

# Darlington Crematorium, County Durham

Report on an Archaeological Evaluation



Solstice Heritage LLP  
Crabtree Hall  
Little Holtby  
Northallerton  
North Yorkshire  
DL7 9NY

[www.solsticeheritage.co.uk](http://www.solsticeheritage.co.uk)



# Darlington Crematorium, County Durham

---



## Report on an Archaeological Evaluation

Prepared for:	Kevin Bayliss Align Property Partners Morgan House Mount View Standard Way Northallerton DL6 2YD
Prepared by:	Chris Scott BA (Hons), MA, MCIfA Scott Williams BSc (Hons), PhD, MCIfA Solstice Heritage LLP Crabtree Hall Little Holtby Northallerton North Yorkshire DL7 9NY
Checked by:	Jim Brightman BA (Hons), MLitt, MCIfA
Set by:	Scott Williams BSc (hons), PhD, MCIfA
Project Reference:	SOL1920-108
Document Reference:	DOC1920-110
Dates of Fieldwork:	February 2020
Date of Document:	February 2020
Document Version:	1.0

### Assumptions and Limitations

Data and information obtained and consulted in the compilation of this report has been derived from a number of secondary sources. Where it has not been practicable to verify the accuracy of secondary information, its accuracy has been assumed in good faith. The information accessed from the relevant HER and national lists of designated heritage assets represents a record of known assets and their discovery and further investigation. Such information is not complete and does not preclude the subsequent discovery of additional assets and the amendment of information about known assets which may affect their significance and/or sensitivity to development effects. All statements and opinions arising from the works undertaken are provided in good faith and compiled according to professional standards. No responsibility can be accepted by the author/s of the report for any errors of fact or opinion resulting from data supplied by any third party, or for loss or other consequence arising from decisions or actions made upon the basis of facts or opinions expressed in any such report(s), howsoever such facts and opinions may have been derived.

### Copyright

Solstice Heritage LLP will retain the copyright of all documentary and photographic material under the Copyright, Designs and Patent Act (1988). The Essex County Council HER will be granted licence to use the report for its purposes, which may include photocopying

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Acknowledgements</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Executive Summary</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>1. Introduction</b>	<b>3</b>
1.1 Project Background	3
1.2 Site Location and Description of Works	3
1.3 Aims and Objectives	3
<b>2. Archaeological and Historical Background</b>	<b>6</b>
2.1 Landscape and Geology	6
2.2 Previous Work	6
2.3 Potential Significance	6
2.4 Relevant Research Agenda	6
<b>3. Results</b>	<b>7</b>
3.1 Introduction	7
3.2 General Stratigraphy	7
3.3 Trench 1	7
3.4 Trench 2	7
3.5 Trench 3	7
3.6 Trench 4	7
3.7 Trench 5	7
3.8 Trench 6	7
3.9 Trench 7	8
3.10 Trench 8	8
3.11 Trench 9	8
3.12 Trench 10	8
3.13 Trench 11	8
<b>4. Discussion</b>	<b>17</b>
4.1 Geology and Geomorphology	17
4.2 Modern	17
<b>5. Conclusions</b>	<b>18</b>
5.1 Confidence, Constraints and Limitations	18
5.2 Research Potential	18
5.3 Potential Impacts on the Archaeological Resource	18
5.4 Recommendations	18
5.5 Project Archive	18
<b>6. Sources</b>	<b>19</b>
6.1 Bibliography	19
6.2 Websites	19
<b>Appendix 1 – Context Register</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Appendix 2 – Policy and Guidance Framework</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Appendix 3 – Methodology</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Appendix 4 – Written Scheme of Investigation</b>	<b>26</b>



## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1 Site location.....	4
Figure 2 Location of groundworks.....	5
Figure 3 Trench 1, facing south east. Scale 1x1 m, 1x2 m.....	9
Figure 4 South-west facing section of Trench 1. Scale 1x1 m.....	9
Figure 5 Trench 4, facing south-east. Scale 1x1 m, 1x2 m.....	10
Figure 6 North-east facing section of Trench 4. Scale 1x1 m.....	10
Figure 7 Trench 5, facing east. Scale 1x1 m, 1x2 m.....	11
Figure 8 South facing section of Trench 5. Scale 1x1 m.....	11
Figure 9 Trench 6, facing south-east. Scale 1x1 m, 1x2 m.....	12
Figure 10 North-east facing section of Trench 6. Scale 1x1 m.....	12
Figure 11 Trench 7, facing south. Scale 1x1 m, 1x2 m.....	13
Figure 12 East facing section of Trench 7. Scale 1x1 m.....	13
Figure 13 Trench 8, facing east. Scale 1x1 m, 1x2 m.....	14
Figure 14 South facing section of Trench 8. Scale 1x1 m.....	14
Figure 15 Trench 10, facing north-west. Scale 1x1 m, 1x2 m.....	15
Figure 16 South-west facing section of Trench 10. Scale 1x1 m.....	15
Figure 17 Trench 11, facing south-east. Scale 1x1 m, 1x2 m.....	16
Figure 18 South-west facing section of Trench 11. Scale 1x1 m.....	16

## LIST OF TABLES

Table 1 Context Register.....	20
Table 2 Legislation relating to relevant cultural heritage in planning.....	21
Table 3 Key passages of NPPF in reference to cultural heritage (archaeology).....	22
Table 4 Summary of relevant local planning policy.....	22
Table 5 Guidance documentation consulted.....	23







## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Solstice Heritage LLP would like to thank Darlington Borough Council and their agent, Kevin Bayliss of Align Property Partners, for commissioning this evaluation work. Thanks are also expressed to Nick Boldrini of Durham County Council for his assistance with the project. Where map data has been used in the preparation of the accompanying figures, this is derived from Ordnance Survey Opendata and is crown copyright all rights reserved unless otherwise attributed.



## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*This report has been prepared by Solstice Heritage LLP on behalf of Align Property Partners to outline the results of an archaeological evaluation. The evaluation was required by Durham County Council and is in support of the proposed development at Darlington Crematorium (ref: 19/O1185/DC). The design of the scheme of evaluation was based upon a Written Scheme of Investigation produced by Solstice Heritage LLP (Snowden 2020).*

*The proposed development site is located on land to the west of Darlington Crematorium (centred on NGR NZ 26857 13925) and covers an area of c. 1.23 ha. Current use of the site is unused grassland. The site lies at approximately 52 m aOD.*

*No archaeologically significant features or deposits were encountered during the evaluation work. However, a number of modern features related to drainage were observed across the site.*

*Linear cuts for modern drainage pipes were recorded in Trenches 6, 10, and 11. These features were aligned along a general west to east orientation which corresponded with the strong anomalies identified during geophysical survey. A modern drain aligned along a north-eastern orientation—which, when projected along its length, corresponded with the location of a drain inspection chamber—was observed towards the southern end of Trench 1, and appeared to correspond with the location of an anomaly identified through geophysics.*

*Field drains, comprising ceramic pipes, were observed within Trenches 1, 6, 7, and 11, and a French drain, which comprised gravel pressed into the natural substrate, was observed in Trench 8.*

*Whilst the location of Trenches 2, 3, and 9 was under water due to heavy flooding, and therefore these trenches remain unexcavated, it is considered that the results of the current monitoring work have proven sufficient to characterise the anomalous features identified through geophysical survey and potential within the proposed development site, and therefore it is suggested that no further archaeological work is required.*

# 1. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

This report has been prepared by Solstice Heritage LLP on behalf of Align Property Partners to outline the results of an archaeological evaluation. The evaluation was required by Durham County Council and is in support of the proposed development at Darlington Crematorium (ref: 19/O1185/DC). The design of the scheme of evaluation was based upon a Written Scheme of Investigation produced by Solstice Heritage LLP (Snowden 2020).

## 1.2 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION OF WORKS

The proposed development site is located on land to the west of Darlington Crematorium (centred on NGR NZ 26857 13925) and covers an area of c. 1.23 ha. Current use of the site is unused grassland. The site lies at approximately 52 m aOD. (Figure 1).

## 1.3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Archaeological field evaluation is defined as:

“A limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. If such archaeological remains are present field evaluation defines their character, extent, quality and preservation, and enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate” (ClfA 2014, 2).

The overarching aim of the evaluation was:

- To gain information about the archaeological resource within the site (including its presence or absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality), in order to make an assessment of its merit in the context of the proposed development.

The objectives of the evaluation were:

- To attempt to establish the date, character and significance of any archaeological and palaeoenvironmental deposits, including in relation to other similar features within the area.
- The formulation of a strategy to ensure the recording, preservation or management of the archaeological resource.
- The formulation of a strategy to mitigate the threat to the archaeological resource.
- The formulation of a proposal for further archaeological investigation, if required.
- To ensure there is a permanent record of the work undertaken deposited with the local Historic Environment Record (HER) and made available online
- To ensure all work is undertaken in compliance with the *Code of Conduct* of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (ClfA) (2019) and the *ClfA Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (2014), *Standards for All Archaeological Work in County Durham and Darlington* (DCCAS 2019) and *Yorkshire, the Humber and the North-East: A Regional Statement of Good Practice for Archaeology in the Development Process* (SYAS 2011).
- To ensure compliance with the WSI.

