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# D'Urton Lane, Eastway, Preston, Lancashire PR3 5LE.

**July 2017**  
**V 1.0**



aeon archaeology



Supervised Metal Detector Survey  
Project Code: A0114.2  
Report no. 0132

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aeon archaeology

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# **D'Urton Lane, Eastway, Preston, Lancashire PR3 5LE.**

## **July 2017**

Report no. 0132 v1.0

Supervised Metal Detector Survey

Aeon Archaeology  
25, Mold Road  
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Checked by: Josh Dean BA ACIfA



Project Code: A0114.2  
Date: 11/07/2017  
Client: HBS Group  
Planning Ref: 06/2013/0349  
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## **1.0 NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY**

Aeon Archaeology was commissioned by The HBS Group to carry out an archaeologically supervised metal detector survey as a condition of a full planning permission for the development of 2.1ha of land for employment use at D'urton Lane, Eastway, Preston, Lancashire.

The earliest identifiable period represented in the material archive is the post-medieval period which includes three half-pennies, a Victorian silver shilling, and a copper alloy button. These artefacts are all small and portable, and the low number of finds from this period suggests that these were items broken or lost by a casual labour force seasonally working in the fields. There is no suggestion from any of the artefacts discovered that the site was ever occupied or utilised for anything more than agricultural land.

The most interesting artefact is the bronze leg from a three-footed cooking pot, quite possibly dating to the Civil War period activity associated with the nearby Scheduled Ancient Monument of Cromwell's Mound (SM 27849). Indeed, it is quite possible that the bronze leg broke away from the cooking pot while the army was encamped within the field.

The lack of any musket balls and indeed the low quantity of recovered artefacts strongly suggests that the field has been detected several times previously. This hypothesis is supported by the mention of recovered musket balls by detectorists in the Scheduled Ancient Monument description by English Heritage.

## 2.0 INTRODUCTION, AIMS AND PROJECT DESIGN

Aeon Archaeology was commissioned by The HBS Group, hereafter the Client, to carry out an archaeologically supervised metal detector survey as a condition of a full planning permission (**ref: 06/2013/0349**) for the development of 2.1ha of land for employment use at D'urton Lane, Eastway, Preston, Lancashire (**NGR SD 54243 33918**) (Planning Permission:) (figures 01 and 02).

The proposed development forms part of a larger development site that is to include the redevelopment of 29.5ha of land for mixed use development including 300 dwellings (Class C3), 2.1ha of employment land (Class B1(b); B1(c); B2 and B8), 0.7ha mixed use centre (including Class A1-A5 local shops, services, food and drink; Class B1(b) employment; Class C2/C3 residential care/nursing home; and Class D1 local community facilities), open space provision, landscaping and associated infrastructure, internal roads and footways, access junctions and new link road between Eastway and D'urton Lane.

A mitigation brief was not prepared for this work by the **Lancashire Archaeology Planning Advisory Service (LAAS)**, but an archaeological condition was placed upon the approved planning application which stated:

*No works on site shall take place on the parcel of land to the east of D'urton Lane, adjacent to Cromwell's Mound (Phase 3 Indicative Phasing Plan drawing (SK) \_B\_007\_PHASING\_PLAN) until the applicant, or their agent or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work. This must be carried out in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, which shall first have been submitted to and agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority (Planning application 06/2013/0349 condition no. 18 ).*

The above condition refers to the entire mixed use development and as such the LAAS made the following recommendations regarding the employment allocation for which this report is concerned (Smith, J. 13<sup>th</sup> April 2017):

*The first phase of work should be a watching brief during the topsoil strip, which should include the carrying out of a metal detector survey, preferably by an archaeologist skilled in metal detecting. If that is not possible then an archaeologist accompanied by an appropriately skilled metal detector user should be used. This will allow the accurate recording of all finds. Any results of this work should then be used to inform the production of interpretation panels.*

The use of such a condition is in line with the guidance set out in paragraph 141, Section 12 (Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment) of the National Planning Policy Framework (2012), published by the Department for Communities and Local Government and Managing Significance in Decision Taking in the Historic Environment, Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning: 2 (Historic England 2015).

This document reports on the results of the supervised metal detector survey. The watching brief phase will occur upon the commencement of groundworks at the site.

An archaeological assessment was undertaken by Parsons Brinckerhoff in 2013 (3512594A) which identified a Scheduled Monument (SM 27849 – Cromwell's Mound) immediately outside but adjacent to the south-eastern boundary of the Scheme Area, and other sites of archaeological importance within 0.5km of the Scheme Area including a Grade II Listed Building.

Reference was made during the survey to the guidelines specified in *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014).

The supervised metal detector survey consisted of the following:

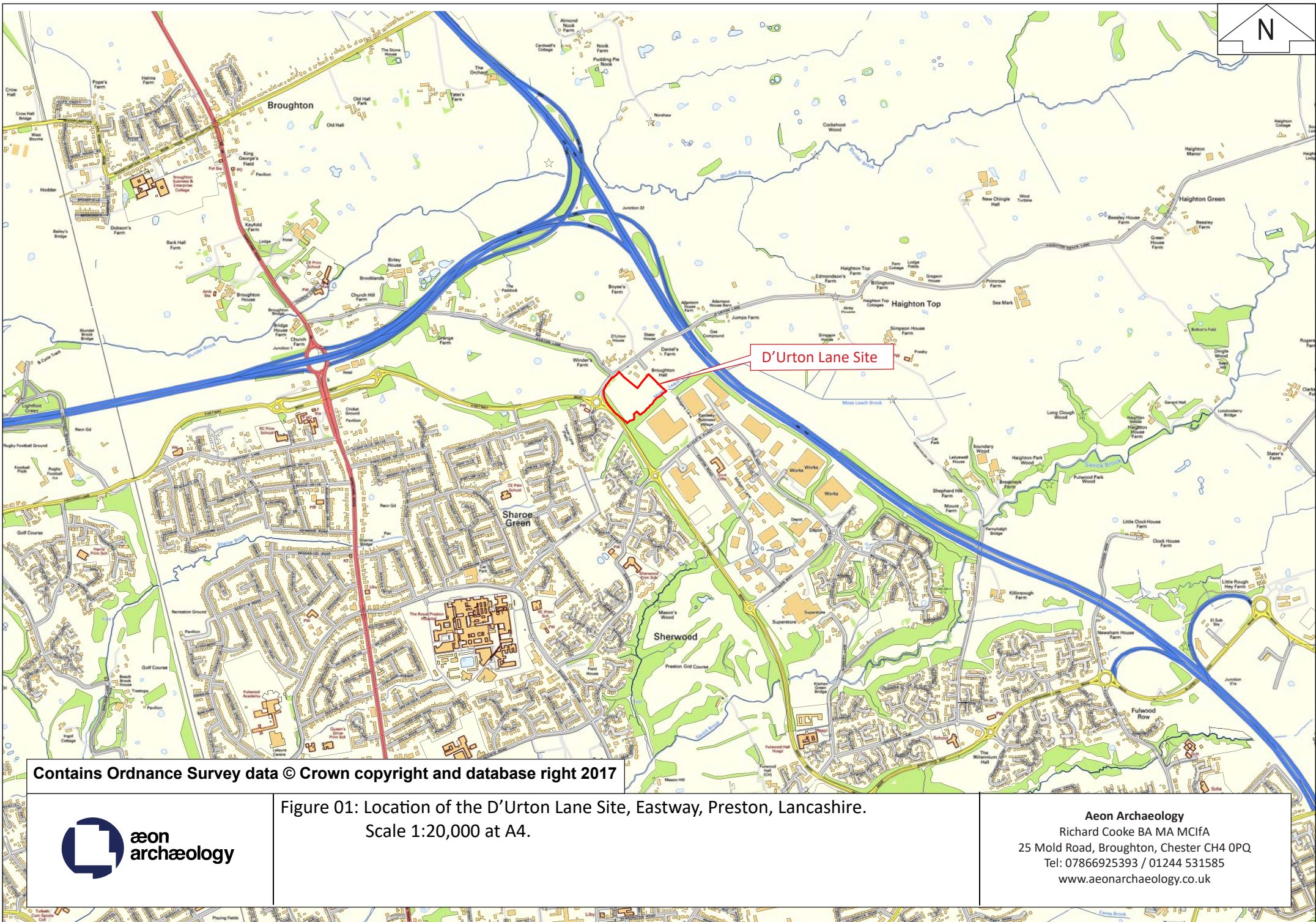
- A metal detector survey of the survey zone (figure 04) using twenty metre wide transect zones orientated north to south.
- The recording of all discovered artefacts using Aeon Archaeology proformas.
- The locating of all discovered artefacts using a Satmap Active 10 GPS with an error margin of 1.0m.
- Preparation of a full archive report.

