Gillatt Architects – to co-ordinate circulation to other project team members	
<i>Required Action</i>	Comment	
<i>File Name</i>	ELP13 WSIv2 27Mar2013	
<i>File Location</i>	C drive PCANorth1	
<i>Approval</i>	Approved (Lee McFarlane) 28 March 2013	

PART 1: DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

1.1 Project Name

1.1.1 The project is known as Elemore Hall School, Pittington.

1.2 Summary Description of Project

1.2.1 Development work is proposed at Elemore Hall School, a Durham County Council day and residential special school. The proposal would entail construction of a new sports hall and other new accommodation on the north-east corner of the existing complex of buildings, at the core of which is Elemore Hall, a Grade I listed building of mid-18th-century date, with subsequent additions, which was evidently built on the site of a 16th-century manor house.

1.2.2 The project entails a programme of archaeological works to support a forthcoming planning application for the development proposals. The required work comprises archaeological input into a current draft Heritage Statement, archaeological monitoring of investigative work on a retaining wall to the rear of the main building and an archaeological trenching evaluation to determine the potential for sub-surface archaeological remains in the development area.

1.3 Background

1.3.1 Elemore Hall School is located c. 5 km east of Durham City and lies c. 2km east and c. 2.5 km south of the villages of High Pittington and Hetton-le-Hole, respectively. It is centred at National Grid Reference NZ 3512 4424.

1.3.2 The development lies in an area designated as 'High Landscape Value' on Durham County Council's *Landscape Character Strategy*.

1.3.3 A planning application is to be submitted for a scheme to build a new sports hall and other new accommodation at the school. Three areas in the school grounds have been identified as possibilities for the proposed development, with the preferred 'Option 3' area located at the north-east corner of the existing complex of buildings. The developer is the Durham County Council *Building Schools for the Future* team (the Client) and the Client's agent is Mosedale Gillatt Architects, assisted by a multi-disciplinary team.

1.3.4 A Heritage Assessment is being compiled for the site by the Client's agent, with supplementary research carried out by various consultants, Grace McCombie, Fiona Green (Garden Archaeologist and the North-East Civic Trust (NECT)). The overall school site contains a number of designated heritage assets, foremost amongst which is the main building of Elemore Hall, a Grade I listed building, which dates from c. 1750 when the site of a 16th-century manor house was evidently re-developed. A stable block archway to the north of the main building also likely dates from c. 1750, and this, along with a slightly later brick barn and a brick ice house within the complex, are Grade II listed.

- 1.3.5 Ahead of the submission of the planning application for the proposed development, a programme of archaeological work is required: a) to provide archaeological input into the Heritage Statement; b) to undertake archaeological monitoring of investigative coring through a retaining wall to the rear of the main building (required as a condition of planning permission - in accordance with Section 18(1) of the *Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas Act 1990* - for this element of the work) and; c) to undertake an archaeological trenching evaluation to determine the potential sub-surface archaeological remains in the proposed development area.
- 1.3.6 The focus of the first two elements of this programme of work will be the identification of historic structural fabric relating to the pre-mid-18th-century re-development of the property, while the focus of the trenching evaluation will be to determine the presence or absence of archaeological remains of significance of any era within the development area. A Specification for this work has been compiled by Durham County Council Archaeology Section (DCCAS) (*Specification for Archaeological Works: Proposed Development at Elemore Hall School, High Pittington, Durham*, 11 March 2013).

1.4 Project Aims and Research Objectives

- 1.4.1 The three elements of the archaeological project have varied but overlapping aims.
- 1.4.2 Firstly, archaeological input into the current draft Heritage Statement is required to ensure that the document, when submitted as part of the forthcoming planning application for the development, meets the needs of both the Local Planning Authority (LPA) and English Heritage.
- 1.4.3 Secondly, archaeological monitoring of investigative work on the retaining wall to the rear of the hall, which forms part of the listed structure, is required as a condition of existing planning permission - in accordance with Section 18(1) of the *Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas Act 1990* - for this element of the work. The aim is to assess the wall and monitor approved structural coring work under the terms of the planning condition to determine, for example, whether or not the structure includes remnants of a late medieval/early post-medieval manorial boundary wall obscured within later fabric added at the time of the Georgian re-development of the property or subsequently. The work therefore has the potential to provide additional archaeological information for inclusion into the current draft Heritage Statement.
- 1.4.4 Thirdly, the trenching evaluation aims to determine the potential of the development area for buried archaeological remains which could be destroyed by the development.
- 1.4.5 The broad aims of the overall project are thus to provide relevant archaeological information for inclusion into the current draft Heritage Statement, to fulfill the planning condition relating to the retaining wall investigative work, and to determine the archaeological potential of the development area.

1.4.6 Specific research objectives to be addressed by the project have been formulated with reference to an existing archaeological research framework, *Shared Visions: The North-East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment* (NERRF) (Petts and Gerrard 2006) which highlights the importance of research as a vital element of development-led archaeological work. It sets out key research priorities for all periods of the past allowing commercial contractors to demonstrate how their fieldwork relates to wider regional and national priorities for the study of archaeology and the historic environment. The aim of NERRF is to ensure that all fieldwork is carried out in a secure research context and that commercial contractors ensure that their investigations ask the right questions.

1.4.7 It is considered that key research themes and priorities within a number of NERRF research agendas are of direct relevance to this project:

1.4.8 Prehistory

The NERRF Research Strategy for the Bronze Age and Iron Age has identified five Key Research Themes which address a range of archaeological topics. As the Elemore School site is situated within a landscape that was evidently relatively densely settled during the later Iron Age, the work has the potential to provide a contribution to all of these Key Research Themes:

11. Chronology

The failure of chronologies based on settlement morphology and the lack of chronologically diagnostic material culture has led to uncertainty in the dating of later prehistory. This challenge can be met through increased use of absolute dating techniques in both research and development-control fieldwork.