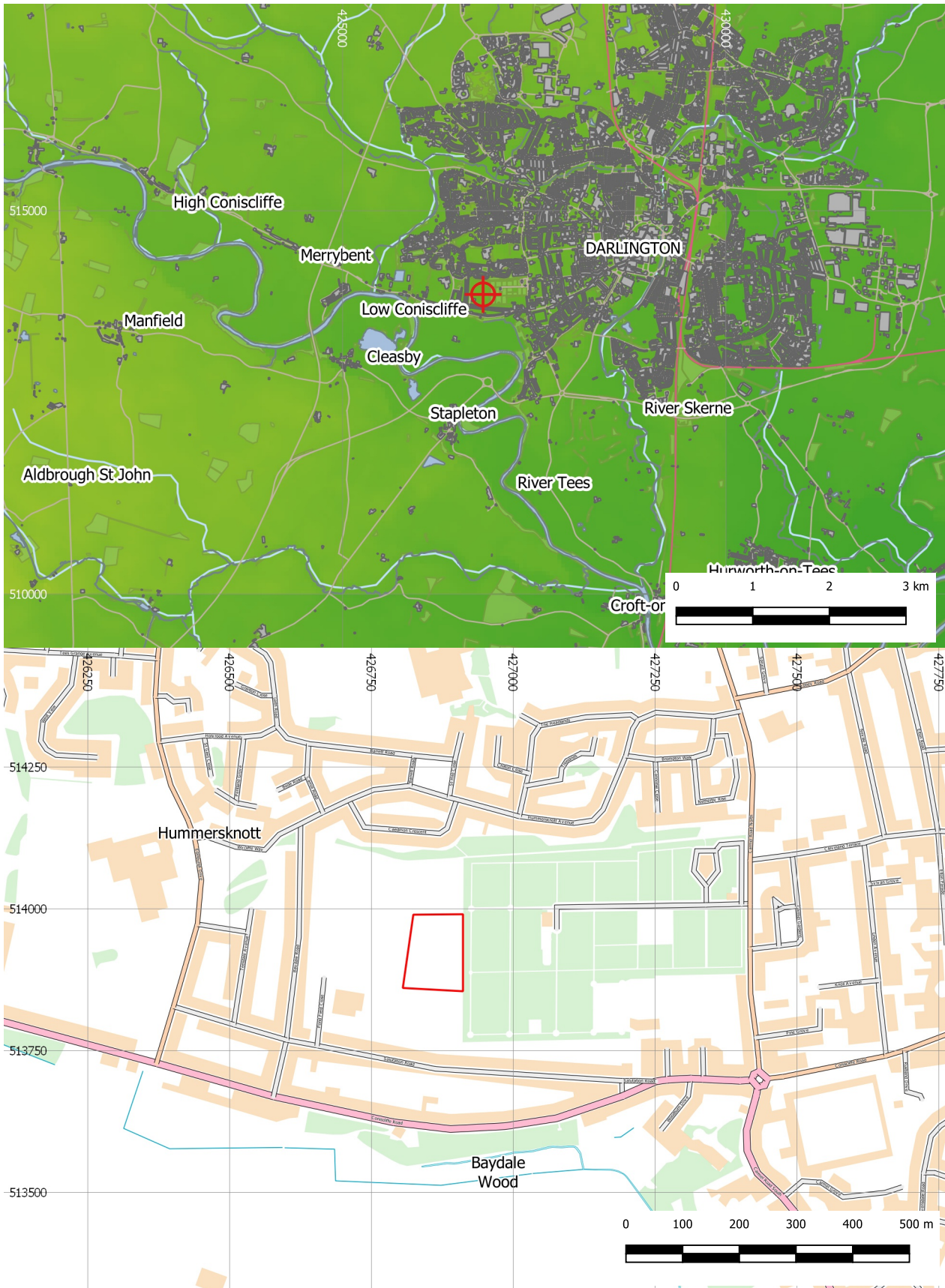
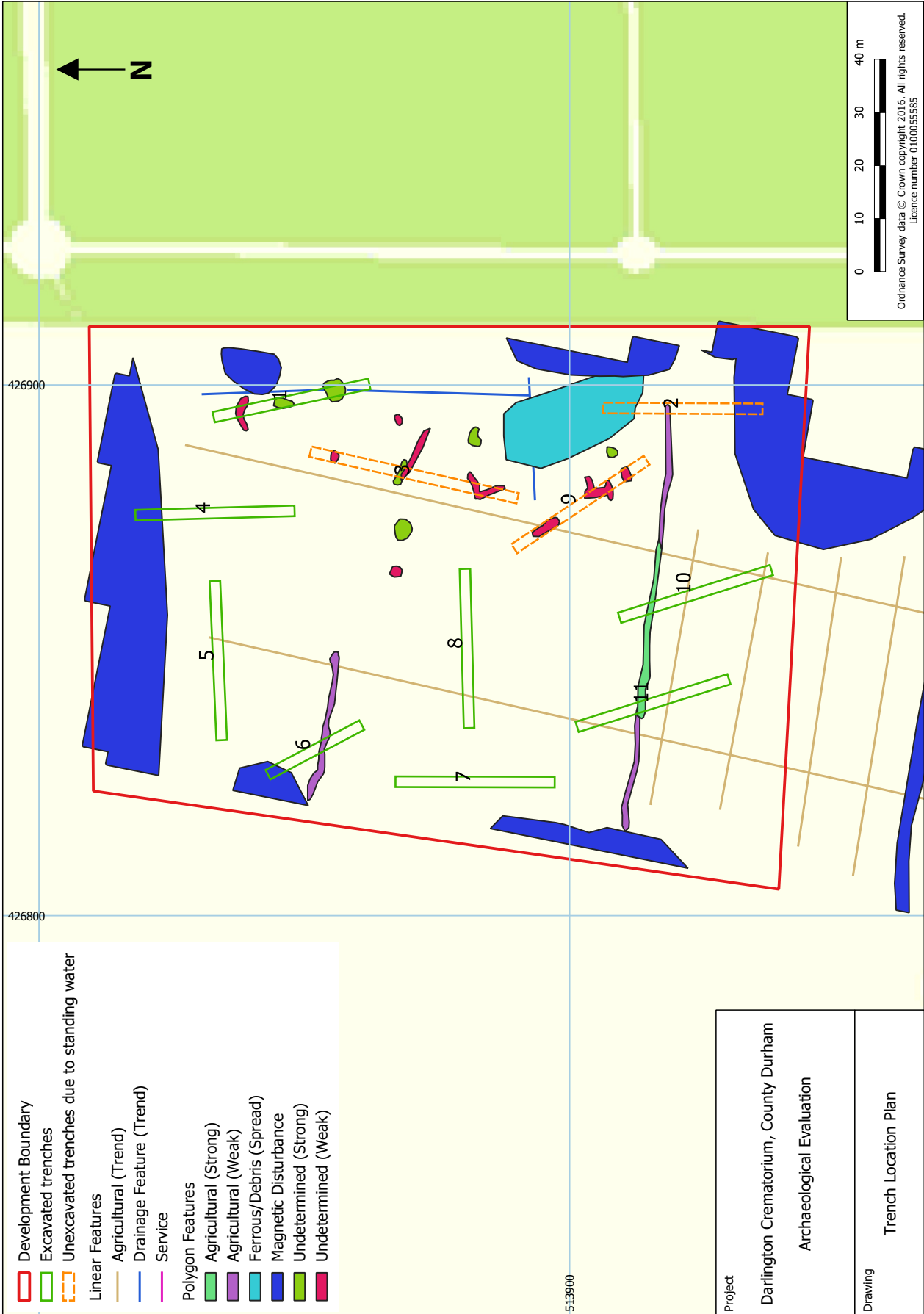


Figure 1 Site location



## 2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

### 2.1 LANDSCAPE AND GEOLOGY

The proposed development sits within the “Tees Lowlands” National Character Area (NCA), which forms “a broad, open plain dominated by the meandering lower reaches of the River Tess and its tributaries, with wide views to distant hills” (NE 2013, 3).

The underlying superficial geology of the proposed development site is mapped as a gravel, sand, and silt of Hummocky Glacial Deposits and Glacial Till, with an underlying mudstone, calcareous bedrock geology of the Edlington Formation (BGS 2020).

Online mapping provided by the UK Soil Observatory (UKSO 2020) characterises the soils across the area of proposed development as “Slowly permeable seasonally wet slightly acid but base-rich loamy and clayey soils” with impeded drainage.

### 2.2 PREVIOUS WORK

A Heritage Impact Assessment was undertaken in 2019, which identified the potential for prehistoric settlement in this part of Darlington (Snowden 2019). This was followed by a geophysical survey of the site (Magnitude Surveys 2020), which yielded evidence of historic field boundaries and cultivation as well as anomalies in the north-eastern part of the site, both of which are being targeted as part of this evaluation.

### 2.3 POTENTIAL SIGNIFICANCE

Any potential evidence relating to prehistoric settlement would likely be of medium significance, given the relatively undeveloped nature of the site.

### 2.4 RELEVANT RESEARCH AGENDA

Given the wide potential for varied archaeological remains identified for this site, and the lack of certain archaeological attributions, it was uncertain exactly what information the evaluation might contribute to address the research themes identified within the *North East Regional Research Framework* (Petts and Gerrard 2006).



## 3. RESULTS

### 3.1 INTRODUCTION

Results of the evaluation are presented here by trench, with a note on general, site-wide stratigraphy.

### 3.2 GENERAL STRATIGRAPHY

The topsoil was generally a homogeneous clayey silt which varied from mid-greyish brown to dark brown across the site, with an average thickness of c. 0.33 m. A discontinuous subsoil was observed within Trenches 4 and 8, which varied between 0.20 m and 0.30 m in thickness. The natural substrate across the proposed development area generally remained a light orange brown silty to sandy clay.

### 3.3 TRENCH 1

Trench 1 was excavated in the north-eastern corner of the proposed development site (Figure 3). The trench measured 30 m by 2 m and was generally aligned along a north-north-west to south-south-east orientation. The trench was excavated through a mid-greyish brown, clayey silt topsoil (100), which measured 0.35 m in thickness, and had occasional round pebble inclusions (Figure 4). The topsoil immediately overlay an orange-brown, silty clay natural substrate (102) with fragmented sandstone inclusions. A modern drain measuring c. 3.2 m wide, aligned along a north-eastern orientation—which, when projected along its length, corresponded with the location of a drain inspection chamber—was observed towards the southern end of the trench, and a field drain aligned roughly parallel was observed towards the north of the trench. No archaeologically significant features or deposits were encountered.

### 3.4 TRENCH 2

Due to continued poor weather, the area in the south-eastern corner of the proposed development site was flooded and remained underwater for the duration of the work. Therefore, this trench was omitted from this phase of work.

### 3.5 TRENCH 3

Due to continued poor weather, the area in the south-eastern corner of the proposed development site was flooded and remained underwater for the duration of the work. Therefore, this trench was omitted from this phase of work.