The aim of the works was to evaluate and characterise the known, or potential, archaeological remains to provide sufficient data on the historical development of the site, so as to provide the prospective developer and the Local Planning Authority with material information relevant to the development of the site.

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (appendix I) was written by Aeon Archaeology and submitted to The HBS Group and the LAAS in May 2017. This formed the basis of a method statement submitted for the work. The archaeologically supervised metal detector survey was undertaken in accordance with the WSI.

The management of this project has followed the procedures laid out in the standard professional guidance *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment Project Manager's Guide* (English Heritage 2006), and in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Standards and Guidance: Excavation* (2014).





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Figure 01: Location of the D'Urton Lane Site, Eastway, Preston, Lancashire.

Scale 1:20,000 at A4.

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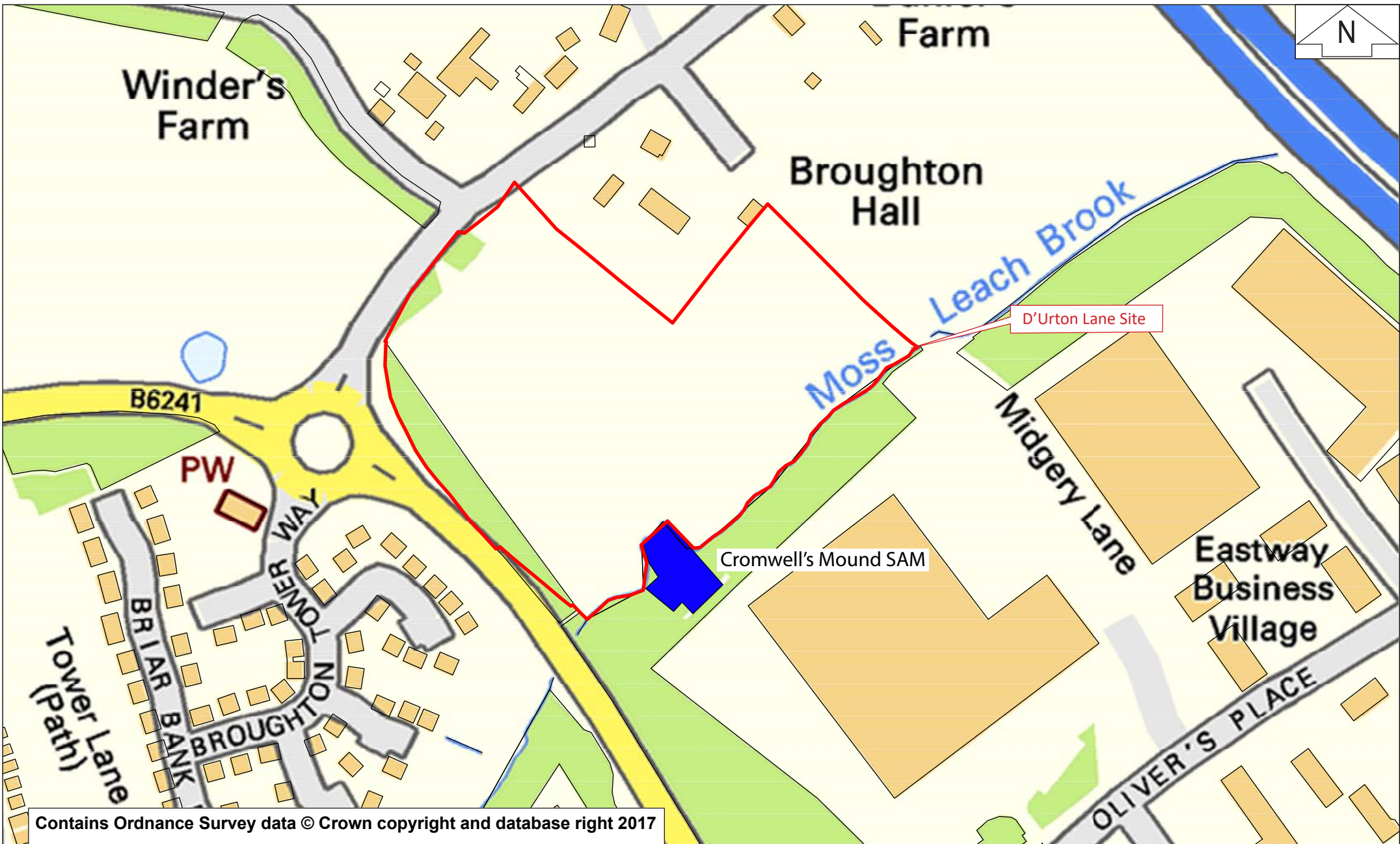
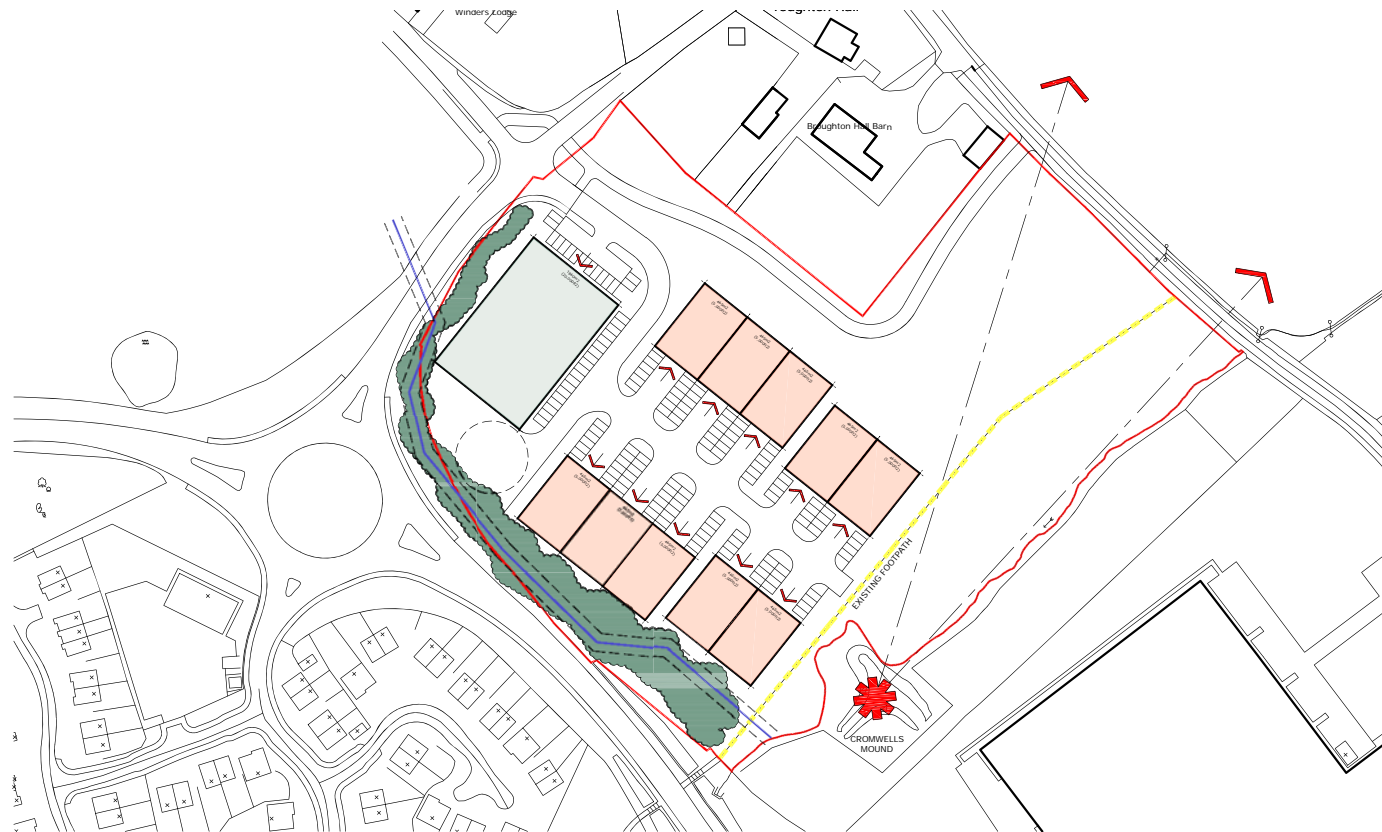


Figure 02: Location of the D'Urton Lane Site, Eastway, Preston, Lancashire.  
 Scale 1:2,500 at A4.