12. Changing landscapes

An improved understanding of later prehistoric landscapes in the North-East is needed, focusing not just on individual settlements but also on their situation within the wider landscape, integrating archaeological and palaeoenvironmental work.

13. Settlement function

Further research is required on the varying patterns of settlement function. In some parts of the lowlands, increased use of large-scale, open-area excavation has improved our understanding of the layout of settlements and their associated networks of enclosures and field systems.

14. Social organisation and identity

Social organisation and cultural identity in later prehistoric society in the North-East are both understudied themes. Settlement archaeology shows distinct regional patterning, the hillforts of the Cheviots being one example, and it may be possible to recognise similar patterns elsewhere in the archaeological record, such as in material culture. The extent to which regional variation reflects social identities should be explored and any advances in the chronology of the period must be exploited in order to identify changes over time.

15. Material culture

Despite the relatively low level of material culture in later prehistory in the North-East, there is still a need for a more thorough understanding of finds assemblages of this date, especially ceramics, which are now being recovered in greater numbers. As noted above, scientific dating techniques must be employed to achieve a more secure chronological framework for pottery.

Rectilinear enclosures have long been considered as the standard Late Iron Age and indigenous Roman period settlement type across the lowlands of the North East region; the balance of evidence is weighted towards such settlements as their boundary ditches are more readily identifiable as cropmarks on aerial photographs than unenclosed settlements (Petts and Gerrard, 36-37). Excavations undertaken over the last 20 years have however challenged established ideas about patterns of settlement and society in the lowlands of south-east Northumberland and Durham during the Iron Age and early Roman period. Settlements with complex and multi-phase sequences of activity have been identified and, as highlighted in the NERRF, the established models of settlement morphology and chronology have become less clear (Petts and Gerrard, 135). Unenclosed settlement sites are less well represented in the archaeological record as they are not easily identifiable as cropmarks on aerial photographs. However, numerous open settlements have now been identified across the lowlands of Northumberland, Durham and North Yorkshire as recent excavations in these areas have shown that many enclosed sites were initially established as open settlements, suggesting that open settlements were much more widespread than previously thought (Proctor, J. 2009. *Pegswood Moor, Morpeth. A Later Iron Age and Romano-British Farmstead Settlement*. Pre-Construct Archaeology Monograph 11, 90-91; Hewitt, R. 2011, *An Archaeological Assessment of County Durham: The Aggregate Producing Areas*, 61).

Ditched enclosures, generally with east-facing entrances and containing one or two circular structures, are a well-recognised later prehistoric and Roman period settlement form in lowland areas and a concentration of this type of settlement occupies the Durham coastal plain (Petts and Gerrard, 36; Hewitt 2011, 52-61). Several archaeological investigations have taken place in recent years in the wider area around Elemore Hall School, and these suggest that this area was relatively densely occupied during the Late Iron Age and early Roman period.

The Scheduled Ancient Monument at Pig Hill, Haswell (NMR Monument No. 26112) lies c. 1.5km to the east of the site. A double-ditched enclosure, ditched circular enclosure, ditched rectilinear enclosure and field boundaries have been identified as cropmarks on aerial photographs and are interpreted as being of Iron Age or Roman date. Investigations undertaken ahead of the Cowpen Bewley to Warden Law Gas Pipeline revealed three Iron Age settlement sites near Haswell (Robinson, G., Speed, G. and Young, G. 2004, *Cowpen Bewley to Warden Law Gas Pipeline. Archaeological Excavation Post-excavation Report*, Northern Archaeological Associates). The settlement at Pig Hill was a complex multiphase site, forming part of a much larger settlement extending some distance beyond the area exposed during the investigation. The remains included a rectangular structure; a series of ditched enclosures containing roundhouses and a number of Iron Age features on a different alignment including another rectangular structure.

Settlement activity was also recorded at High Haswell Farm, located c. 1.5km to the south-east of the site, represented by a cobbled surface, enclosure ditches and a collection of pits containing pottery and charred crop-processing waste, although the focus of habitation lay beyond the limits of investigation. An unenclosed roundhouse settlement was recorded to the south at Harehill Moor, c. 4km south-east of the school. Fragments of locally produced handmade pre-Roman Iron Age pottery were recovered from all three sites and radiocarbon dating suggests that Pig Hill was occupied by 200 BC and abandoned by the very late Iron Age or early Roman period.

Investigations were also undertaken in this area at High Haswell Wind Farm, c. 1.5km south-south-east of the site, ahead of the erection of a turbine and this revealed further evidence for later prehistoric activity. Late Iron Age settlement activity has also been recorded at Hilltop Farm, c. 3.5km to west of the site (PCA 2013, *An Archaeological Excavation at Hilltop Farm, Pittington Lane, Broomside, Durham, County Durham. Assessment Report*). A ditched enclosure identified on aerial photographs was subject to a geophysical survey and trial trenching evaluation and this work determined that this was a habitation enclosure. It was not possible to determine the date at which it was inhabited as the only artefactual material recovered was handmade pottery of broad Iron Age or Roman period date. Traces of field boundaries were revealed a short distance to the north of the enclosure and a radiocarbon date of c. 450 BC was obtained from one of these. The boundaries were post-dated by two rectilinear ditched enclosures, one replacing the other.