### 3.6 TRENCH 4

Trench 4 was excavated towards the northern extent of the proposed development site (Figure 5). The trench measured 30 m by 2 m and was generally aligned along a north to south orientation. The trench was excavated through a mid-greyish brown, clayey silt topsoil (400), which measured 0.32 m in thickness, and had occasional round pebble inclusions (Figure 6). The topsoil immediately overlay a light brown, silty clay subsoil (401), which measured 0.20 m in thickness. The subsoil immediately overlay an orange-brown, silty clay natural substrate (402) with fragmented sandstone inclusions. No archaeologically significant features or deposits were encountered.

### 3.7 TRENCH 5

Trench 5 was excavated towards the north-western extent of the proposed development site (Figure 7). The trench measured 30 m by 2 m and was generally aligned along an east to west orientation. The trench was excavated through a dark grey brown, silty topsoil (500), which measured 0.30 m in thickness (Figure 8). The topsoil immediately overlay a light orange-brown, silty clay natural substrate (501). No archaeologically significant features or deposits were encountered.

### 3.8 TRENCH 6

Trench 6 was excavated towards the north-western extent of the proposed development site, immediately south-west of Trench 5 (Figure 9). The trench measured 20 m by 2 m and was generally aligned along a north-west to south-east orientation. The trench was excavated through a mid-grey brown, silty clay topsoil (600), which measured 0.32 m in thickness (Figure 10). The topsoil immediately overlay a light orange-brown, silty clay natural substrate (601). A ceramic field drain, aligned west to east, was observed at the northern end of the trench. The geophysical anomaly identified through survey was located towards the southern end of the trench. Investigation showed that this feature

was a c. 4 m wide shallow cut trench for a large ceramic drain, aligned west to east. The shallow trench was filled with topsoil. No archaeologically significant features or deposits were encountered.

### 3.9 TRENCH 7

Trench 7 was excavated towards the western boundary of the proposed development site (Figure 11). The trench measured 30 m by 2 m and was aligned along a north to south orientation. The trench was excavated through a mid-grey brown, silty clay topsoil (700), which measured 0.30 m in thickness (Figure 12). The topsoil immediately overlay a light orange-brown, silty clay natural substrate (501) with regular, small- to large-sized angular stone inclusions. A field drain was observed in the northern end of the trench. No archaeologically significant features or deposits were encountered.

### 3.10 TRENCH 8

Trench 8 was excavated towards the centre of the proposed development site (Figure 13). The trench measured 30 m by 2 m and was aligned along an east to west orientation. The trench was excavated through a mid-grey brown, silty clay topsoil (800), which measured 0.32 m in thickness (Figure 14). The topsoil immediately overlay a light brown, silty clay subsoil (801), which measured 0.30 m in thickness, and had flecks of charcoal inclusions. The subsoil immediately overlay a light orange-brown, sandy clay natural substrate (802) with fragmented sandstone inclusions. A French drain, which was pressed into the natural substrate, was observed c. 4 m from the eastern end of the trench. No archaeologically significant features or deposits were encountered.

### 3.11 TRENCH 9

Due to continued poor weather, the area in the south-eastern corner of the proposed development site was flooded and remained underwater for the duration of the work. Therefore, this trench was omitted from this phase of work.

### 3.12 TRENCH 10

Trench 10 was excavated towards the central southern extent of the proposed development site (Figure 15). The trench measured 30 m by 2 m and was aligned along a north-north-west to south-south-east orientation. The trench was excavated through a mid-grey brown, silty clay topsoil (1000), which measured 0.42 m in thickness (Figure 16). The topsoil immediately overlay a light orange-brown, sandy clay natural substrate (1001). A cut for a modern pipe, aligned west to east, was observed towards the northern end of the trench. This feature corresponded with a ceramic pipe observed on the same alignment in Trench 11 to the west. No archaeologically significant features or deposits were encountered.

### 3.13 TRENCH 11

Trench 11 was excavated towards the south western extent of the proposed development site (Figure 17). The trench measured 30 m by 2 m and was aligned along a north-north-west to south-south-east orientation. The trench was excavated through a dark brown, silty topsoil (1100), which measured 0.30 m in thickness (Figure 18). The topsoil immediately overlay a light beige/yellow, sandy clay natural substrate (1101). A field drain was observed in the northern end of the trench. A cut for a modern pipe, which measured c. 1 m wide and was aligned west to east, was observed to the centre north of the trench. This feature corresponded with a modern pipe cut observed on the same alignment in Trench 10 to the east. No archaeologically significant features or deposits were encountered.



Figure 3 Trench 1, facing south east. Scale 1x1 m, 1x2 m



Figure 4 South-west facing section of Trench 1. Scale 1x1 m





Figure 5 Trench 4, facing south-east. Scale 1x1 m, 1x2 m



Figure 6 North-east facing section of Trench 4. Scale 1x1 m





Figure 7 Trench 5, facing east. Scale 1x1 m, 1x2 m



Figure 8 South facing section of Trench 5. Scale 1x1 m





Figure 9 Trench 6, facing south-east. Scale 1x1 m, 1x2 m



Figure 10 North-east facing section of Trench 6. Scale 1x1 m





Figure 11 Trench 7, facing south. Scale 1x1 m, 1x2 m



Figure 12 East facing section of Trench 7. Scale 1x1 m





Figure 13 Trench 8, facing east. Scale 1x1 m, 1x2 m



Figure 14 South facing section of Trench 8. Scale 1x1 m





Figure 15 Trench 10, facing north-west. Scale 1x1 m, 1x2 m



Figure 16 South-west facing section of Trench 10. Scale 1x1 m





Figure 17 Trench 11, facing south-east. Scale 1x1 m, 1x2 m



Figure 18 South-west facing section of Trench 11. Scale 1x1 m

## 4. DISCUSSION

### 4.1 GEOLOGY AND GEOMORPHOLOGY

The evaluation has characterised the underlying substrate as being made up of a light orange-brown, silty to sandy clay, which remained homogeneous across the site. A discontinuous subsoil was observed within Trenches 4 and 8 but was absent elsewhere across the site.

### 4.2 MODERN

No archaeologically significant features or deposits were encountered during the evaluation work. However, a number of modern features related to drainage were observed across the site.

Linear cuts for modern drainage pipes were recorded in Trenches 6, 10, and 11. These features were aligned along a general west to east orientation which corresponded with the strong anomalies identified during geophysical survey. A modern drain aligned along a north-eastern orientation—which, when projected along its length, corresponded with the location of a drain inspection chamber—was observed towards the southern end of Trench 1, and appeared to correspond with the location of an anomaly identified through geophysics.

Field drains, comprising ceramic pipes, were observed within Trenches 1, 6, 7, and 11, and a French drain, which comprised gravel pressed into the natural substrate, was observed in Trench 8.

Whilst the location of Trenches 2, 3, and 9 was under water due to heavy flooding, and therefore these trenches remain unexcavated, it is considered that the results of the current monitoring work have proven sufficient to characterise the anomalous features identified through geophysical survey and potential within the proposed development site, and therefore it is suggested that no further archaeological work is required.

## 5. CONCLUSIONS

### 5.1 CONFIDENCE, CONSTRAINTS AND LIMITATIONS

Due to ongoing poor weather conditions, Trenches 2, 3, and 9 were omitted from the current phase of work. The south-eastern corner of the proposed development site was flooded and remained underwater throughout the duration of the archaeological excavation. The omission of these trenches has impacted the ability to test the ovoid geophysical anomaly which had been interpreted as a ferrous/debris spread, as well as a number of other smaller anomalies (Magnitude Surveys 2020). Given its location at a natural low point in the field, it is suggested that the larger anomaly probably represents sedimentation of this area through repeated flooding in contrast to the rest of the site. Similar anomaly types to those missed through the omission of Trenches 3 and 9 were tested in Trench 1, where no significant archaeological features were uncovered.

### 5.2 RESEARCH POTENTIAL

Given the lack of archaeological features or deposits detected during this evaluation work, the site is not considered to have the potential to contribute to any of the research themes identified within the *North East Regional Research Framework* (Petts and Gerrard 2006).

### 5.3 POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE

The results of the evaluation indicate that the potential direct effect of the proposed development on the archaeological resource will be minimal.

### 5.4 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is considered that the results of the programme of evaluation trenching are sufficient to inform a planning decision in respect of the archaeological potential of the proposed development site and no further archaeological work is recommended. It may be considered appropriate to return to the site and complete the planned programme of evaluation by excavating the trenches which could not be dug during this phase of works due to localised flooding.

### 5.5 PROJECT ARCHIVE

The physical and digital archive for this project is currently held by Solstice Heritage LLP pending a decision on the requirement for any future work on the site. Given the lack of archaeological interest identified at the site, it is considered that this report is sufficient to serve as the archive for this project.

## 6. SOURCES

### 6.1 BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2019. *Code of Conduct*. Reading, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2014. *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation*. Reading, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.
- Darlington Borough Council. 2011. *Darlington Local Development Framework. Core Strategy*. Darlington, Darlington Borough Council.
- Durham County Council Archaeology Section (DCCAS). 2019. *Standards for All Archaeological Work in County Durham and Darlington*. Durham, Durham County Council.
- English Heritage (EH). 2008. *Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance*. London, English Heritage.
- Historic England (HE). 2015. *Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning. Note 2: Decision-Taking in the Historic Environment*. London, Historic England.
- Magnitude Surveys. 2020. *Geophysical Survey Report of Darlington Crematorium, County Durham*. Unpublished report. Reference MSNZ613.
- Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG). 2019. *National Planning Policy Framework*. London, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.
- Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG). 2019. *National Planning Practice Guidance*. London, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.
- Natural England (NE). 2013. *National Character Area Profile: 23. Tees Lowlands*. London, Natural England.
- Petts, D. and Gerrard, C. 2006. *Shared Visions: The North-East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment*. Durham, Durham University and Durham County Council.
- Snowden, T. 2019. *Darlington Crematorium, Darlington, County Durham. Heritage Impact Assessment*. Northallerton, Solstice Heritage LLP. Document ref: DOC1920-86.
- Snowden, T. 2020. *Darlington Crematorium, Darlington, County Durham. Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation*. Northallerton, Solstice Heritage LLP. Document ref: DOC1920-100.
- South Yorkshire Archaeology Service (SYAS). 2011. *Yorkshire, The Humber and the North East: A Regional Statement of Good Practice for Archaeology in the Development Process*.