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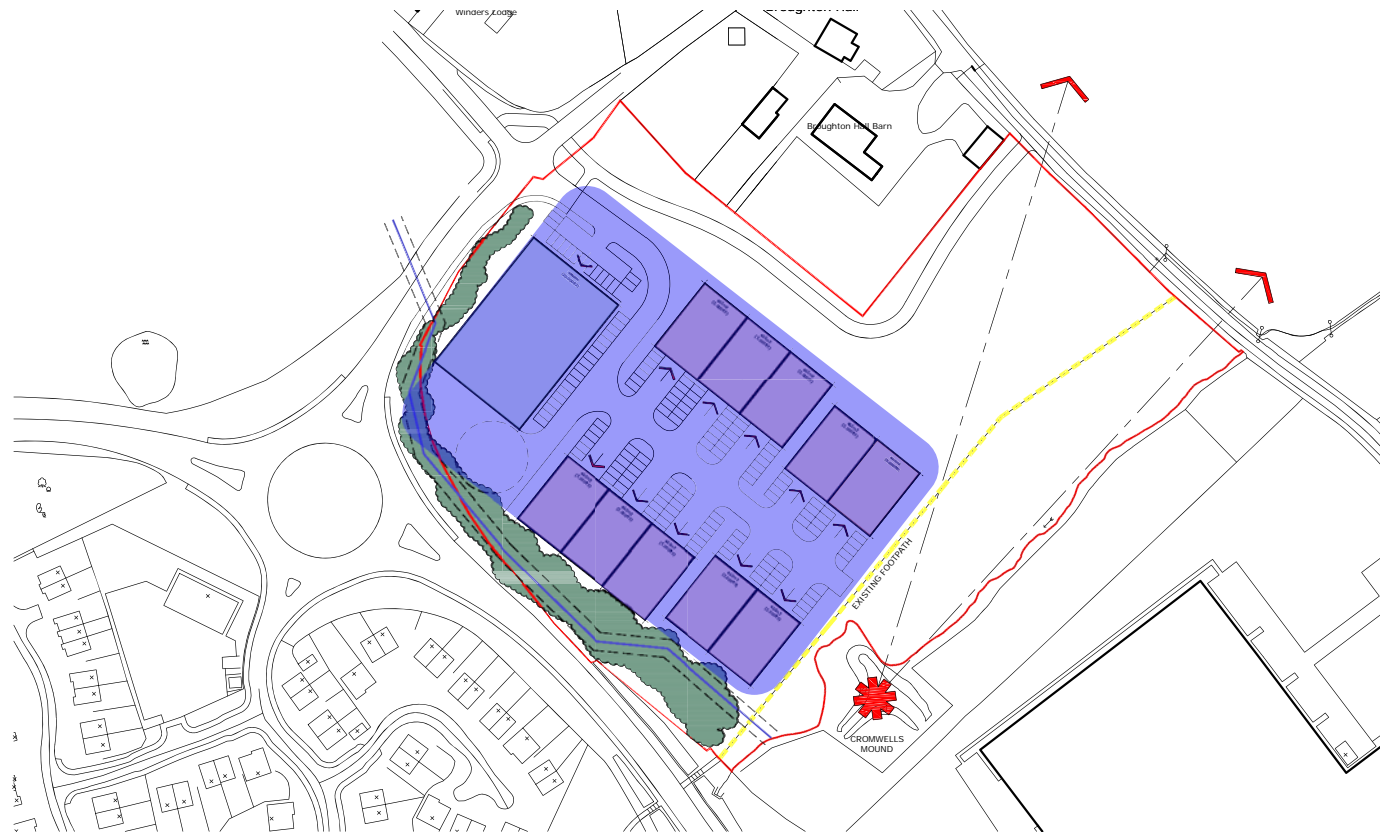


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Figure 03: Proposed development at D'Urton Lane Site, Eastway, Preston, Lancashire.  
Scale 1:2,500 at A4.

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Figure 04: Metal detector survey area (shaded blue) at D'Urton Lane Site, Eastway, Preston, Lancashire. Scale 1:2,500 at A4.

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## **3.0 METHODS AND TECHNIQUES**

### **3.1 Supervised Metal Detector Survey**

A project coordinator, who is a member of a metal detecting club affiliated to the National Council for Metal Detecting (NCMD) North West region, was nominated to coordinate the metal detector survey prior to the commencement of work. They were responsible for maintaining a central register of nominated detector users, checking insurance cover and site access, briefing nominated detector users and ensuring that they adhered to the principles set out in the project design and the written agreement waiver form. All metal detector users nominated by the project coordinator were members of clubs affiliated with the NCMD North West region.

The whole of the proposed development site was divided into transect zones of 20.0m width which were surveyed by a detectorist. Only one detectorist worked in any given zone so as to avoid electronic 'noise' between detectors which could obscure results.

All artefacts located via the metal detectors were hand excavated with care by the detectorist and subsequently placed in a finds bag and secured in place using a nail within the excavated hole. All artefacts were then recorded on Aeon Archaeology proformas by the attending archaeologist, recording its material, form, and probable time period. All finds were then plotted using a handheld Active 10 GPS with a spatial error margin of 10.0m.

The working hours and access times to the site were agreed in advance between the archaeological contractor, the project coordinator, and all metal detector users prior to the commencement of work. No detecting occurred outside of these hours nor without the supervision of the archaeological contractor.

The recovery policy for archaeological finds was kept under review throughout the fieldwork phase but no alterations to the recovery methodology were made.

### **3.2 Finds Methodology**

All finds were collected and processed including those found within spoil tips. Finds numbers were attributed and they were bagged and labelled as well any preliminary identification taking place on site. After processing, all artefacts were cleaned and examined in-house at Aeon Archaeology.

### **3.3 Storage and curation**

The finds are currently the property of the landowner but it is strongly recommended that these are donated to a museum for long term storage. The finds have been prepared for deposition according to the Museum and Gallery's established guidelines. A full inventory of the archive will be created to aid accession.

### **3.4 Specialist analysis**

There were no artefacts recovered that warranted specialist conservation or analysis, and as such no specialists were utilised for the production of this report.

### **3.5 Report and dissemination**

This report will be placed in the public domain by submitting it to the Lancashire Historic Environment Record and being lodged with the Oasis online database within 6 months of completion, unless the client specifically requests the report to remain confidential for a longer period.





**Plate 01:** Metal detector survey at D'Urton Lane, Eastway, Preston.

#### **4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

(Reproduced from Parsons Brinckerhoff report 3512594A)

A Scheduled Monument (SM 27849) lies immediately outside but adjacent to the south-eastern boundary of the Scheme Area, and other sites of archaeological importance lie within 0.5km of the Scheme Area including a Grade II Listed Building. However, no known remains of archaeological significance with more than a local value lie within the proposed Scheme Area, although the desk based assessment has identified some features that may be associated with historical agricultural practices. This reflects the inclusion of the site within an 'Ancient Enclosure' area as defined by Lancashire County Council's historic landscape character area.

It is proposed that a limited programme of archaeological field investigation be undertaken to mitigate the effects of the impact of the development upon two known non-designated archaeological features on the site prior to commencement. The majority of the assets appear on historic Ordnance Survey mapping and so will not be subject to further investigation.

The proposed development has the potential to alter the setting of the Scheduled Monument. Mitigation will include the provision of heritage interpretation panels and the implementation of appropriate landscaping. Areas identified as important to the setting of the monument have been identified and these areas will remain free from development to ensure setting is maintained. Consultation will continue with the Planning Archaeologist and English Heritage throughout detailed design. In addition, a secondary metal-detector survey of the employment land, particularly in the vicinity of the Scheduled Monument, will be undertaken during ground disturbance to identify any further musket balls or similarly dated artefacts associated with Civil War related activity.

## 5.0 QUANTIFICATION OF RESULTS

### 5.1 Artefacts

Post Medieval coins	4
Cu alloy artefacts	2
Lead artefacts	3
Iron artefacts	3
Bronze artefacts	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>