Limited investigations have also been carried out another cropmark enclosure at Strawberry Hill, Shadforth (NMR Monument No. 26160), c. 4km to the south of the school site. This work suggested that occupation at this site may also have begun as an unclosed roundhouse settlement (Harding, D.W. 2004, *The Iron Age in Northern Britain*, 43)

The recent archaeological assessment of the aggregate-producing areas of County Durham, within which the site at Elemore Hall School lies, concluded that there is potential for Iron Age settlement sites to be situated practically anywhere in this area (Hewitt, 2011, 62).

1.4.9 Late Medieval

The existing Elemore Hall was built as a high status mansion for George and Judith Baker, a couple whose wealth was derived from the alum industry, coal and landholdings. The remodelling of an existing 16th-century manor house began in 1749 and was concluded by 1752. The current draft Heritage Statement (along with supporting reports by Fiona Green and Grace McCombie) sets out the known documentary evidence for the 16th-century manor house. Up to c. 1700, its history can be summarised thus:

In the medieval period, Elemore Hall and its lands belonged to Finchale Priory. Following the dissolution of the monasteries Newcastle merchant Bartram Anderson (1505-1571) acquired Little Haswell estate from Finchale Priory in 1553. Anderson is believed to have built an 'E' or 'U' shaped manor house at Elemore. Anderson's will listed a hall, two parlours, 'kitching', 'pastrie', buttery, 'mykle' house, workhouse and barn. By 1605 the manor house belonged to Henry Anderson and an inventory on his behalf listed over 20 rooms. In 1669 Elemore belonged to the Hall family and a probate inventory for Nicholas Hall described the hall. The

Hearth Tax for 1674 listed seven hearths for Thomas Hall. In 1687 'Elimoure' Hall was mentioned in Durham Church Accounts.

The DCCAS Specification highlights the importance of identifying any archaeological evidence of this earlier building within the existing structural fabric of Elemore Hall, with the best opportunities undoubtedly lying in an examination of the standing structure (ground floor and particularly any basement/cellar) along with archaeological monitoring of coring work on an associated retaining wall, which the Specification postulates may have originated as a medieval manorial boundary wall. Identification of any structural evidence of the earlier manor house and associated structures is therefore one of the key aims of the project. The remains of ancillary buildings, such as those mentioned in Bartram Anderson's will, as discussed above, would be of particular significance.

The precise date at which later medieval occupation of the site actually began is uncertain, and there is undoubtedly potential for the trenching evaluation to encounter archaeological remains relating to the occupation of the site in the later medieval period, even prior to its acquisition by Bartram Anderson. Any sub-surface archaeological remains, whether structures, deposits or other archaeological features, which would cast light on the nature and precise date of medieval occupation would be of importance.

In sum, the work has the potential to provide a contribution to at least two NERRF Key Research Priorities in the Research Agenda and Strategy for the later medieval period:

MDi. Settlement

There are still very few excavated sites of this period.

MDxi The medieval to post-medieval transition.

There was clearly a change in the rural landscape, but important questions remains: was there a decline in rural settlements and how did this vary regionally? There were changes in all aspects of the region's architecture, both vernacular and high status and there is a particular need for more research into urban structures of the 16th and 17th century.

1.4.10 Post-medieval

Consideration of the historical, architectural and artistic significance of the existing Elemore Hall and its mid-18th-century designed landscape remains the focus of the aforementioned reports produced Fiona Green and Grace McCombie in support of the current draft Heritage Statement. Nevertheless, in terms of archaeological remains, the trenching evaluation has potential to identify archaeological evidence of the designed landscape, particularly successive phases of the garden set out to the east of the hall from the mid-18th century onwards and most clearly depicted firstly on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition of the 1860s. This shows the formal east garden laid out with a central oval path connecting to a north-south path linking with a perimeter path. Identification of any archaeological evidence of the phases of garden layout is therefore one of the key aims of the project.

The NERRF Resource Assessment for the post-medieval period states:

There are no certain 16th-century formal gardens in the region and the 18th century was the prime period for gardens in the North-East (Green, F. 2006, 'Designed Landscape', in Petts and Gerrard, 91). In addition to the agrarian landscape, there were also many designed public and private landscapes in the region, including parks and gardens. Although the Northumbria Gardens Trust has carried out an assessment of all designed landscapes in the old county of Northumberland, there is a need to take this southwards into Durham (Petts and Gerrard 2011, 178).

In sum, the work has the potential to provide a contribution to NERRF a Key Research Theme in the Research Agenda of the post-medieval period:

PM5. Landscapes and mansions of the 18th century

The 18th century was a period of great expansion of stately homes and their associated designed landscapes. Some of these were owned by long-established families of high standing, others by those newly enriched from their involvement in the burgeoning industrial economy. Today many of these houses and landscapes are under threat from partition, development and decay. Among the flagship examples of conservation and research are Gibside (Tyne and Wear) and Hardwick Park, Sedgfield (County Durham), but there is still a need for further research investigations....many minor individual park and garden schemes would merit more intensive study.

Hewitt (2011, 91) notes that there are a large number of structures of historic and architectural importance within the part of County Durham that Elemore Hall School is located in. In that assessment, the possibility for structures associated with county houses, such as ice houses, fountains and pavilions to survive below ground is highlighted. Landscape park and garden features are considered to have the potential to be of considerable archaeological and historical interest (Hewitt 2011, 91)

1.5 Business Case

- 1.5.1 The project Sponsor is the Client, *inspiredspaces*, the Durham Local Education Partnership (LEP) made up of Durham County Council and Carillion and established with the aim of delivering transformational educational facilities through the *Building Schools for the Future* project across County Durham.
- 1.5.2 The requirement to undertake the archaeological work is in line with planning policy at a national level as set out in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF) (Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) 2012). A key component of the NPPF – retained from the previous national guidance document *Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment* (PPS5) - is the concept of heritage assets, those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest. Despite the deletion of PPS5 and its replacement with the NPPF, the *PPS5 Practice Guide* (English Heritage, Department of Culture, Media and Sport and DCLG 2010) remains a valid and UK Government endorsed document.