### 6.2 WEBSITES

- British Geological Survey (BGS). 2019. *Geology of Britain Viewer*. Available from: <<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geology-of-britain/home.html>>. Accessed 24<sup>th</sup> February 2020.
- UK Soil Observatory (UKSO). 2019. *UKSO Map Viewer*. Available from: <<http://mapapps2.bgs.ac.uk/ukso/home.html>>. Accessed 24<sup>th</sup> February 2020.



## APPENDIX 1 – CONTEXT REGISTER

Context Number	Type	Description	Probable Date
100	Deposit	mid-greyish brown, clayey silt topsoil	Modern
101	Deposit	orange-brown, silty clay natural substrate	Glacial
400	Deposit	mid-greyish brown, clayey silt topsoil	Modern
401	Deposit	light brown, silty clay subsoil	Post-glacial
402	Deposit	orange-brown, silty clay natural substrate	Glacial
500	Deposit	dark grey brown, silty topsoil	Modern
501	Deposit	light orange-brown, silty clay natural substrate	Glacial
600	Deposit	mid-grey brown, silty clay topsoil	Modern
601	Deposit	light orange-brown, silty clay natural substrate	Glacial
700	Deposit	mid-grey brown, silty clay topsoil	Modern
701	Deposit	light orange-brown, silty clay natural substrate	Glacial
800	Deposit	a mid-grey brown, silty clay topsoil	Modern
801	Deposit	light brown, silty clay subsoil	Post-glacial
802	Deposit	light orange-brown, sandy clay natural substrate	Glacial
1000	Deposit	mid-grey brown, silty clay topsoil	Modern
1001	Deposit	light orange-brown, sandy clay natural substrate	Glacial
1100	Deposit	dark brown, silty topsoil	Modern
1101	Deposit	light beige/yellow, sandy clay natural substrate	Glacial

Table 1 Context Register



## APPENDIX 2 – POLICY AND GUIDANCE FRAMEWORK

### LEGISLATION

National legislation which applies to the consideration of cultural heritage within the development and the wider planning process is set out in Table 2 below.

Title	Key Points
Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (amended by the National Heritage Act 1983 and 2002)	Scheduled Monuments, as defined under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979), are sites which have been selected by a set of non-statutory criteria to be of national significance. Where scheduled sites are affected by development proposals there is a presumption in favour of their physical preservation. Any works, other than activities receiving class consent under The Ancient Monuments (Class Consents) Order 1981, as amended by The Ancient Monuments (Class Consents) Order 1984, which would have the effect of demolishing, destroying, damaging, removing, repairing, altering, adding to, flooding or covering-up a Scheduled Monument require consent from the Secretary of State for the Department of Culture, Media and Sport.
Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990	Buildings of national, regional or local historical and architectural importance are protected under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. Buildings designated as 'Listed' are afforded protection from physical alteration or effects on their historical setting.
Hedgerows Regulations 1997	The Hedgerow Regulations (1997) include criteria by which hedgerows can be regarded as historically important (Schedule 1 Part III).

Table 2 Legislation relating to relevant cultural heritage in planning

### POLICY

The principal instrument of national planning policy within England is the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF) (MHCLG 2019) which outlines the following in relation to cultural heritage within planning and development:

Paragraph	Key Points
8	Contributing to protecting and enhancing the historic environment is specifically noted as being a part of one of the key objectives contributing to sustainable development.
189	During the determination of applications "local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting". This information should be proportionate to the significance of the asset and only enough to "understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance".
190	Paragraph 190 identifies that Local planning authorities should identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal (including by development affecting the setting of a heritage asset) taking account of the available evidence and any necessary expertise.
193	'Great weight' should be given the conservation of a designated heritage asset irrespective of the level of 'harm' of a proposed development. However, the more important the asset, the greater the weight given.
194	'Harm to, or loss of, the significance of a designated heritage assets...should require clear and convincing justification'. In terms of the levels of designated heritage assets, substantial harm to Grade II listed buildings and parks and gardens should be exceptional, and to all other (the highest significance of) designated assets wholly exceptional.
195	Substantial harm to a designated heritage asset will be refused unless it is outweighed by substantial public benefits.

Paragraph	Key Points
196	Where there is 'less than substantial harm' to a designated heritage asset, the decision will weigh this harm against the public benefit of the proposal 'including, where appropriate, securing its optimum viable use'.
197	For decisions affecting non-designated heritage assets 'a balanced judgement will be required having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset'.

Table 3 Key passages of NPPF in reference to cultural heritage (archaeology)

## LOCAL

Under planning law, the determination of an application must be made, in the first instance, with reference to the policies of the local development plan. For the proposed development this is represented by the *Borough of Darlington Local Plan (2001)* and the *Core Strategy (2011)*. It should also be noted that there is currently also an emerging local plan undergoing consultation. Within the Local Plan and the Core Strategy, the following are key policies with reference to cultural heritage and the nature of the proposed development:

Policy	Key Points
CS14	<p>Promoting Local Character and Distinctiveness</p> <p>The distinctive character of the Borough's built, historic, natural and environmental townscapes, landscapes and strong sense of place will be protected and, where appropriate, enhanced by:</p> <p>A. Protecting and improving the distinctive character of Darlington town centre, the urban area and the countryside including: 1. the character and appearance of the central area skyline such as the landmarks of the Market and Station clock towers, St Cuthbert's spire and St John's Tower; 2. the tree canopy skyline, such as in the south-west of the main urban area; 3. views along the approaches to the urban area, such as along Grange Road, Coniscliffe Road and Staindrop Road/Woodland Road;</p> <p>B. Protecting and enhancing the separation and the intrinsic qualities of the openness between settlements and between the main urban area's different neighbourhoods including:</p> <p>4. The strategic corridors: (i) River Tees; (ii) River Skerne; (iii) River Skerne Corridor to West Park; (iv) Darlington, Middleton St George, A66/A67 Corridor to Stockton; 5. The green wedges at Cocker Beck, Blackwell/Skerne Park and Haughton/Red Hall; 6. The green corridors of Staindrop Road and the Denes, Firthmoor and McMullen Road, the Stockton and Darlington railway trackbed, the Faverdale Black path and Barnard Castle railway trackbed and Baydale Beck; 7. The appearance and environmental value of Grade 1, 2, 3 agricultural land;</p> <p>C. Protecting and enhancing the distinct landscape character of:</p> <p>8. Tees Lowlands;</p> <p>9. Durham Magnesian limestone plateau;</p> <p>10. Durham Coalfield Pennine Fringe;</p> <p>D. Protecting and enhancing the quality of the wide views of the North York Moors, upland Dales and the villages across the Tees Valley;</p> <p>E. Protecting, enhancing and promoting the quality and integrity of Darlington's distinctive designated national or nationally significant built heritage and archaeology as well as: 11. buildings, their settings and features of historic and archaeological local importance in Conservation Areas; 12. buildings, features and landmarks on the local list; 13. buildings and features that reflect Darlington's railway, industrial and Quaker heritage; and 14. buildings on the local 'at risk' register.</p>

Table 4 Summary of relevant local planning policy

## GUIDANCE

During the assessment and preparation of this document, the following guidance documents have been referred to, where relevant:

Document	Key Points
National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) (CLG 2014)	The Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG) released the guidance to NPPF in March 2014 in a 'live' online format which, it is intended can be amended and responsive to comment, particular as case law develops in relation to the implementation of NPPF. In relation to cultural heritage the NPPG follows previous guidance in wording and 'keys in' with, in particular, extant English Heritage guidance documents. The NPPG references many similar terms to the previous PPS5 Practice Guidance.
Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance (Historic England 2008)	This document sets out the guiding principles of conservation as seen by English Heritage and also provides a terminology for assessment of significance upon which much that has followed is based.
Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (ClfA revised 2014b)	This document represents non-statutory industry best practice as set out by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. This work has been undertaken to these standards, as subscribed to by Solstice Heritage LLP.

Table 5 Guidance documentation consulted

## APPENDIX 3 – METHODOLOGY

### FIELDWORK

The eleven trenches were laid out in the locations agreed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (Snowden 2020) and excavations were undertaken and completed between the 20<sup>th</sup> and the 24<sup>th</sup> February 2020. The work was undertaken by Chris Scott, Ben Moore and Frankie Wildmun of Solstice Heritage LLP. Nine trenches of 30 x 2 m, one trench of 40 x 2 m, and one trench of 20 x 2 m were intended to be excavated within the proposed development area, however, three trenches (Trenches 2, 3 and 9) could not be excavated due to localised standing water across the area of their intended location. All trenches were excavated by machine under archaeological supervision, and any features were further investigated and excavated with hand tools. All mechanical excavation (through overburden and non-anthropogenic levelling layers) was undertaken with a back-acting, toothless ditching bucket under constant supervision of a suitably qualified archaeologist.

Where archaeological features and deposits were encountered, these were recorded to the standards outlined in the agreed WSI and the relevant ClfA Standards and Guidance. All features and deposits were recorded on pro forma record sheets, drawn in plan and section at a suitable scale, and photographed. In addition to any specific features or deposits, a general record of the trench stratigraphy was made on pro forma record sheets, a plan and section of each trench was made at a suitable scale and photography was completed. A detailed methodology was outlined in the agreed WSI, and this has been included as Appendix 5 below

### POST-FIELDWORK

The primary site archive comprises site records and digital photography on CD. This has been used to compile this report, all of which will be deposited with a local repository museum in digital and paper format as the principal record of the evaluation work. The physical archive comprises primary field records and advice will be sought on the detailed requirements for retention and deposition. An OASIS record has been completed for this work, including a digital version of this report, the reference for which is **solstice1-386260**. Deposition of the physical archive has been delayed until a determination is made on the need for, and scope of, any further work. In this instance then a single archive will be compiled and deposited.