### 5.2 Assessment of the material archive

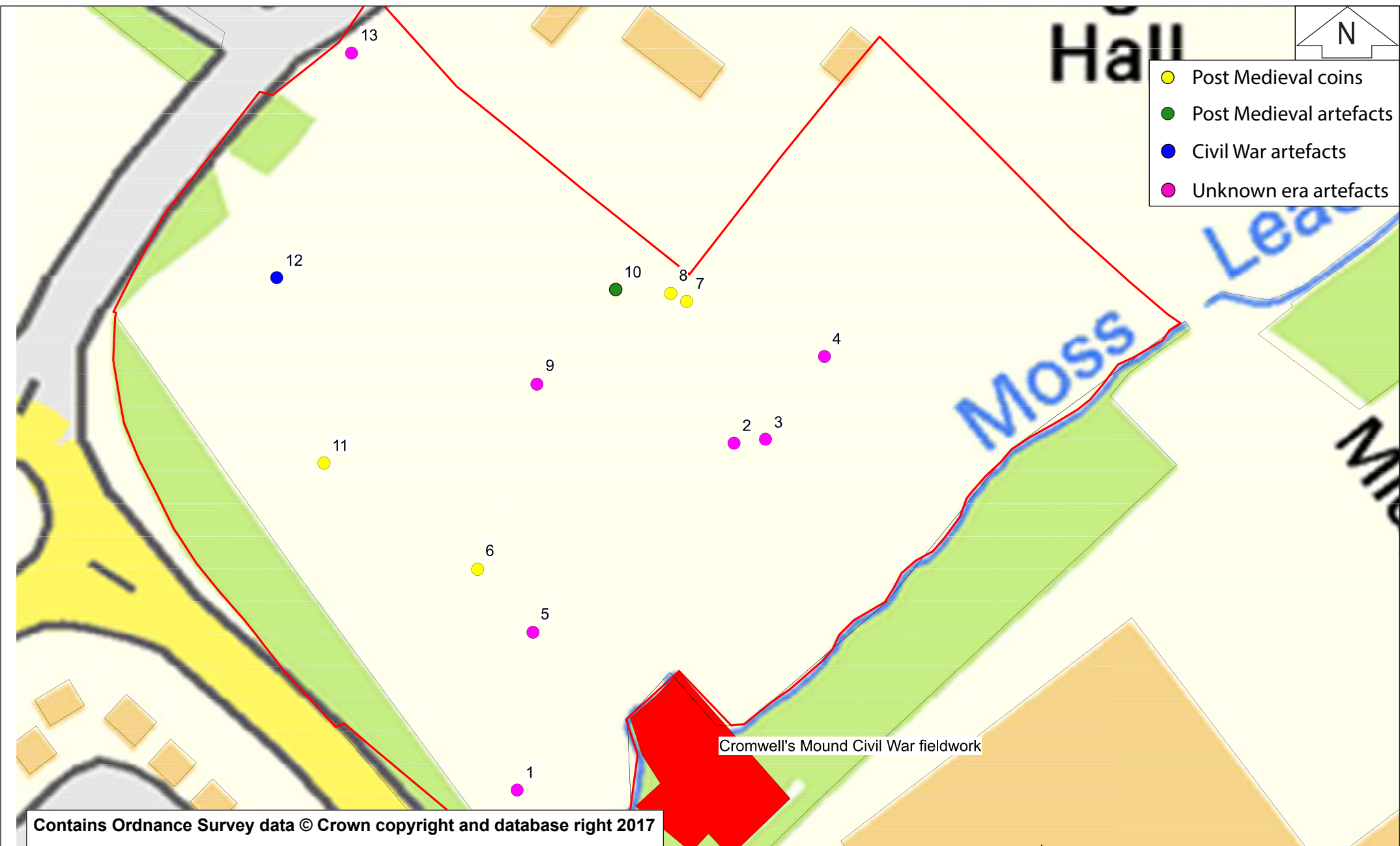
A total of thirteen artefacts were recovered during the metal detector survey. Fifty-four percent of all of the artefacts recovered were undateable sherds of miscellaneous iron or lead with an even distribution spread across the survey area. This material may have been deposited through medieval and post-medieval farming activity, although recent nearby development and modern dumping at the site are also a possibility.

The oldest artefact recovered from the site was a bronze leg (SF 12) of post-medieval date and probably dating to the Civil War period (1642-1651 AD) activity at the site. This likely belonged to a three-footed bronze cooking pot.

An iron artefact (SF 03) found at the eastern end of the site was postulated to be an iron buckle, also possibly of Civil War date, although the large size and weight of this artefact would suggest that it is more likely a post-medieval D-ring associated with agricultural activity at the site.

Aside from undateable artefacts the period most commonly represented within the material archive was the post-medieval period, which accounted for thirty-eight percent of all of the dateable artefacts recovered. Three of these artefacts (23%) were copper alloy halfpenny coins (SF 6, 7, 8) but were too degraded to date. In addition a Victorian silver shilling (SF 11) was found bearing the portrait of a young Queen Victoria suggesting a mid 19<sup>th</sup> Century date. It is likely that these coins were lost by agricultural farm workers.

Other finds of note included a possible iron button (SF 4) of unknown age, and a copper alloy button (SF 10) of post-medieval date.



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Figure 05: Distribution of artefacts found during the metal detector survey at D'Urton Lane, Eastway, Preston. Scale 1:1,250 at A4.

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### 5.3 Gazetteer of finds

No.	Artefact	Material	Period	NGR
1	Piece of iron	Iron	Unknown	SD 54237 33822
2	Piece of lead	Lead	Unknown	SD 54292 33910
3	Iron D-ring	Iron	Unknown (Post-medieval)	SD 54300 33911
4	Iron button?	Iron	Unknown	SD 54315 33932
5	Copper alloy roll	Cu alloy	Unknown	SD 54241 33862
6	Coin - halfpenny	Cu alloy	Post-medieval	SD 54227 33878
7	Coin - halfpenny	Cu alloy	Post-medieval	SD 54280 33946
8	Coin - halfpenny	Cu alloy	Post-medieval	SD 54276 33948
9	Piece of lead	Lead	Unknown	SD 54242 33925
10	Button	Cu alloy	Post-medieval	SD 54262 33949
11	Victorian silver shilling	Silver	Post-medieval	SD 54188 33905
12	Bronze leg	Bronze	Post-medieval (Civil War period?)	SD 54176 33952
13	Piece of lead	Lead	Unknown	SD 54195 34009





Plate 02: Recovered artefacts of note. Scale 0.05m.

## **6.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The earliest identifiable period represented in the material archive is the post-medieval period which includes three half-pennies, a Victorian silver shilling, and a copper alloy button. These artefacts are all small and portable, and the low number of finds from this period suggests that these were items broken or lost by a casual labour force seasonally working in the fields. There is no suggestion from any of the artefacts discovered that the site was ever occupied or utilised for anything more than agricultural land.

The most interesting artefact is the bronze leg from a three-footed cooking pot, quite possibly dating to the Civil War period activity associated with the nearby Scheduled Ancient Monument of Cromwell's Mound (SM 27849). Indeed, it is quite possible that the bronze leg broke away from the cooking pot while the army was encamped within the field.

The lack of any musket balls and indeed the low quantity of recovered artefacts strongly suggests that the field has been detected several times previously. This hypothesis is supported by the mention of recovered musket balls by detectorists in the Scheduled Ancient Monument description by English Heritage.

## **7.0 SOURCES**

English Heritage, 2006. Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment Project Manager's Guide

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014. *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation*

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014. *Standards and Guidance: Excavation*



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**D'Urton Lane, Eastway,  
Preston, Lancashire.**

**Written Scheme of Investigation  
for Archaeological Metal Detector  
Survey and Watching Brief.**

**May 2017 V 1.0**



Project Code: A0114.1  
Planning Ref: 06/2013/0349

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Planning permission has been secured by HBS Group for the development of 2.1ha of land for employment use at D'urton Lane, Eastway, Preston, Lancashire (**NGR SD 54243 33918**) (Planning Permission: **06/2013/0349**). The proposed development forms part of a larger development site that is to include the redevelopment of 29.5ha of land for mixed use development including 300 dwellings (Class C3), 2.1ha of employment land (Class B1(b); B1(c); B2 and B8), 0.7ha mixed use centre (including Class A1-A5 local shops, services, food and drink; Class B1(b) employment; Class C2/C3 residential care/nursing home; and Class D1 local community facilities), open space provision, landscaping and associated infrastructure, internal roads and footways, access junctions and new link road between Eastway and D'urton Lane.

This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) addresses the following:

### *Condition 18*

*No works on site shall take place on the parcel of land to the east of D'urton Lane, adjacent to Cromwell's Mound (Phase 3 Indicative Phasing Plan drawing (SK) \_B\_007\_PHASING\_PLAN) until the applicant, or their agent or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work. This must be carried out in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, which shall first have been submitted to and agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.*

The above condition refers to the entire mixed use development and as such the Lancashire Archaeological Advisory Service (LAAS) made the following recommendations regarding the employment allocation for which this WSI is concerned (Smith, J. 13<sup>th</sup> April 2017):

*The first phase of work should be a watching brief during the topsoil strip, which should include the carrying out of a metal detector survey, preferably by an archaeologist skilled in metal detecting. If that is not possible then an archaeologist accompanied by an appropriately skilled metal detector user should be used. This will allow the accurate recording of all finds. Any results of this work should then be used to inform the production of interpretation panels.*

The watching brief will be maintained during intrusive groundworks, as detailed below.