1.5.3 Ahead of the introduction of the emerging *County Durham Plan*, Durham County Council has retained some policies from the *Durham City Local Plan (2004)* to guide decision making regarding development and planning. Relevant to the Elemore Hall School development are:

- Policy E21. Historic Environment;
- Policy E23. Listed Buildings;
- Policy E24. Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Remains.

Further details of these policies and a discussion of their relevance in providing the local planning policy framework are set out in the current draft Heritage Statement prepared by the Client's agent.

1.5.4 An application for planning permission for the development scheme is to be submitted to Durham County Council. Several options for providing the required facilities and accommodation were developed and, in essence, three alternative schemes were examined for differing locations; further details are set out in Section 4 of the current draft Heritage Statement. 'Option 3' is now the preferred option (excluding the 'New Forest Classroom'). This is located between the barn and an existing building to the north-east of the stables and will necessitate removal of an existing garage block.

1.5.5 Durham County Council Archaeology Section (DCCAS), which provides archaeological development control in the county, produced the aforementioned Specification to outline the requirements for work at the site to provide additional information for inclusion into the current draft Heritage Statement and to support the planning application. Section 4.15 of the Specification stipulated that a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) is required in response to the Specification. **The WSI must be submitted to and approved by DCCAS prior to the commencement of work.**

1.5.6 On behalf of the Client, the Client's agent has appointed Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited (PCA) to undertake the required archaeological work. PCA - www.pre-construct.com - is one of the largest archaeological contractors in the UK, operating a nationwide service from offices in London, Durham, Market Harborough, Cambridgeshire and Winchester. PCA is a 'Registered Organisation' (RO 23) with the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA).

1.5.7 PCA has compiled this WSI, in the format of a 'Project Design' as described in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE) (English Heritage 2006).

1.6 Project Scope

1.6.1 The various elements of the required work comprise Execution Stages of the project, as described in MoRPHE. The aim of this WSI is to provide sufficient detail to permit authorisation of the project.

1.6.2 The WSI sets out the aims and research objectives of the work and, in a series of detailed methods statements, describes the techniques and approaches that will be employed to achieve those aims and objectives.

1.7 Interfaces

- 1.7.1 The programme of archaeological work will be undertaken in April 2013, ahead of submission of the planning application. The results of the fieldwork will be subsequently reported on in a report and archaeological information will be collated for inclusion into a final version of the Heritage Statement to support the planning application.
- 1.7.2 PCA will undertake the required archaeological work for the Client's agent on behalf of the Client, with the Senior Archaeologist of DCCAS fulfilling the role of archaeological advisor to the LPA, Durham County Council, and English Heritage.

1.8 Communications

- 1.8.1 Every PCA project has a designated Project Manager and, where fieldwork is required, there will also be a Site Supervisor/Site Director. Other members of the Project Team are identified below. The Project Manager is the person responsible for preparation of the WSI and ensuring that execution and monitoring of project activities follow the general procedures of PCA and are in accordance with the WSI.
- 1.8.2 PCA's Project Team will communicate internally via scheduled meetings, both office-based and on site during the fieldwork element of the archaeological evaluation.
- 1.8.3 PCA's Project Team will communicate externally in the first instance with the Client's agent via scheduled meetings, email discussions, telephone conversations and written correspondence, as appropriate. The Client's agent will inform other stakeholders (those parties with an active interest in the project, for example, the Client and DCCAS) as required.
- 1.8.4 Principal points of contact:
- Pre-Construct Archaeology - Robin Taylor-Wilson (Director): 0191 377 1111; rtaylor-wilson@pre-construct.com
 - Mosedale Gillatt Architects – Jenny Gillatt (Director): 0191 2617 444; jenny.gillatt@mgarchitects.info
 - Durham County Council Archaeology Section – Lee McFarlane (Senior Archaeologist): 03000 267 009; lee.mcfarlane@durham.gov.uk
 - inspiredspaces – Alan Todd (Project Manager, Operations and Compliance); 07977 055 719; alan.todd@inspiredspaces.co.uk

1.9 Project Review

- 1.9.1 Progress of the project will be reviewed at Review Point 'R2' following dissemination of this WSI to all stakeholders. Project authorisation is considered the most likely outcome at R2, with commitment of resources to the various **Execution Stages**, namely Data Collection, *i.e.* the undertaking of the trenching evaluation, monitoring of the investigative works on the retaining wall and collation of archaeological information to improve the current draft Heritage Statement.

- 1.9.2 Review Point 'R3' will be conducted at the conclusion of the **Execution Stages** of the project, signalled by circulation of a report on the fieldwork elements and the provision of archaeological detail to the current draft Heritage Statement. The report will describe the findings of all elements of the work. At R3 a decision will be made regarding the scope of further work, as appropriate.

1.10 Health and Safety

- 1.10.1 PCA's H&S Policy is the starting point for managing H&S at all locations where PCA carries out its operations. A Risk Assessment will be undertaken.

- 1.10.2 This project will not be 'H&S Executive (HSE) notifiable' due to its anticipated short duration.

- 1.10.3 In general, all PCA staff are required to:

- take care of their own safety and that of any other person on the site or in the vicinity;
- co-operate with the Site Supervisor and the Directors of PCA to allow them to comply with their statutory obligations;
- be mindful of the requirements of the Sponsor;
- be careful to minimise the environmental impact of their operations and activities.