### CHRONOLOGY

Where chronological and archaeological periods are referred to in the text, the relevant date ranges are broadly defined as follows:

- Palaeolithic (Old Stone Age): 1 million–12,000 BP (Before present)
- Mesolithic (Middle Stone Age): 10000–4000 BC
- Neolithic (New Stone Age): 4000–2400 BC
- Chalcolithic/Beaker Period: (2400–2000 BC)
- Bronze Age: 2000–700 BC
- Iron Age: 700 BC–AD 70
- Roman/Romano-British: AD 70–410
- Early medieval/Anglo-Saxon/Anglo-Scandinavian: AD 410–1066
- Medieval: AD 1066–1540
- Post-medieval: AD 1540–1900
  - » Tudor: AD 1485–1603
  - » Stuart: AD 1603–1714
  - » Georgian: AD 1714–1837
- Industrial: 1750–1900
  - » Victorian: AD 1837–1901
- Modern: AD 1900–Present

## QUALITY ASSURANCE

Solstice Heritage LLP commits all fieldwork and post-fieldwork assessment, analysis, reporting and dissemination to be undertaken to the standards stipulated by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA). The project has been managed by Chris Scott, who is a fully accredited member of CIfA (MCIfA level).



## APPENDIX 4 – WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION



# Darlington Crematorium, Darlington, County Durham

---

## Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation

Prepared for:	Kevin Bayliss Align Property Partners Morgan House Mount View Standard Way Northallerton DL6 2YD
Prepared by:	Tiffany Snowden BA (Hons), ACIfA Solstice Heritage LLP Crabtree Hall Little Holtby Northallerton North Yorkshire DL7 9LN
Checked and Set By:	Tiffany Snowden BA (Hons) ACIfA
Project Reference:	SOL1920-108
Document Reference:	DOC1920-100
Date of Document:	February 2020
Document Version:	1.1





## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1.</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1	Project Background	1
1.2	Site Location and Description of Works	1
1.3	Chronology	1
1.4	Quality Assurance	1
1.5	Assumptions and Limitations	1
1.6	Copyright	2
<b>2.</b>	<b>Archaeological and Historical Background</b>	<b>5</b>
2.1	Previous Work	5
2.2	Potential Significance	5
<b>3.</b>	<b>Aims and Objectives</b>	<b>6</b>
3.1	Evaluation	6
<b>4.</b>	<b>Methodology</b>	<b>7</b>
4.1	Trench Locations	7
4.2	Excavation Methodology	7
4.3	Recording Methodology	7
4.4	Small Finds	8
4.5	Human Remains	8
4.6	Scientific and Palaeoenvironmental Sampling Strategy	8
4.6.1	Aim of the Sampling Strategy	8
4.6.2	Overview	8
4.7	Health and Safety	8
4.8	Extensive Remains and/or Significant Finds	8
<b>5.</b>	<b>Post-Fieldwork Methodology</b>	<b>10</b>
5.1	Small Finds Processing	10
5.2	Specialist Assessment and Analysis	10
5.3	Reporting	10
5.4	Archiving	10
5.5	OASIS	11
5.6	Publication and Dissemination	11
<b>6.</b>	<b>Resources and Programming</b>	<b>12</b>
6.1	Fieldwork Staff	12
6.2	Post-Fieldwork Staff	12
6.3	Specialist Input	12
6.4	Fieldwork Programme	12
6.5	Post-Fieldwork Programme	13
6.6	Monitoring	13
<b>7.</b>	<b>Sources</b>	<b>14</b>
7.1	Bibliography	14
<b>Appendix 1 - Policy and Guidance Framework</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Appendix 2 – Statement of Competence</b>		<b>18</b>



## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1 Site Location.....	3
Figure 2 Trench Plan.....	4

## LIST OF TABLES

Table 1 Indicative sampling strategy for investigation of cut features.....	7
Table 2 Proposed specialist input to post-fieldwork stages.....	12
Table 3 Legislation relating to relevant cultural heritage in planning.....	15
Table 4 Key passages of NPPF in reference to cultural heritage (archaeology).....	15
Table 5 Summary of relevant local planning policy.....	16
Table 6 National guidance documentation consulted.....	17





## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

This Written Scheme of investigation (WSI) has been prepared by Solstice Heritage LLP on behalf of Align Property Partners to confirm the scope of works of an archaeological evaluation following advice from Durham County Council. The evaluation is in support of the proposed development at Darlington Crematorium (ref: 19/01185/DC).

### 1.2 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION OF WORKS

The proposed development site comprises an area of 2.24 ha and is located within the south-western extent of Darlington c. 1.6 km west of the town centre (NGR NZ 26975 13923) (Figure 1). The site is situated to the immediate west of the Grade II registered West Cemetery (NHLE 1001562) and comprises a large area of low-lying open field, primarily undeveloped apart from a small single-storey building at its south-eastern extent. The proposed development seeks to develop approximately 1.28 ha of the site.

The archaeological works proposed within this WSI will comprise a 5% sample of the total area including:

- Excavation by Solstice Heritage LLP of 1 no. 20 m x 2 m, 1 no. 40 m x 2 m, and 9 no. 30 m x 2 m archaeological evaluation trenches within (Figure 2).

### 1.3 CHRONOLOGY

Where chronological and archaeological periods are referred to in this WSI, the relevant date ranges are broadly defined as follows:

- Palaeolithic (Old Stone Age): 1 million – 12,000 BP (Before present)
- Mesolithic (Middle Stone Age): 10000 – 4000 BC
- Neolithic (New Stone Age): 4000 – 2400 BC
- Chalcolithic/Beaker Period: 2400 – 2000 BC
- Bronze Age: 2000 – 700 BC
- Iron Age: 700 BC – AD 43
- Roman/Romano-British: AD 43 – 410
- Anglo-Saxon/Anglo-Scandinavian: AD 410 – 1066
- Medieval: AD 1066 – 1540
- Post-medieval: AD 1540 – 1750
  - » Tudor: AD 1485 – 1603
  - » Stuart: AD 1603 – 1714
  - » Georgian: AD 1714 - 1837
- Industrial: AD 1750 – 1900
  - » Victorian: AD 1837 - 1901
- Modern: AD 1900 – Present

### 1.4 QUALITY ASSURANCE

Solstice Heritage LLP commits all fieldwork and post-fieldwork assessment, analysis, reporting and dissemination to be undertaken to the standards stipulated by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) as is outlined in Sections 3-4 below. The project will be managed by Chris Scott who is a fully accredited member of the CIfA (MCIfA level). A statement of competence for Chris Scott is attached as Appendix 2 to this document.

### 1.5 ASSUMPTIONS AND LIMITATIONS

Data and information obtained and consulted in the compilation of this WSI has been derived from a number of secondary sources. Where it has not been practicable to verify the accuracy of secondary information, its accura-

cy has been assumed in good faith. All statements and opinions arising from the works undertaken are provided in good faith and compiled according to professional standards. No responsibility can be accepted by the author/s of this WSI for any errors of fact or opinion resulting from data supplied by any third party, or for loss or other consequence arising from decisions or actions made upon the basis of facts or opinions expressed in any such report(s), howsoever such facts and opinions may have been derived.

The inherent uncertainties of archaeological investigation mean that the working methodologies and sampling strategies may be required to change should unexpectedly extensive and/or significant remains be discovered. This has been highlighted in the relevant sections below and any such change will be agreed with the client and Durham County Council Archaeology Section (DCCAS).

## **1.6 COPYRIGHT**

Solstice Heritage LLP will retain the copyright of all documentary and photographic material under the Copyright, Designs and Patent Act (1988). The County Durham HER will be granted licence to use the report for its purposes, which may include photocopying.