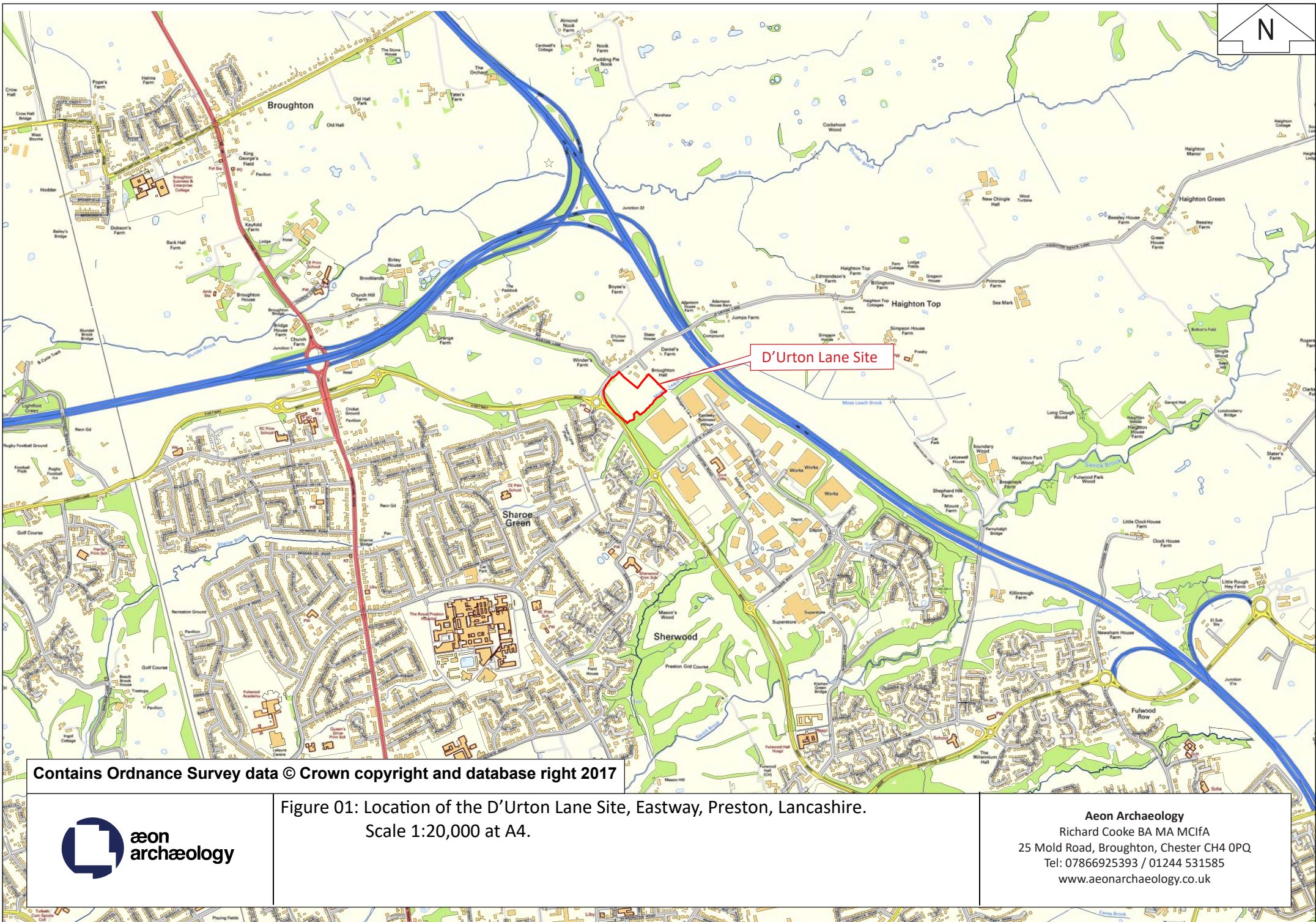
An archaeological assessment was undertaken by Parsons Brinckerhoff in 2013 (3512594A) which identified a Scheduled Monument (SM 27849) immediately outside but adjacent to the south-eastern boundary of the Scheme Area, and other sites of archaeological importance within 0.5km of the Scheme Area including a Grade II Listed Building.

This WSI states the aims, objectives and methodology for implementing the archaeological metal detector survey and watching brief so as to meet the spirit and intent of the archaeological condition.

The use of such a condition is in line with the guidance set out in paragraph 141, Section 12 (Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment) of the National Planning Policy Framework (2012), published by the Department for Communities and Local Government and Managing Significance in Decision Taking in the Historic Environment, Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning: 2 (Historic England 2015)

Reference will be made to the guidelines specified in Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014).





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Figure 01: Location of the D'Urton Lane Site, Eastway, Preston, Lancashire.  
Scale 1:20,000 at A4.

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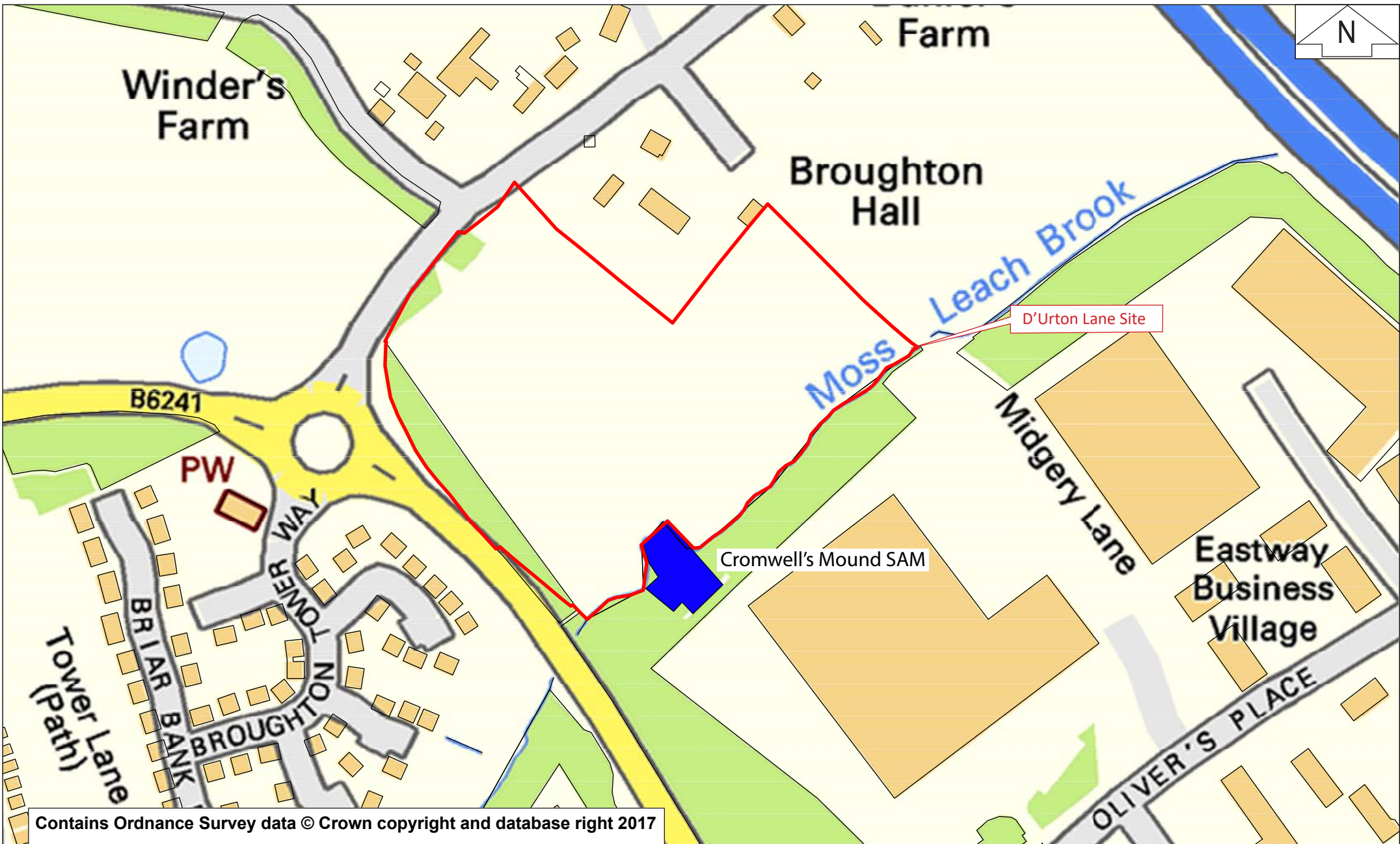
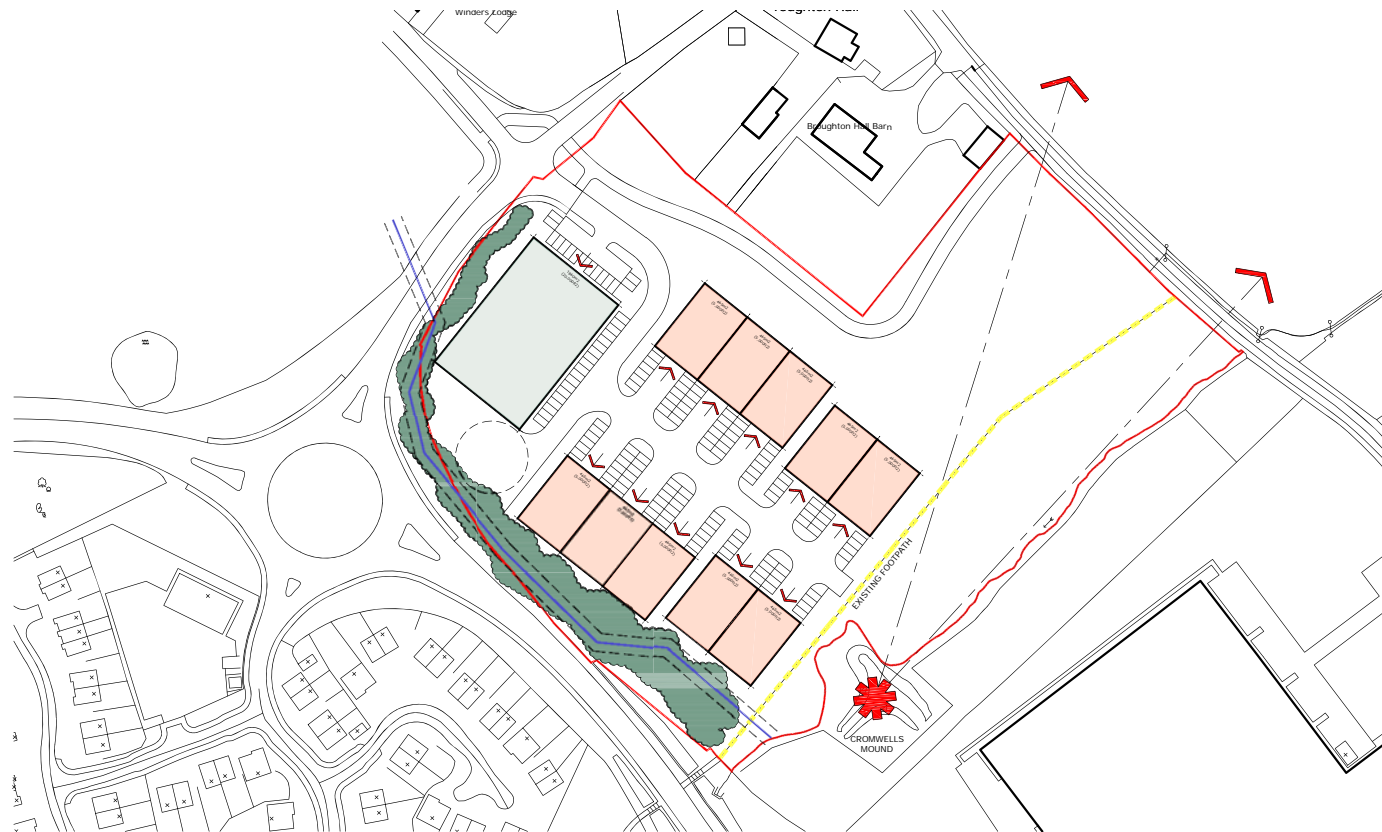