PART 2: RESOURCES AND PROGRAMMING

2.1 Project Team Structure

- 2.1.1 The Project Manager for PCA will be Robin Taylor-Wilson, BSc MA MIfA. In broad terms, he will have ultimate responsibility for the outcome of the project, as well as overseeing day-to-day operations with responsibility for preparation of the WSI, project planning, identification of Risk, monitoring of costs and timetable and, in essence, ensuring that the project produces the work agreed in the WSI. He will also collate archaeological information to improve the current draft Heritage Statement.
- 2.1.2 Various Experts will be added to the Project Team as appropriate. Central amongst these will be an Archaeological Site Supervisor, an archaeologist with the requisite amount of experience to undertake the evaluation and monitoring of the investigative work on the retaining wall.
- 2.1.3 Office-based Experts will provide support, as appropriate, in areas such as computer-aided design (CAD).
- 2.1.4 Appropriate specialists will examine all categories of artefactual and palaeoenvironmental materials recovered during the fieldwork. PCA generally use a combination of in-house and external specialists. For this project, assessment of medieval and post-medieval era artefactual material from the site would be co-ordinated by Jenny Vaughan, a ceramic specialist based in Newcastle, the most likely external specialist to be involved with this project. Archaeological conservation, including on-site conservation advice, would be co-ordinated by Karen Barker, a freelance archaeological conservator. Palaeoenvironmental assessment of bulk samples would be co-ordinated by Dr Charlotte O'Brien of Archaeological Services Durham University. All other specialists would be in-house.
- 2.1.5 PCA will hire in welfare for PCA staff and plant for trench groundworks. Temporary fencing will be hired-in to protect archaeological working areas.

2.2 Method Statement Part A: Fieldwork

Overall Methodology

- 2.2.1 The research aims and objectives of the project will be achieved by the undertaking of the trenching evaluation, monitoring of the investigative coring work on the retaining wall and collation of archaeological information to improve the current draft Heritage Statement. All elements of Data Collection will comprise separate Execution Stages of the project.
- 2.2.2 The project will be carried out in line with: *By-Laws – Code of Conduct* (IfA 2010) and *A Regional Statement of Good Practice for Archaeology in the Development Process* (IfA, Yorkshire, the Humber and the North East 2009).

Health and Safety

- 2.2.3 The HSE does not consider archaeological investigations to fall within the definition of 'construction work' in the *Construction (Design and Management) (CDM) Regulations 2007*.

- 2.2.4 PCA staff undertaking the fieldwork will have undergone Disclosure Baring Service (DBS) checks or the previous Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) checks.
- 2.2.5 The site will be inspected by the PCA Project Manager with a view to establishing all Risks likely to be associated with the work, so that all such hazards can be mitigated prior to staff starting work. A 'Site Inspection Preliminary Risk Assessment' *pro-forma* will be completed on site and 'written-up' as a formal Risk Assessment.
- 2.2.6 The PCA Project Manager will discuss all specific H&S issues with PCA staff who will be involved with work on site. PCA staff will undertake site-specific induction talks with all staff and visitor before they enter the site, as required.
- 2.2.7 All PCA staff on site will use safety equipment. For each member of staff this will comprise: hard hat, hi-visibility garment, safety boots (steel toe-cap and insole).
- 2.2.8 Adequate welfare will be provided for PCA staff for this short duration fieldwork project.

Historic Building Assessment Methodology

- 2.2.9 Elemore Hall will be visually examined for evidence of historic structural fabric pre-dating the mid-18th-century re-development. This work will focus on any basement or cellar areas and full access will be required to any such areas. The retaining wall (see below) will also be examined. Recording will be limited to compilation of a basic photographic record and summary description written record in order to gather data with the aim of expanding the section of the current draft Heritage Statement regarding the documented 16th-century manorial house which was re-developed in the Georgian era. No detailed recording including measured survey of structural fabric will be undertaken at this stage.
- 2.2.10 The approved investigative coring work on the rear retaining wall will be monitored under the terms of the planning condition. The fieldwork is programmed to take place 5 April 2013 and is intended to be of 1 day duration.
- 2.2.11 Recording will comprise compilation of a photographic record of any exposures with particular focus on constructional details, including any details which might help to phase the structure or allow interpretation of its construction and compilation of a written record using pro forma recording sheets. The aim of the coring monitoring and examination of the overall structure is to determine, for example, whether or not the structure includes remnants of a late medieval/early post-medieval manorial boundary wall obscured within later fabric added at the time of the Georgian re-development of the property or subsequently. This work therefore has the potential to provide additional archaeological information for inclusion into the current draft Heritage Statement.
- 2.2.12 The photographic record will be compiled using a) a SLR camera with black and white 35mm film to provide negatives from which a set of prints will be generated b) a digital SLR camera of at least 6 megapixels. Photographs will include a legible graduated metric scale, if possible. Full and detailed photographic record sheets cross-referenced to the black and white negatives/prints and the colour digital images/prints. For digital photography, the 'RAW plus JPEG' camera setting will be used (with the camera set for the largest image size with least compression to produce the highest quality possible JPEG images). The RAW setting allows all the information that the camera is capable of producing to be saved and images

retained using this setting will form a key component of the photographic archive along with the black and white negatives generated by 35mm film. RAW images will be converted to the uncompressed format TIFF before they are burnt onto archival quality CD to form the digital element of the photographic archive. A selection of colour printed images (standard 6x4-inch) will be generated from the JPEG images. Thus the photographic element of the Site Archive (for deposition with the appropriate repository) will comprise: black and white negatives, black and white prints generated from the negatives, a selection of colour prints generated from digital images, colour digital TIFF images on CD. The County Durham HER will be provided directly with a selection of digital images, as required.