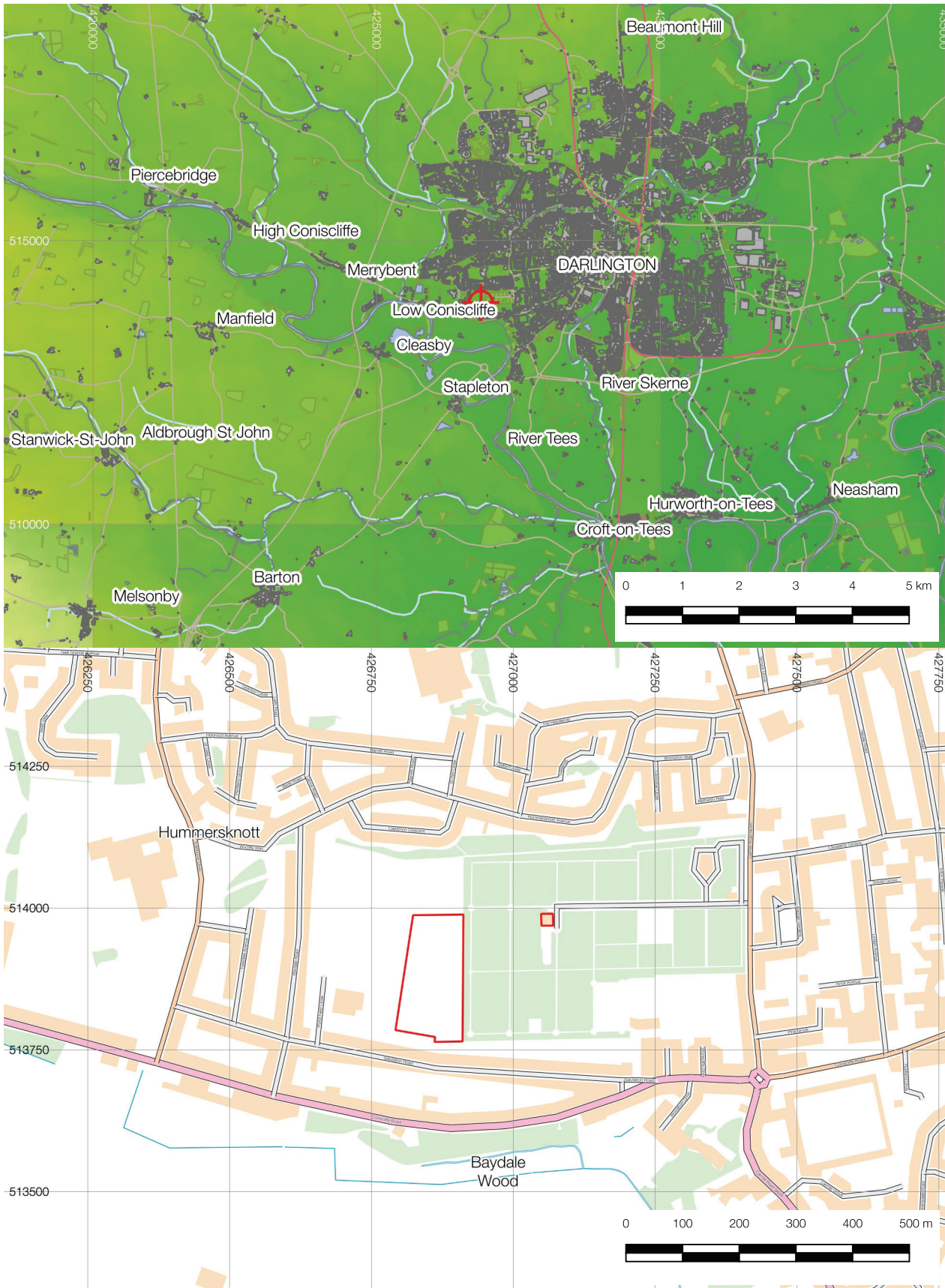
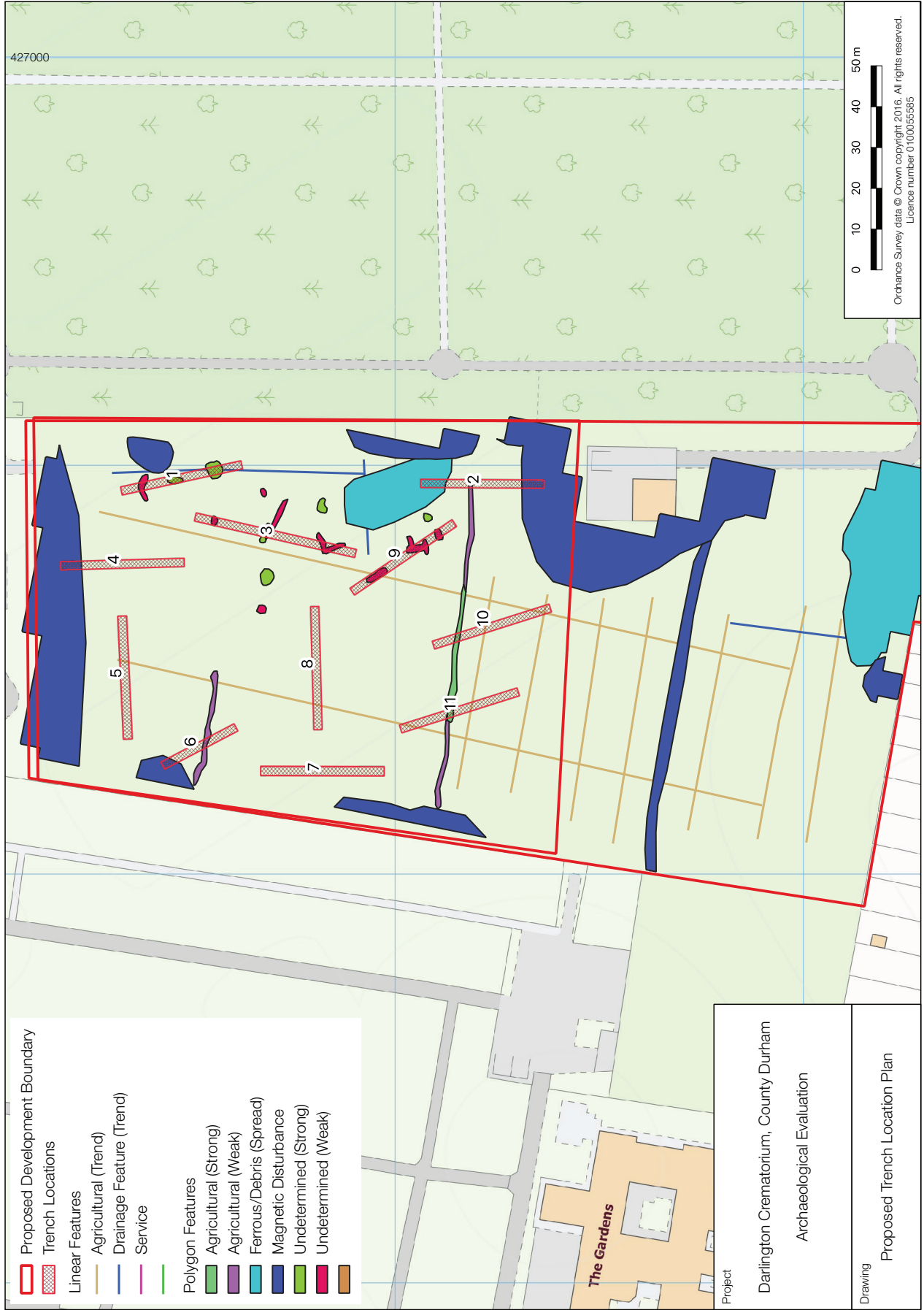


Figure 1 Site Location



## **2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 PREVIOUS WORK**

A Heritage Impact Assessment was undertaken in 2019, which identified the potential for prehistoric settlement in this part of Darlington (Snowden 2019). This was followed by a geophysical survey of the site, which yielded evidence of historic field boundaries as well as anomalies in the north-eastern part of the site, both of which are being targeted as part of this evaluation.

### **2.2 POTENTIAL SIGNIFICANCE**

Any potential evidence relating to prehistoric settlement would likely be of medium significance, given the relatively undeveloped nature of the site.

### 3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

#### 3.1 EVALUATION

An archaeological field evaluation is defined as:

“... a limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. If such archaeological remains are present field evaluation defines their character, extent, quality and preservation, and enables an assessment of their significance in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate.” (ClfA 2014b, 4).

The overarching aim of the evaluation is:

- To gain information about the archaeological resource within the site (including its presence or absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality), in order to make an assessment of its merit in the context of the proposed development.

The objectives of the evaluation are:

- To attempt to establish the date, character and significance of any archaeological and palaeoenvironmental deposits, including in relation to other similar features within the area.
- The formulation of a strategy to ensure the recording, preservation or management of the archaeological resource.
- The formulation of a strategy to mitigate the threat to the archaeological resource.
- The formulation of a proposal for further archaeological investigation, if required.
- To ensure there is a permanent record of the work undertaken deposited with the local Historic Environment Record (HER) and made available online
- To ensure all work is undertaken in compliance with the *Code of Conduct* of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (ClfA) (2014a) and the ClfA *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (2014b), *Standards for All Archaeological Work in County Durham and Darlington* (DCCAS 2019) and *Yorkshire, the Humber and the North-East: A Regional Statement of Good Practice for Archaeology in the Development Process* (SYAS 2011).
- To ensure compliance with the WSI (this document).

## 4. METHODOLOGY

### 4.1 TRENCH LOCATIONS

The evaluation will comprise 11 no. evaluation trenches (one at 20 m x 2 m, one at 40 m x 20 m, and nine at 30 m x 2 m). The location of the proposed trenches is shown on Figure 2.

### 4.2 EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

Initial excavation will be undertaken with a back-acting mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, under constant archaeological supervision, to the first archaeological horizon. Where standing structures are encountered, their full extent within the trench will be exposed and recorded. Where cut features are exposed, they will be cleaned and delimited as much as is practicable within the area of the trench and investigated using the sampling strategy outlined in Table 5 below. Where cut features contain material culture or palaeoenvironmental remains of significance then they will be subject to a more rigorous sampling strategy, usually including 100% excavation of fill material and palaeoenvironmental sampling as detailed in section 5.6 below. All intersections of features will be investigated in a manner appropriate to ascertain their stratigraphic relationship.

The evaluation trenching will continue in a controlled manner until the surface of natural or archaeological deposits (whichever is encountered first) has been reached, in order to ensure that all archaeological features and strata are adequately characterised. Given the topographical and geomorphological setting of the proposed development site, it is not anticipated that there will be a need for a 'second strip' to remove alluvial or colluvial sediment units that may have buried earlier remains.

Size/Nature of Feature	Minimum percentage of fill excavated and sampled	Maximum percentage of fill excavated (where justified by nature and contents deposit)
Cut feature less than c. 1 m in diameter or equivalent area	50%	100%
Cut feature greater than c. 1 m in diameter or equivalent area	25% or until form, function and date can be adequately characterised	100%
Linear features	10% in 1 m slots evenly spaced along the length of the features though focussing on junctions and relationships with other features where present. Minimum sample of 2 m where the linear feature is less than 20 m in total length.	50%

Table 1 Indicative sampling strategy for investigation of cut features

### 4.3 RECORDING METHODOLOGY

All archaeological features will be recorded on *pro forma* sheets, creating a primary written record that will be accompanied by drawn and photographic records. A site diary giving a summary of each day's work will also be maintained including overall interpretive observations.

A drawn record will be compiled of all features, including plan and section/profile illustrations at a suitable scale (usually 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50) depending on the complexity and significance of the remains.

The photographic record of the monitoring will be undertaken in high-resolution digital format. Photographs will be taken of all archaeological and palaeoenvironmental features in addition to general site photography locating the individual features in their wider context.



All trenches will be located and tied to the National Grid at a scale of 1:2500 or 1:1250 as practical. All features will be located accurately within this area and their height also accurately recorded above Ordnance Datum. The same level of accuracy will be applied to measuring the respective heights of the top and base of excavations. Full trench plans and sections will only be recorded for those trenches where archaeological remains are present. Archaeologically sterile trenches will have a basic record, comprising a completed *pro forma* trench recording sheet and photographic record shot only.

#### 4.4 SMALL FINDS

All small finds will be initially retained and bagged by context for assessment at the post-fieldwork stage.

Small finds will be handled, packed and stored in accordance with the guidelines in *First Aid for Finds* (Watkinson and Neal 1998).

In the event that finds of 'treasure' are uncovered, then the Finds Liaison Officer (FLO) will be informed and the correct procedures will be followed as outlined under the *Treasure Act* 1996.

#### 4.5 HUMAN REMAINS

In the event of human remains being uncovered, including evidence of cremations, these will be initially left *in situ*, protected and covered from view. Should removal of the remains be deemed necessary then a licence will be obtained from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) prior to excavation proceeding. Exhumation of human remains will proceed in accordance with the MoJ licence and all health and safety regulations and guidance.

#### 4.6 SCIENTIFIC AND PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING STRATEGY

##### 4.6.1 AIM OF THE SAMPLING STRATEGY

Given the uncertainty of the presence or level of archaeological remains likely to be encountered as part of this evaluation, the general aim of the scientific and palaeoenvironmental sampling strategy is:

- To provide information on the nature of human activity and the past environment in the immediate area, in relation to the archaeological deposits uncovered during the project.