Figure 02: Location of the D'Urton Lane Site, Eastway, Preston, Lancashire.  
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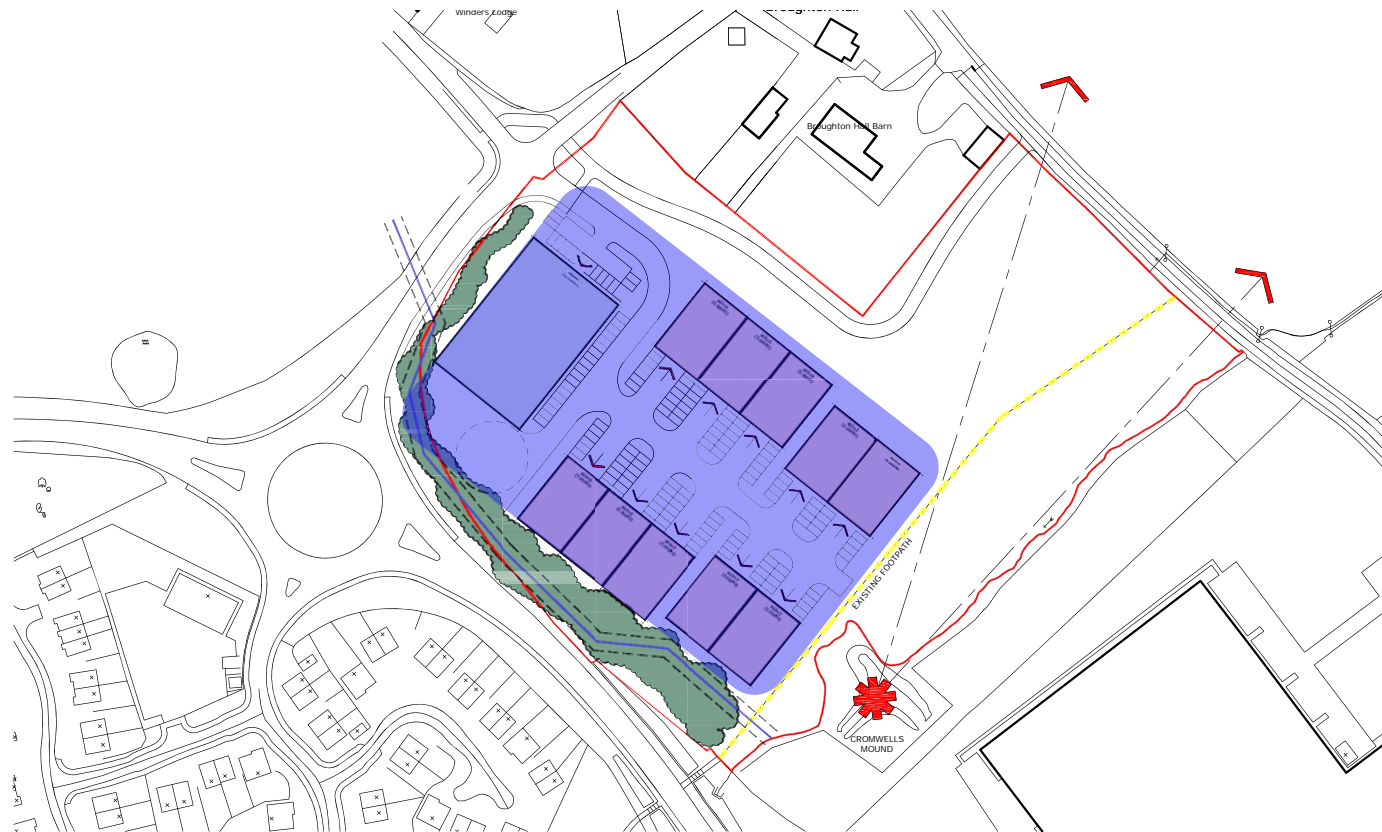


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Figure 03: Proposed development at D'Urton Lane Site, Eastway, Preston, Lancashire.  
Scale 1:2,500 at A4.

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Figure 04: Proposed metal detector survey area (shaded blue) at D'Urton Lane Site, Eastway, Preston, Lancashire. Scale 1:2,500 at A4.

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## **2.0 HISTORIC BACKGROUND**

(Reproduced from Parsons Brinckerhoff report 3512594A)

A Scheduled Monument (SM 27849) lies immediately outside but adjacent to the south-eastern boundary of the Scheme Area, and other sites of archaeological importance lie within 0.5km of the Scheme Area including a Grade II Listed Building. However, no known remains of archaeological significance with more than a local value lie within the proposed Scheme Area, although the desk based assessment has identified some features that may be associated with historical agricultural practices. This reflects the inclusion of the site within an 'Ancient Enclosure' area as defined by Lancashire County Council's historic landscape character area.

It is proposed that a limited programme of archaeological field investigation be undertaken to mitigate the effects of the impact of the development upon two known non-designated archaeological features on the site prior to commencement. The majority of the assets appear on historic Ordnance Survey mapping and so will not be subject to further investigation.

The proposed development has the potential to alter the setting of the Scheduled Monument. Mitigation will include the provision of heritage interpretation panels and the implementation of appropriate landscaping. Areas identified as important to the setting of the monument have been identified and these areas will remain free from development to ensure setting is maintained. Consultation will continue with the Planning Archaeologist and English Heritage throughout detailed design. In addition, a secondary metal-detector survey of the employment land, particularly in the vicinity of the Scheduled Monument, will be undertaken during ground disturbance to identify any further musket balls or similarly dated artefacts associated with Civil War related activity.