Trenching Evaluation Methodology

- 2.2.13 The trenching evaluation will be undertaken in accordance with *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IfA 2008). All groundworks (excluding archaeological supervision, hand cleaning, hand excavation and recording) will be undertaken by a plant sub-contractor on behalf of and fully supervised by PCA.
- 2.2.14 Three archaeological evaluation trenches are proposed, at the locations shown on Figure 4 of the Specification. The evaluation trenching is positioned in available grassed areas to provide a sample of c. 4% of the proposed development site.
- 2.2.15 Trench 1 measures 10m x 1.5m. It is sited on a grassed area to the north of the former stable block. This area appears in essentially the same form on the designed landscaped around the hall, as depicted on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map from the 1860s.
- 2.2.16 Trench 2 measures 5m x 1.5m. It is sited on a grassed area at the north-east corner of the main 20th-century additions to the complex. This area appears as woodland to the north of the formal east garden on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map from the 1860s.
- 2.2.17 Trench 3 measures 5m x 1.5m. It is sited on a grassed area to the south of the main 20th-century additions to the complex. This area lies within the northern part of the designed east garden on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map from the 1860s.
- 2.2.18 The trenches will be set-out and located relative to the Ordnance Survey grid by appropriate means. All trenches will be sited entirely on grassed areas.
- 2.2.19 The fieldwork is programmed to commence 3 April 2013 and will be of up to 3 days duration, subject to findings as well as ground and weather conditions.
- 2.2.20 The area of each trench will be scanned with a Cable Avoidance Tool ahead of machine excavation. This work, in collaboration with examination of existing service plans, may necessitate adjustment of trench locations. Prior to ground reduction, the entire length of each trench will be de-turfed using a mechanical 'turf lifter', where the turf is of sufficient quality to allow this. Rolled turf will be stored on adjacent hard surfaces or on geotextile on grassed areas beside the trenches.

- 2.2.21 Ground level in the trenches will be reduced by JCB 3CX or similar back-actor, with all such work under PCA supervision. Moving along the length of the trench, the machine will remove - using a wide blade, ditching bucket (with no teeth) - successive spits of no more than 0.25m depth until either the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the top of the natural geological sub-stratum is reached. The machine will not be used to cut arbitrary trial trenches down to natural deposits, without regard to the archaeological stratification and leaving a section record only. Excavated spoil will be examined for archaeological material by hand and eye.
- 2.2.22 Excavated spoil will be neatly banded a safe distance from trench edges. All trenches and their adjacent spoil bund will be surrounded with 'Heras' safety fencing with block feet and panel couplers. All spoil will be carefully backfilled by machine into the trench upon completion of the work. Infilled material will be compacted by tamping down with the machine bucket, prior to relaying of turf. PCA will not be responsible for any subsequent ground remediation, for example following subsidence of the trench areas over time.

Archaeological Cleaning, Excavation and Recording Methodology

- 2.2.23 The majority of investigation of archaeological levels will be by hand, with cleaning, examination and recording both in plan and in section, where appropriate. Investigations within the trenches will follow the normal principles of stratigraphic excavation and will be conducted in accordance with the methodology set out in *Fieldwork Induction Manual. Operations Manual I* (PCA 2009) and *Archaeological Site Manual, Third Edition* (Museum of London 1994).
- 2.2.24 Deposits and feature cuts will be individually recorded on a *pro-forma* 'Context Recording Sheet'. Structural remains – if encountered - will be individually recorded on a *pro-forma* 'Masonry Recording Sheet'.
- 2.2.25 All site records will be marked with the unique-number 'Site Code'. This is 'ELP 13'.
- 2.2.26 Archaeological excavation may require work by 'pick and shovel' or occasionally by further use of the machine. Such techniques will be used only for the removal of homogeneous and 'low grade' layers where it can reasonably be argued that more detailed attention would not produce information of value, and their removal provides a 'window' onto the underlying archaeological levels. They will not be employed on complex stratigraphy, and the deposits to be removed will be fully recorded prior to excavation.
- 2.2.27 All archaeological features that do not merit preservation *in situ* will be excavated by hand tools and recorded in plan at 1:20 or in section at 1:10 using standard 'single context recording' methods. Drawings will be on polyester based gridded drawing sheets. At least one long section of each trench will be drawn to scale. The height of all principal strata and features will be calculated in metres above Ordnance Datum (m AOD) and indicated on appropriate plans and sections.
- 2.2.28 'Harris Matrix' stratification diagrams will be used to record stratigraphic relationships and these records will be compiled and fully checked during the course of the evaluation.

- 2.2.29 A detailed photographic record of the evaluation will be prepared as for the historic building recording, described above (2.2.12). All photographs will include a legible graduated metric scale. The photographic record will illustrate both in detail and general context archaeological exposures and specific features and structures in all trenches. The photographic record will also include 'working shots' to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operation mounted.
- 2.2.30 An adequate proportion of archaeological features encountered will be excavated by hand in order to determine their form and function, where possible. The following sampling policy will apply to archaeological features: postholes and pits – 50% (a complete cross section will be excavated across such features where possible); linear features - 20% minimum.