##### 4.6.2 OVERVIEW

Sampling levels and feature-specific approaches will vary in accordance with the characteristics and potential of individual features to address the aims and objectives outlined above. Sampling and assessment methodologies will follow best practice as set out in relevant guidance documents, including *Environmental Archaeology* (Campbell *et al.* 2011).

#### 4.7 HEALTH AND SAFETY

All archaeological work will be undertaken in a safe manner in compliance with the *Health and Safety at Work Act* 1974. A full risk assessment will be undertaken in advance of the commencement of work, a copy of which will be available on site for the duration of the fieldwork. Solstice Heritage LLP has a full Safety, Health and Environment Policy which can be supplied upon request.

#### 4.8 EXTENSIVE REMAINS AND/OR SIGNIFICANT FINDS

In the event of discovery of archaeological remains that are more extensive and/or significant than could reasonably have been anticipated then the following procedure will be followed:

- Where remains can be rapidly characterised within the scope of this stage of work, including a small extension to existing trenching, this will be undertaken following agreement with the client and the Durham County Council Archaeology Section (DCCAS).
- If, following consultation with the Durham County Council Archaeology Section (DCCAS) and client, a further stage of evaluation is deemed necessary and proportionate to the potential significance of the archaeological remains, a modified WSI or addendum to this document will be prepared and agreed with all stakeholders.

- Where remains are significant but are characterised by this phase of evaluation to a degree where their significance and extent can be understood, then the most suitable course may be the agreement with the Durham County Council Archaeology Section (DCCAS) and the client of a programme of appropriate mitigation.

## 5. POST-FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY

### 5.1 SMALL FINDS PROCESSING

All finds will be processed and catalogued in line with standard guidance documents including *First Aid for Finds* (Watkinson and Neal 1998) and the *Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials* (ClfA 2014c).

### 5.2 SPECIALIST ASSESSMENT AND ANALYSIS

After processing, artefacts and ecofacts will be quantified and assessed to provide an overview of their potential to meet the aims and objectives of the project. This will be undertaken, where necessary, by a relevant specialist, as set out below, and will include a statement on the potential and requirement for further analysis. Where extensive analysis is recommended and justified by the potential of the assemblage or sample then this will be undertaken after agreement with the client and the Durham County Council Archaeology Section (DCCAS).

### 5.3 REPORTING

Following completion of any specialist assessment and analysis, all information will be synthesised in a project report, which will include as a minimum:

- Planning application number, OASIS reference number and site grid reference
- A non-technical summary of results
- Introduction
- Aims and method statement
- Legislative, policy and guidance framework
- Summary of data outlining all archaeological deposits, features, classes and numbers of artefacts and spot dating of significant finds
- Specialist reports (where necessary)
- Discussion of results
- Illustrative photography
- Location plan of the site of at least 1:10000 scale
- Extent plan of the area of monitoring at a suitable and recognised scale positioning all archaeological and palaeoenvironmental features and deposits in relation to the national grid
- Plans and section of all archaeological trenches and features at a suitable scale (see section 4.2 above)
- Above Ordnance Datum (aOD) levels on plans and incorporated into the text

Any variation to the minimum requirements above will be approved in advance and in writing by the Durham County Council Archaeology Section (DCCAS). One bound hard copy and one digital copy will be supplied to the client and to the Durham County Council Archaeology Section (DCCAS) upon completion.

### 5.4 ARCHIVING

Within 6 months of the completion of all post-fieldwork stages of the project, a full archive will be compiled and deposited with Sevenhills, Greenhills Business Park, Enterprise Way, Spennymoor, DL16 6JB. The archive will be compiled in accordance with the *Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives* (ClfA 2014d). The archive and all material contained in it will be compiled according to the guidelines of the recipient museum, and will include as a minimum:

- A list of archive contents, by box if required
- Hard copies of all relevant project documentation
- Digital material created for the project
- Artefacts and ecofacts for which there is a reason for retention (e.g. inherent significance, potential for future analysis).

Should there be no material archive arising from the project then, as a minimum, the project report will be submitted to the Durham County Council HER in bound hard copy and digital format, and project details and a copy of the report will be made available through OASIS (see below).

## **5.5 OASIS**

Solstice Heritage LLP is registered with the Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) Project and fully supports all project documentation and records being made available through the OASIS website. Upon completion of the post-fieldwork reporting and archiving, an OASIS record will be completed, and a copy of the project report will be uploaded.

## **5.6 PUBLICATION AND DISSEMINATION**

In the event that formal publication and/or wider dissemination is deemed necessary, then a suitable format will be agreed with the client and the Durham County Council Archaeology Section (DCCAS). This may include a digital download document made freely available or publication in a local, regional or national journal.





## 6. RESOURCES AND PROGRAMMING

### 6.1 FIELDWORK STAFF

The project will be managed by Chris Scott of Solstice Heritage LLP. Chris holds full accredited professional membership of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) at MCIfA level. It is anticipated that the fieldwork will also be supervised by Chris Scott MCIfA and Ben Moore of Solstice Heritage LLP, though in the event of a change, details of fieldwork staff will be confirmed in writing to the Durham County Council Archaeology Section (DCCAS) prior to commencement.

### 6.2 POST-FIELDWORK STAFF

The post-fieldwork reporting and archiving will also be managed by Chris Scott. Details of any other post-fieldwork or reporting staff will be confirmed in writing to the Durham County Council Archaeology Section (DCCAS) prior to commencement.

### 6.3 SPECIALIST INPUT

Should specialist input be required for assessment and analysis at post-fieldwork stage, then it is intended that the following specialists be used:

Specialism	Specialist	Company/Institution
Lithics	Spencer Carter	TimeVista Archaeology
Prehistoric pottery	Dr Jane Timby	Independent Specialist
Romano-British Pottery	Dr Jane Timby	Independent Specialist
Roman brick/tile	Dr Jane Timby	Independent Specialist
Early glasswork	Dr Hilary Cool	Barbican Research Associates
Medieval/Post-medieval pottery	Paul Blinkhorn	Independent Specialist
Archaeometallurgy	Dr Gerry McDonnell	Gerry McDonnell Archaeometallurgy
Clay pipe	Dr Susie White	University of Liverpool
Industrial/later glasswork	Jim Brightman	Solstice Heritage LLP
Industrial/later metalwork	Chris Scott	Solstice Heritage LLP
Medieval/later CBM	Jim Brightman	Solstice Heritage LLP
Conservation of artefacts	Jennifer Jones	Archaeological Services Durham University (ASDU)
Botanical macrofossils	Dr Charlotte O'Brien	ASDU
Pollen	Dr Charlotte O'Brien	ASDU
Human remains	Malin Holst	York Osteoarchaeology
Faunal remains	Louisa Gidney	Independent specialist
All dating techniques	Dr Gordon Cook	Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (SUERC)

Table 2 Proposed specialist input to post-fieldwork stages

This list is subject to change depending on individual availability of specialists and the specific requirements of the archaeological and palaeoenvironmental remains uncovered during the course of fieldwork. Liaison will also be undertaken with the relevant Historic England Scientific advisor, as appropriate.

### 6.4 FIELDWORK PROGRAMME

It is currently intended that the works be undertaken during February 2020.

## 6.5 POST-FIELDWORK PROGRAMME

The post-fieldwork process will commence immediately upon completion of the fieldwork. Unless a more in-depth post-fieldwork process has been agreed as an addendum to this document, then a report will be compiled within two months, subject to any required specialist input. An OASIS record will be completed and any archive will be deposited within six months of the completion of the post-fieldwork phase.

## 6.6 MONITORING

The local planning authority contact for monitoring of the project will be:

Durham County Council Archaeology Section  
Heritage, Landscape and Design  
Regeneration and Economic Development  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor, County Hall  
Durham  
County Durham  
DH1 5UQ

Direct Line: 03000 267 013

E-mail: [archaeology@durham.gov.uk](mailto:archaeology@durham.gov.uk)



## 7. SOURCES

### 7.1 BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Campbell, G., Moffett, L. and Straker, V. 2011. *Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation (Second edition)*. London, English Heritage.
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2014a. *Code of Conduct*. Reading, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2014b. *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation*. Reading, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2014c. *Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials*. Reading, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2014d. *Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives*. Reading, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.
- Darlington Borough Council. 2011. *Darlington Local Development Framework. Core Strategy*. Darlington, Darlington Borough Council.
- Durham County Council. 2019. *Standards for All Archaeological Work in County Durham and Darlington*. Durham, Durham County Council.
- English Heritage (EH). 2008. *Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance*. London, English Heritage.
- Nelson, C. and Garst, L. 2020. *Darlington Crematorium, County Durham. Geophysical Survey Report*. Bradford, Magnitude Surveys. Document ref: MSNZ613.
- Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG). 2019. *National Planning Policy Framework*. London, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.
- Snowden, T. 2019. *Darlington Crematorium, Darlington, County Durham. Heritage Impact Assessment*. Northalerton, Solstice Heritage LLP. Document ref: DOC1920-86.
- Watkinson, D. and Neal, V. 1998. *First Aid for Finds*. London, The British Archaeological Trust.

## APPENDIX 1 - POLICY AND GUIDANCE FRAMEWORK

### LEGISLATION

National legislation which applies to the consideration of cultural heritage within the proposed project is set out in Table 1 below.

Title	Key Points
Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (amended by the National Heritage Act 1983 and 2002)	Scheduled Monuments, as defined under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979), are sites which have been selected by a set of non-statutory criteria to be of national importance. Where scheduled sites are affected by development proposals there is a presumption in favour of their physical preservation. Any works, other than activities receiving class consent under The Ancient Monuments (Class Consents) Order 1981, as amended by The Ancient Monuments (Class Consents) Order 1984, which would have the effect of demolishing, destroying, damaging, removing, repairing, altering, adding to, flooding or covering-up a Scheduled Monument require consent from the Secretary of State for the Department of Culture, Media and Sport.
Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990	Buildings of national, regional or local historical and architectural importance are protected under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. Buildings designated as 'Listed' are afforded protection from physical alteration or effects on their historical setting.