### 3.0 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The supervised metal detector survey will consist of the following:

- A metal detector survey of the area shown in figure 04 using twenty metre-square 'zones'.
- The recording of all discovered artefacts using Aeon proformas.
- The locating of all discovered artefacts using a Satmap Active 10 GPS with an error margin of 1.0m.
- A written and photographic record of all archaeological artefacts, including specialist assessment and reports where required.
- Preparation of a full archive report.

The archaeological watching brief shall be maintained:

- During the removal of topsoil at the Site.

The CIfA maintains a standard for archaeological watching brief which states that:

*An archaeological watching brief will record the archaeological resource during development within a specified area using appropriate methods and practices. These will satisfy the stated aims of the project, and comply with the Code of conduct and other relevant by-laws of CIfA.*

An archaeological watching brief is defined by the CIfA as a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons (CIfA 2014). The watching brief will take place within a specified area within the Site where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed.

The CIfA further identifies the purpose of a watching brief as allowing, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established in advance of development or other potentially disruptive works.

It is also important to note that a watching brief provides an opportunity, if needed, for a signal to be made to all interested parties, before the destruction of the archaeological materials, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard.

A watching brief is, therefore, not intended to reduce the requirement for excavation or preservation of known or inferred deposits, and it is intended to guide, not replace, any requirement for contingent excavation or preservation of possible deposits.

The aims of the watching brief are:

- To allow, within the resources available, the opportunity to gain information about and record the presence/absence, nature and date of archaeological remains on the Site affected by excavations and groundworks, the presence and nature of which could not be established with sufficient confidence in advance of works which may disturb them.
- To provide the facility to signal to the relevant authorities, before irreversible impact to remains that an archaeological and/or historic find has been made for which the resources

allocated to the watching brief itself are inadequate to support their treatment to an adequate and satisfactory standard.

The specific objectives of the watching brief are:

- To observe and recover any artefacts of archaeological significance.
- To record the location, dimensions and nature of any deposits, features, structures or artefacts of archaeological significance.
- To recover samples of any deposits considered to have potential for analysis for palaeoenvironmental data should the opportunity arise.

## **4.0 METHODOLOGY**

### **4.1 Archaeological Metal Detector Survey**

The whole of the proposed survey area (figure 04) will be divided into 'zones' of 20.0m square which will be surveyed by a detectorist.

All finds located via the metal detector will be hand excavated with care by the detectorist and subsequently placed in a finds bag and secured in place using a nail within its excavated hole. All artefacts will then be recorded on Aeon proformas recording its material, form, and probable time period. All finds will also be plotted using a handheld Active 10 GPS with a spatial error margin of 10.0m.

The recovery policy for archaeological finds will be kept under review throughout the fieldwork phase. Any changes in recovery priorities will be under guidance from an appropriate specialist and agreed with the LAAS. There will be a presumption against the disposal of archaeological finds regardless of their apparent age or condition.

Where specialist advice is required provision will be made to do so at the earliest possible convenience.

After processing, artefacts which are suitable will be cleaned and conserved in-house. Artefacts requiring specialist cleaning and conservation will be sent to the relevant specialist. All finds will then be sent to a specialist for analysis, the results of which will then be assessed to ascertain the potential of the finds assemblage to meet the research aims of the project. The value of the finds will also be assessed in terms of the wider educational and academic contributions.

### **4.2 Archaeological Watching Brief**

The methodology for the watching brief has been prepared with reference to the CIFA's document Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief (2014) and will be kept under constant review during the project, in order to see how far it is meeting the terms of the aims and objectives, and in order to adopt any new questions which may arise.

Curatorial monitoring of the archaeological work will be carried out by the LAAS. To facilitate the curatorial monitoring, the officer shall be provided with a minimum of two weeks' notice of the start of the archaeological work.

A suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist(s) from Aeon Archaeology will be commissioned for the maintenance of the watching brief. On arrival on site, the archaeologist(s) will report to the site manager and conform to the arrangements for notification of entering and leaving site. The archaeologist(s) will keep a record of the date, time and duration of all attendances at site, the names and numbers of archaeologists deployed and any actions taken. The archaeologist will be provided with a Health & Safety Induction by the construction contractor and wear a safety helmet, safety footwear and high visibility jacket/vest at all times.

If deposits and or artefacts are exposed during excavations for the development which require recording and recovery, it may be necessary to delay works whilst the proper investigation and recording takes place. Watching brief recording can often be undertaken without delay to groundworks, depending upon the specific circumstances and flexibility of all the staff on site.

Within the constraints of the terms of the watching brief work, the archaeologist will not cause unreasonable disruption to the maintenance of the work schedules of other contractors on site. In the event of archaeological discoveries the treatment of which (either arising from the volume/quantity of material and/or the complexity/importance of the material) is beyond the resources deployed the Client will be notified and a site meeting/telephone consultation arranged with the LAAS Development Control Archaeologist. The aim of the meeting will be to confirm that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard and identify measures which would be sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard prior to destruction of the material in question.

Any archaeological deposits, features and structures identified which can be investigated and recorded under the terms of the watching brief will be excavated manually in a controlled and stratigraphic manner sufficient to address the aims and objectives of the project – subject to the limitations on site access.

It may not be necessary to excavate the complete stratigraphic sequence to geologically lain deposits but the inter-relationships between archaeological deposits, features and structures will be investigated sufficient to address the aims and objectives of the project and the complete stratigraphic sequence to geologically lain deposits will be investigated where practicable.

The method of recording will follow the normal principles of stratigraphic excavation and the stratigraphy will be recorded in written descriptions even where no archaeological deposits have been identified. The archaeologist will record archaeological deposits using proformae recording forms and locate them on a large-scale site plan related to the Ordnance Survey National Grid and Datum references.

The groundworks excavations shall be undertaken using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket.

The drawn record will comprise plans at scale 1:20 and sections at scale 1:10; propriety electronic hardware and software to prepare site drawings may be used as appropriate.

A photographic record will be maintained throughout, using a digital SLR camera (Canon 600D) set to maximum resolution and any subsurface remains will be recorded photographically, with detailed notations and measured drawings being undertaken if required.

The archive produced will be held at Aeon Archaeology under the project code **A0114.1**.

## **4.2 Watching brief report**

### **4.2.1 Post-excavation Assessment**

A report on the results of the watching brief, in accordance with the recommendations in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment Project Manager's Guide* (English Heritage 2006; 2015), and in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (2014) will be required to be produced upon conclusion of the archaeological fieldwork. The report will be completed within a maximum of two months of completion of work on site and may include examination and quantification leading to the identification of function, form, date, method of manufacture, material/fabric type, source, parallels, attributes and condition of artefacts; of the exploitation of wild or domesticated resources; the reconstruction of environments; and the nature of human populations.

Full analysis of the results of the project, including: dating and interpretation of excavated features; pottery and other finds analysis; analysis of industrial residues by an appropriate specialist or specialists; analysis of samples for environmental data (including pollen, plant macrofossils and beetles) by an appropriate specialist or specialists; radiocarbon dating; discussion of the results in their local, regional and national context, including relating the excavated features and palaeoenvironmental data to evidence from nearby sites, and discussion of the results in their local, regional and national context may be required.

The scope of post-excavation assessment will subject to a specification for approval by the LAAS upon the conclusion of the fieldwork project and preliminary report.

### 4.2.2 Post-excavation Report

Following completion of the stages outlined above, a report will be produced that will include:

- A non-technical summary.
- A table of contents.
- An introduction with acknowledgements, including a list of all those involved in the project and the location and description of the site.
- A statement of the project aims.
- An account of the project methodology undertaken, with an assessment of the same to include a statement on preservation bias and the means of data collection and sampling strategies.
- A factual summary of the history, development and use of the site.
- A statement setting out the nature, quantity and condition of the material archive (artefacts and ecofacts) including commentary on any bias observed due to collection and sampling strategies and commentary on long-term storage requirements.
- A statement setting out the nature and quantity of the documentary archive (notes, photographs, drawings, digital data).
- A general site plan indicating the position and size of the areas subject to watching brief and the locations of archaeological deposits identified and recorded during the works.
- Plans and sections at appropriate scales, augmented with appropriate photographs. All plans and sections will be related to the Ordnance Survey datum levels and to the National Grid.
- Other maps, plans, drawings, stratigraphic matrices and photographs as appropriate.
- Summary assessment reports on the artefact, bio-archaeological, dating and other assessments/analyses.
- A discussion of the location, extent, date, nature, condition, quality and significance of any archaeological deposits and finds identified during the project.
- A discussion of any research implications arising from the archaeological work.
- Notes on consultations with conservators and the nominated archive repository related to the immediate and long-term conservation and storage requirements for the data held in the site archive and recommendations of retention/discard of artefacts and ecofacts.
- A bibliography of sources consulted.
- Appendices to the report will include artefact catalogues, reports on assessments/analyses and an index to the project archive and a statement on its location/proposed repository.
- In addition the post-excavation report will summarise and draw together the findings of all of the phases of work.