Finds and Samples: On-Site Methodology

- 2.2.31 High priority will be given to dating any archaeological remains; therefore all artefacts and finds will be retained. Consideration will also be given to the recovery of specialist samples for scientific analysis, particularly samples for cultural/environmental evidence, structural materials and absolute dating. Different sampling strategies may be employed according to the perceived importance of the strata under investigation.
- 2.2.32 Deposits will be assessed for their potential for high resolution radiocarbon and archaeomagnetic dating and, if appropriate, samples will be recovered for these purposes. Full analysis of ceramic assemblages (*i.e.* petrological analysis), including thermoluminescence dating would be applied if the site yields suitable material. Specialist analysis of material recovered for scientific dating would, therefore, be a requirement in post-excavation.
- 2.2.33 It may be necessary to seek advice regarding lifting and/or preservation of vulnerable objects or other remains during the evaluation. Specialist on-site advice regarding archaeological conservation will be sought as appropriate. All gold and silver will be removed to a safe place and reported to the local coroner according to the procedures relating to the *Treasure Act 1996*. Where removal cannot be effected on the same working day as the discovery suitable security measures will be taken to protect the finds from theft.
- 2.2.34 Human remains are possible, although probably unlikely, at this site. If *in situ* human remains are encountered they would be recorded to an appropriate level by the use of photography and a *pro forma* 'Skeleton Recording Sheet' and including *in situ* examination by a palaeo-pathologist, if required, then exhumed following receipt of the appropriate exhumation licence from the Ministry of Justice. The Ministry has recently reconsidered its approach to burial licenses that it adopted in 2007: exhumation license applications under *The Burial Act 1857* will now be considered wherever human remains are buried in sites to which *The Disused Burial Grounds (Amendment) Act 1981* or other burial ground legislation does not apply.
- 2.2.35 The overall aim of the evaluation with respect to archaeological science will be to determine the types of material preserved and in what quantity and condition, thus enabling the aims and objectives of the project as a whole to be addressed. The advice of Jacqui Huntley, English Heritage's Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science (RAAS) will be sought and, if appropriate, arrangements for a site visit will be made in order to determine the importance and sampling requirements for all deposits exposed during the investigation.

- 2.2.36 In general, the environmental sampling policy on the site will entail recovery of bulk material from well-dated (although palaeoenvironmental material recovered by sampling can itself provide the only evidence for dating), stratified deposits covering the main periods or phases of occupation.
- 2.2.37 Sample size will take into account the frequency with which material is likely to occur. In general, however, samples will be of the order of 40 litres where sufficient material is available, although with the expectation that smaller quantities (c. 5-10 litres) will be processed and assessed as part of the evaluation. Thus if no subsequent excavation is undertaken at the site adequate material will remain for further processing and full analysis of the evaluation material should that prove necessary.
- 2.2.38 Assessment of sufficient samples will be undertaken to cover the range of feature types and dates represented. Unless the stratigraphy is unduly complex, processing and assessment of a maximum total of up to three samples will probably suffice from the proposed trenches. The samples to be processed and assessed may be a sub-set of a larger number of samples actually recovered during the fieldwork.

2.3 Method Statement Part B: Post-Excavation

Finds and Samples: Off-Site Methodology

- 2.3.1 Specialists will examine all levels of finds (e.g. organic, ceramic, metallic) recovered during the fieldwork. All finds will be treated in a proper manner and will be exposed, lifted, cleaned, conserved, marked, bagged and boxed in accordance with the guidelines set out in *First Aid for Finds*, 3rd edition (Watkinson and Neal 1998), *Conservation Guidelines No.2. Packaging and storage of freshly excavated artefacts from archaeological sites* (United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC) Archaeology Section 1983) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (IfA 2008).
- 2.3.2 Preliminary conservation and stabilisation of all objects will be undertaken as soon as possible during or upon completion of the fieldwork. Vulnerable materials that require immediate specialist archaeological conservation will be transported to appropriate facilities without delay. There will be an assessment of long-term conservation and storage needs of all excavated material.
- 2.3.3 All metal objects will be X-rayed and then selected for conservation. All iron objects will be X-rayed, along with a selection of non-ferrous artefacts (including all coins) and a sample of any industrial debris relating to metallurgy.
- 2.3.4 Waterlogged organic materials will be dealt with following guidelines set out in the English Heritage documents *Guidelines for the care of waterlogged archaeological leather* (1995) and *Waterlogged Wood. Guidelines on the recording, sampling, conservation and curation of waterlogged wood*, 3rd edition (2010).
- 2.3.5 All processing of artefacts and ecofacts will be undertaken away from the site. Assessment of artefactual and ecofactual material will be undertaken by suitably qualified personnel. For each category of artefact and ecofact an assessment report will be produced that will include a basic quantification of the material, a statement of its potential for further analysis and recommendations for such work.

- 2.3.6 Techniques of laboratory processing for material recovered through sampling are likely to vary depending upon the nature of the deposit. There will be assessment in respect of:
- the approximate proportions and types of mineral and organic components, including comments relating to presence/absence of industrial spatter and hammerscale or other technological material;
 - the nature of biological remains;
 - qualitative estimates of the amounts of each type of remains and their states of preservation;
 - a broad indication of habitats represented;
 - indications of origin of material;
 - research questions that should be formulated if full analysis of any material is recommended;
 - recommendations for additional sampling, specifically if/when further excavation is undertaken.
- 2.3.7 PCA's nominated specialists will undertake pottery dating and analysis, as necessary. For prehistoric pottery this will be Alex Croom (Tyne and Wear Museums) and for medieval and post-medieval pottery this will be Jenny Vaughan (Northern Counties Archaeological Services). Other specialists which are likely to be involved in this project are named in 2.1.4, above.
- 2.3.8 PCA would employ a combination of in-house and external specialists to undertake analysis and interpretation of materials recovered through sampling of archaeological and environmental deposits and structures (which can include soils, timbers, faunal remains and human remains).