Table 3 Legislation relating to relevant cultural heritage in planning

### POLICY

#### NATIONAL

The principal instrument of national planning policy within England is the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF) (MHCLG 2019) which outlines the following in relation to cultural heritage within planning and development:

Para.	Key Points
8	Contributing to protecting and enhancing the historic environment is specifically noted as being a part of one of the key objectives contributing to sustainable development.
189	During the determination of applications "local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting". This information should be proportionate to the significance of the asset and only enough to "understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance".
190	Paragraph 190 identifies that Local planning authorities should identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal (including by development affecting the setting of a heritage asset) taking account of the available evidence and any necessary expertise.
193	'Great weight' should be given the conservation of a designated heritage asset irrespective of the level of 'harm' of a proposed development. However, the more important the asset, the greater the weight given.
194	'Harm to, or loss of, the significance of a designated heritage assets...should require clear and convincing justification'. In terms of the levels of designated heritage assets, substantial harm to Grade II listed buildings and parks and gardens should be exceptional, and to all other (the highest significance of) designated assets wholly exceptional.
195	Substantial harm to a designated heritage asset will be refused unless it is outweighed by substantial public benefits.
196	Where there is 'less than substantial harm' to a designated heritage asset, the decision will weigh this harm against the public benefit of the proposal 'including, where appropriate, securing its optimum viable use'.
197	For decisions affecting non-designated heritage assets 'a balanced judgement will be required having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset'.

Table 4 Key passages of NPPF in reference to cultural heritage (archaeology)





## LOCAL

Under planning law, the determination of an application must be made, in the first instance, with reference to the policies of the local development plan. For the proposed development this is represented by the Borough of *Darlington Local Plan* (2001) and the *Core Strategy* (2011). It should also be noted that there is currently also an emerging local plan undergoing consultation. Within the *Local Plan* and the *Core Strategy*, the following are key policies with reference to cultural heritage and the nature of the proposed development:

Policy	Key Text
CS14	<p>Promoting Local Character and Distinctiveness</p> <p>The distinctive character of the Borough's built, historic, natural and environmental townscapes, landscapes and strong sense of place will be protected and, where appropriate, enhanced by:</p> <p>A. Protecting and improving the distinctive character of Darlington town centre, the urban area and the countryside including: 1. the character and appearance of the central area skyline such as the landmarks of the Market and Station clock towers, St Cuthbert's spire and St John's Tower; 2. the tree canopy skyline, such as in the south west of the main urban area; 3. views along the approaches to the urban area, such as along Grange Road, Coniscliffe Road and Staindrop Road/Woodland Road;</p> <p>B. Protecting and enhancing the separation and the intrinsic qualities of the openness between settlements and between the main urban area's different neighbourhoods including:</p> <p>4. The strategic corridors: (i) River Tees; (ii) River Skerne; (iii) River Skerne Corridor to West Park; (iv) Darlington, Middleton St George, A66/A67 Corridor to Stockton; 5. The green wedges at Cocker Beck, Blackwell/Skerne Park and Haughton/Red Hall; 6. The green corridors of Staindrop Road and the Denes, Firthmoor and McMullen Road, the Stockton and Darlington railway trackbed, the Faverdale Black path and Barnard Castle railway trackbed and Baydale Beck; 7. The appearance and environmental value of Grade 1, 2, 3 agricultural land;</p> <p>C. Protecting and enhancing the distinct landscape character of:</p> <p>8. Tees Lowlands;</p> <p>9. Durham Magnesian limestone plateau;</p> <p>10. Durham Coalfield Pennine Fringe;</p> <p>D. Protecting and enhancing the quality of the wide views of the North York Moors, upland Dales and the villages across the Tees Valley;</p> <p>E. Protecting, enhancing and promoting the quality and integrity of Darlington's distinctive designated national or nationally significant built heritage and archaeology as well as: 11. buildings, their settings and features of historic and archaeological local importance in Conservation Areas; 12. buildings, features and landmarks on the local list; 13. buildings and features that reflect Darlington's railway, industrial and Quaker heritage; and 14. buildings on the local 'at risk' register.</p>

Table 5 Summary of relevant local planning policy

## GUIDANCE

### NATIONAL

During the assessment and preparation of this document, the following guidance documents have been referred to, where relevant:

Document	Key Points
National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) (CLG 2014)	The Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG) released the guidance to NPPF in March 2014 in a 'live' online format which, it is intended can be amended and responsive to comment, particular as case law develops in relation to the implementation of NPPF. In relation to cultural heritage the NPPG follows previous guidance in wording and 'keys in' with, in particular, extant English Heritage guidance documents. The NPPG references many similar terms to the previous PPS5 Practice Guidance.
Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance (Historic England 2008)	This document sets out the guiding principles of conservation as seen by Historic England and also provides a terminology for assessment of significance upon which much that has followed is based.
Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (ClfA revised 2014b)	This document represents non-statutory industry best practice as set out by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. This work has been undertaken to these standards, as subscribed to by Solstice Heritage LLP.

Table 6 National guidance documentation consulted

## APPENDIX 2 – STATEMENT OF COMPETENCE





**Chris Scott**  
BA (Hons), MA, MCI(A)

Archaeologist and Heritage Consultant



Solstice Heritage is an independent heritage consultancy and archaeological practice based in North Yorkshire and Tyne and Wear, and working across Britain. Chris Scott is a professional archaeologist and historic environment consultant with over a decade's experience in undertaking and supervising planning-led archaeology, research and conservation management, and community projects.

## EMPLOYMENT AND EXPERIENCE

### **SOLSTICE HERITAGE (JULY 2015 – PRESENT)**

Partner – I currently work as one of two Partners managing Solstice Heritage LLP. Within planning-led archaeology we provide all levels of consultancy and contracting services from initial advice through full cultural heritage input to EIA. We undertake all types of archaeological fieldwork and I am regularly sub-contracted to supervise large-scale sites where my prior experience of this kind of project can be brought to bear. Solstice have extensive experience of undertaking survey and fieldwork in remote upland areas, particularly in relation to the sensitive landscapes of National Parks. We have also worked regularly in managing and undertaking archaeological works in urban development settings, often on complex sites with particular health and safety constraints. As such I have gained the construction industry recognised Site Manager's Safety Training Scheme (SMSTS) qualification, giving clients the certainty that archaeological works managed by Solstice Heritage will be undertaken in line with recognised health and safety guidance and legislation. In addition to archaeological consultancy I also have longstanding experience in undertaking historic buildings consultancy and survey, particularly the successful re-development of Listed and/or historic buildings in the planning process. Additionally, I regularly provide technical conservation management advice to clients in relation to historic buildings, sites and landscapes.

### **ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH SERVICES LTD (APR 2010 – JULY 2015)**

Projects Manager and Operations Manager – I worked for Archaeological Research Services Ltd (ARS Ltd) as Projects Manager and Operations Manager. In this role my key responsibilities and experiences included:

- Conceiving and implementing large scale commissioned research and community heritage projects.
- Acting as the principal contact for all commercial projects, with responsibility and oversight for undertaking commercial contracts and tendering.
- Project, office, health and safety and staff management.
- Liaison with local authority curatorial archaeologists.
- Undertaking direct on-site supervision of archaeological fieldwork, working with varied size teams of archaeologists in all types of projects including survey, historic building survey and all forms of excavation and post-excavation analysis.

### **BEAMISH, THE NORTH OF ENGLAND OPEN AIR MUSEUM (SEPT 2004 – APR 2010)**

Curator of Industry – This senior curatorial role involved responsibility for the care and management of all industrial collections and displays within the Museum, including their use and historical integrity. The role also required research work to support these displays and collections, as well as development projects. This position also involved project management, controlling budgets, managing volunteers, staff and contractors. Specific projects included historic landscapes and buildings. The post also involved lecturing and training other staff and students. In this role I had a number of key responsibilities:



- Acting as principal client project manager for many of the museum's development projects. Within this I had responsibility for performance against significant budgets of up to a million pounds, managing contractor's performance and the quality of work required, but also for proactively engaging with local communities to build awareness of the museum's work
- Liaison with other museums, trusts, funders and users often acting in the role of consultant between funders, the media, the museum and a wide variety of communities representing varied interests relating to local history, sites and initiatives. Negotiation with both community groups and the professional museum sector was key as this dialogue enabled a number of successful community projects which involved objects from the museum's collections, source communities and private and public funders.
- Management of large collections of industrial objects running to hundreds of thousands of individual artefacts, from super-large objects to small items. This required involvement with all issues relating to storage, logistics, safety, display and conservation of objects, including supervising large teams of museum staff and contractors, and directing work on our own site and elsewhere across the country.

## PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS AND ACCREDITATION

- Accredited full Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (MCIfA).

## FURTHER EDUCATION

- MA Heritage Education and Interpretation – University of Newcastle upon Tyne (2003-04)
- BA (Hons) Archaeology – University of Newcastle upon Tyne (2000-03)

## ADDITIONAL SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES

I have particular specialisms in 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century buildings, industrial archaeology and the archaeology of farms. I often disseminate the results of archaeological and heritage projects, both commercial and conservation or community-led, through talks to local societies and student groups. I have also been regularly involved in training and community and educational engagement in heritage and archaeology throughout my career; working with a diverse range of audiences including businesses, universities, learned societies, schools, local interest groups and communities.

## PUBLICATIONS

- Brightman, J. and Scott, C., 2015. Excavation of a Bottle Works and Earlier Potteries at The Malings, Ouseburn, Newcastle upon Tyne. *Archaeologia Aeliana* 5<sup>th</sup> ser. (44).
- Devenport, J., N. Emery, C. Rendell and C. Scott, "The Esh Winning Miner's Banner Project – conservation involvement in a community initiative", in *Textile Conservation: Advances in Practice*, edited by Frances Lennard and Patricia Ewer. 2010.
- Scott, C., 2009. "Contemporary expressions of Coal Mining Heritage in the Durham Coalfield: The Creation of New Identities" in *Folk Life, The Journal of Ethnological Studies*, Vol. 47, 2009.
- Scott, C., 2005. "The Beamish Burn; A Mechanic Stream", in Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, *Mill News*, July.

In addition to formal publications I have authored articles on excavation projects for popular archaeology magazines, and numerous 'grey literature' reports including surveys, evaluations, excavations, historic building assessments and surveys, desk-based assessments, management plans and audits, and Environmental Statement chapters.