### 4.3 Archive

A full archive including plans, photographs, written material and any other material resulting from the project will be prepared. All plans, photographs and descriptions will be labelled, and cross-referenced, and archived within a suitable repository to be agreed in advance with the LAAS Development Control Archaeologist. Copies of the report will be lodged with the Lancashire Historic Environment Record (HER); LAAS Development Control Archaeologist; and Oasis online database within six months of the completion of the project.



## 5.0 FURTHER ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORKS

The identification of significant archaeological features during the watching brief stage may necessitate further archaeological works. This will require the submission of new cost estimates to the contractor and may be subject to a separate WSI, to be agreed with the Shropshire Development Control Archaeologist prior to implementation.

This WSI does not include a methodology or cost for examination of, conservation of, or archiving of finds discovered during the watching brief, nor of any radiocarbon dates required, nor of examination of palaeoenvironmental samples associated with any peat deposits. The need for these will be identified in the post-fieldwork programme (if required), and a new WSI will be issued for approval by the LAAS Development Control Archaeologist prior to implementation.

## 6.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES

If necessary, relevant archaeological deposits will be sampled by taking bulk samples (a minimum of 10.0 litres and maximum of 30.0 litres) for flotation of charred plant remains. Bulk samples will be taken from waterlogged deposits for macroscopic plant remains. Other bulk samples, for example from middens, may be taken for small animal bones and small artefacts.

Bulk environmental samples will also be taken from any fills, deposits or structures which yield archaeological artefacts, charcoal flecks/ fragments, bone, or any other historic remains.

Advice and guidance regarding environmental samples and their suitability for radiocarbon dating, as well as the analysis of macrofossils (charcoal and wood), pollen, animal bones and molluscs will be obtained from Oxford Archaeology.

For guidance purposes the following volume criteria represent the minimum feature sampling requirements:

- 50% of each discrete feature (e.g. pits and postholes)
- 25% of the exposed areas of each liner feature and all terminals/intersections
- 50% of structural features (e.g. beamslots, ring-ditches)
- 50%-100% of domestic/industrial working features (e.g. hearths and ovens)

## 7.0 HUMAN REMAINS

Any finds of human remains will be left *in-situ*, covered and protected, and both the coroner and the LAAS Development Control Archaeologist informed. If removal is necessary it will take place under appropriate regulations and with due regard for health and safety issues. In order to excavate human remains, a licence is required under Section 25 of the Burials Act 1857 for the removal of any body or remains of any body from any place of burial. This will be applied for should human remains need to be investigated or moved.

## 8.0 SMALL FINDS

The vast majority of finds recovered from archaeological excavations comprise pottery fragments, bone, environmental and charcoal samples, and non-valuable metal items such as nails. Often many of these finds become unstable (i.e. they begin to disintegrate) when removed from the ground. All finds are the property of the landowner; however, it is recommended that all finds are donated to an appropriate museum (Neath Port Talbot Museum Service) where they can receive specialist treatment and study. Access to finds must be granted to Aeon Archaeology for a reasonable period to allow for analysis and for study and publication as necessary. All finds would be treated according to advice provided within *First Aid for Finds* (Rescue 1999). Aeon Archaeology staff will undertake initial identification, but any additional advice would be sought from a wide range of consultants.

The recovery policy for archaeological finds will be kept under review throughout the fieldwork phase. Any changes in recovery priorities will be under guidance from an appropriate specialist and agreed with the LAAS Development Control Archaeologist. There will be a presumption against the disposal of archaeological finds with the exception of unstratified items dating to the twentieth or twenty-first centuries AD which will be recorded by material, type, form, identification and weight, and discarded.

All finds will be collected and processed including those found within spoil tips. Their location will be recorded; finds numbers attributed, bagged and labelled as well any preliminary identification taking place on site. Where specialist advice is required provision will be made to do so at the earliest possible convenience.

After processing, artefacts which are suitable will be cleaned and conserved in-house. Artefacts requiring specialist cleaning and conservation will be sent to the relevant specialist. All finds will then be sent to a specialist for analysis, the results of which will then be assessed to ascertain the potential of the finds assemblage to meet the research aims of the project. The value of the finds will also be assessed in terms of the wider educational and academic contributions.

## 9.0 UNEXPECTED DISCOVERIES: TREASURE TROVE

Treasure Trove law has been amended by the Treasure Act 1996. The following are Treasure under the Act:

- *Objects other than coins* any object other than a coin provided that it contains at least 10% gold or silver and is at least 300 years old when found.
- *Coins* all coins from the same find provided they are at least 300 years old when found (if the coins contain less than 10% gold or silver there must be at least 10. Any object or coin is part of the same find as another object or coin, if it is found in the same place as, or had previously been left together with, the other object. Finds may have become scattered since they were originally deposited in the ground. Single coin finds of gold or silver are not classed as treasure under the 1996 Treasure Act.
- *Associated objects* any object whatever it is made of, that is found in the same place as, or that had previously been together with, another object that is treasure.
- *Objects that would have been treasure trove* any object that would previously have been treasure trove, but does not fall within the specific categories given above. These objects have to be made substantially of gold or silver, they have to be buried with the intention of recovery and their owner or his heirs cannot be traced.

The following types of finds are not treasure:

- Objects whose owners can be traced.
- Unworked natural objects, including human and animal remains, even if they are found in association with treasure.

Objects from the foreshore which are not wreck.

All finds of treasure must be reported to the coroner for the district within fourteen days of discovery or identification of the items. Items declared Treasure Trove become the property of the Crown.

The British Museum will decide whether they or any other museum may wish to acquire the object. If no museum wishes to acquire the object, then the Secretary of State will be able to disclaim it. When this happens, the coroner will notify the occupier and landowner that he intends to return the object to the finder after 28 days unless he receives no objection. If the coroner receives an objection, the find will be retained until the dispute has been settled.

## **10.0 STAFF & TIMETABLE**

### **10.1 Staff**

The work will be managed and undertaken by Richard Cooke BA MA MCifA, Archaeological Contractor and Consultant at Aeon Archaeology.

### **10.2 Timetable**

The evaluation work can currently be undertaken from May 2017, although the client is encouraged to give as much notice as possible to Aeon Archaeology as project commitments are currently high.

## **11.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY**

Aeon Archaeology has a Health and Safety Policy Statement which can be supplied upon request. Furthermore, site-specific Risk Assessments and Method Statements are compiled and distributed to every member of staff involved with the project prior to the commencement of works.

## **12.0 INSURANCE**

Liability Insurance – Insignia Underwriting Policy 347002

- Employers' Liability: Limit of Indemnity £10m in any one occurrence
- Public Liability: Limit of Indemnity £2m in any one occurrence
- Legal Defence Costs (Health and Safety at Work Act): £250,000

The current period expires 07/09/17

Professional Indemnity Insurance – Insignia Underwriting Policy 347002

- Limit of Indemnity £500,000 any one claim

The current period expires 07/09/17

### **13.0 GENERAL**

All project staff will adhere to the Code of Conduct of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

The project will follow the requirements set down in the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief* prepared by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

A Method Statement and Risk Assessment will be prepared prior to the commencement of fieldwork and circulated to all staff concerned.

Please note the following:

Aeon Archaeology will not be held responsible for any delays to the work programme resulting from the discovery of archaeological sites or finds.

The cost quoted does not include examination of, conservation of or archiving of finds discovered during the archaeological programme, nor of any radiocarbon dates required, nor of examination of palaeoenvironmental samples.

### **14.0 SPECIALISTS**

Specialist advice required will be sought from the following list if required:

- Bone: Nora Bermingham
- Glass: Hilary Cool, Barbican Research Associates.
- Metal artefacts: Phil Parkes, Cardiff Conservation Services, Cardiff.
- Slag, burnt clay, hammerscale: Dr. Tim Young, Geoarch, Cardiff.
- Stone artefacts: Oxford Archaeology
- Wood artefacts: Jane Foley, Foley Conservation, Builth Wells.
- Leather: Quita Mould, Barbican Research Associates.
- Waterlogged environmental: Dr Mike Allen, Allen Environmental Archaeology.
- Environmental samples: Oxford Archaeology
- Numismatics: Peter Guest, Barbican Research Associates.
- Pottery (all periods): Oxford Archaeology
- Clay pipe: Oxford Archaeology

Depending upon the material of the remains the following experts will be consulted regarding the conservation of waterlogged material:

- Organic material: Mr Phil Parkes, Cardiff Conservation Services (tel: +44(0)29 2087 5628)
- Non-organic material: Mr Phil Parkes, Cardiff Conservation Services (tel: +44(0)29 2087 5628)