Site Archive

- 2.3.9 Through Data Collection, the undertaking of fieldwork results in the establishment of a Site Archive. In preparing the Site Archive for deposition all relevant standards and guidelines documents referenced in the Archaeological Archives Forum guidelines document *Archaeological Archives. A guide to best practice in creation, compilation transfer and curation* (Brown 2007) would be adhered to, in particular *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (IfA 2008) and *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long term storage* (Walker, UKIC 1990).
- 2.3.10 The Site Archive will include all materials recovered (or a comprehensive records of such materials) and all written, drawn, and photographic records generated by the Data Collection Stage(s) of the project. In line with *MoRPHE. PPN3: Archaeological Excavation. Appendix 1* the Site Archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, and internally consistent before transfer to the recipient museum. It will also contain a site matrix, a site summary and brief written observations on the artefactual and environmental data.

2.3.11 Prior to the Closure Stage of the project, the Site Archive (which by then may comprise an integrated Site and Research Archive) will be deposited with the repository which takes on the responsibilities of the Old Fulling Mill, Durham as repository for archaeological archives generated by projects within the former Durham City District. The Archive will be organised as to be compatible with the other archaeological archives produced in the former Durham City District and will include all retained artefacts and ecofacts. A completed transfer of title deed will accompany the Site Archive on deposition.

2.3.12 The Site Archive will be presented to the archive officer or relevant curator as soon as is practically possible following of the completion of the project. Appropriate guidance set out in *Standards in the museum care of archaeological collections* (Museum and Galleries Commission 1992) and *Selection, retention and dispersal of archaeological collections* (Society of Museum Archaeologists 1993) will be followed in all circumstances.

Integrated Report

2.3.13 The results of the trenching evaluation and coring monitoring will be disseminated in the form of a written and illustrated report, to be compiled following completion of the fieldwork. In conjunction with this work, archaeological information will be collated to provide archaeological details to the current draft Heritage Statement to ensure that the document meets the needs of the LPA and English Heritage.

2.3.14 The evaluation/monitoring report will include:

- an introductory section setting out the general background to the project, the planning history and a summary of the site geology and topography;
- a section outlining the aims and objectives of the project;
- a section detailing methodologies adopted during the various elements of the project;
- a section setting out the historical and archaeological background to the project;
- a section describing the results of the overall assessment of observed historic (pre-mid-18th-century) structural fabric of Elemore Hall and the coring monitoring through its associated retaining wall, with illustrations and photographs as appropriate;
- a section describing the findings of the trenching evaluation, including the nature, extent, date, condition and significance of any archaeological remains encountered, with appropriate illustrations and photographs;

2.3.15 The report will include a location plan of the site, tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid and at an appropriate scale. The report will also include a plan at an appropriate scale showing the location of the trial trenches and other investigative work.

2.3.16 The report will include a statement regarding the location of the Site Archive at the time of writing, and the intended depository of the Site Archive.

- 2.3.17 DCCAS supports the 'Online Access to the Index of archaeological investigations' (OASIS) project. PCA would complete an online OASIS form during compilation of the report and the reference number would be included in the introductory section of the report. When the report has been submitted to the HER, DCCAS will validate the OASIS form and PCA agrees to this procedure.
- 2.3.18 Copies of the report will be sent to all project stakeholders as required. DCCAS (HER) requires a copy in electronic (pdf) format by email or on CD, in addition to 1 no. hardcopy. Other stakeholders should contact PCA with their specific requirements.

2.4 Stages, Products and Tasks

2.4.1 The table below shows how the project will proceed up to Review Point R3. Estimated dates for completion of key stages are included. These are subject to revision.

2.4.2 Any Updated Project Designs will detail additional stages of the project through to Closure.

Stage	Research Products	Archive Products	Dissemination Products
Start-up	PCA awarded contract (notified by email from Client's agent 21 March 2013)	N/A	N/A
<i>Review Point R1: Have clear aims and objectives been established? Yes, through the issuing of the DCCAS Specification.</i>			
Initiation	PCA WSI issued for comment (25 March 2013) Site access to be agreed (start-up meeting w/c 25 March 2013)	Project Management Archive created Archive repository identified	Communications with stakeholders (including DCCAS Senior Archaeologist notified of start date).
<i>Review Point R2: Is the Specification and WSI achievable? Yes, through the undertaking of the historic building assessment and archaeological monitoring of coring work and the trenching evaluation.</i>			
Execution: Data Collection through the undertaking of: 1) historic building assessment/ archaeological monitoring of coring work & 2) trenching evaluation (programmed for 3-5 April 2011)	Draft Report Final Report Updated Project Design	Site Archive established Site Archive enhanced	OASIS entry created Report circulated
<i>Review Point R3: Does any element of the work justify further work?</i>			

2.5 Ownership

- 2.5.1 The finds (*i.e.* the artefactual and palaeoenvironmental material) recovered by archaeological fieldwork contribute data of immeasurable academic worth towards the Site Archive, but the bulk of the material is of little or no financial value. In this instance, the legal owner of the site, and consequently the owner of any material that is recovered during the course of the archaeological project, must agree to donate all finds, as part of the Site Archive, to the repository which takes on the responsibilities of the Old Fulling Mill, Durham as repository for archaeological archives generated by projects within the former Durham City District.
- 2.5.2 PCA is committed to respecting the intellectual property rights of its staff and others.

2.6 Budget

- 2.6.1 A budget for the undertaking of the various elements of the project and compilation of the report has been agreed with the Client's agent.

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