# Taylormade Timber
# Sherburn Hill, County Durham

Report on an Archaeological Evaluation

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# Taylormade Timber, Sherburn Hill

## Report on an Archaeological Evaluation

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# Table of Contents

# List of Figures



# List of Tables

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# *Executive Summary*

*This report details the results of a programme of archaeological evaluation trenching undertaken by Solstice Heritage LLP on behalf of Taylormade Timber Products Ltd. The archaeological evaluation was required by Durham County Council in advance of proposed development within land to the west and north of the existing Taylormade Timber site.*

*The proposed development area comprised two blocks of land. The first, situated to the west of Taylormade Timber, was centred at NGR NZ 33392 42644. The second located to the north of the Taylormade Timber premises (NZ 33518 42816), is bounded by Cookshold Lane to the north and the field boundaries associated with Cookshold Farm to the west.*

*Thirteen archaeological evaluation trenches, measuring 30 x 2 m, targeting anomalies identified on geophysical survey as well as blank area testing, were situated within the proposed development area. Due to health and safety concerns regarding the ground conditions in the northern area, one trench (Trench 10) located outside the footprint of the proposed construction and intended to test a blank area within the results of the preceding geophysical survey was not excavated. Another trench in the northern area (Trench 11) was reduced by 5 m at its northern extent due to similar concerns.*

*Across both areas within the overall proposed development area, the evaluation characterised the underlying natural substrate as variable deposits of grey/yellow glacially derived clay till, in line with previous geological surveys of the area.*

*No archaeological features were identified in the western block, aside from relatively modern interventions in the shape of late 19th-century to early 20th-century agricultural drainage. Furthermore, the slope of the hill in the western block was gentler in comparison with the surrounding area. This, in combination with the relatively thin deposit sequence identified within the trenches in this area, is suggestive of substantial horizontal truncation as a result of modern arable cultivation (i.e., deep ploughing techniques) in combination with potential landscaping following the demolition of Sherburn Hill Colliery during the late 20th century.*

*In the northern block, located outside the footprint of the colliery, the archaeological evaluation identified a phase of ridge and furrow cultivation in Trenches 11, 12 and 13. This most likely dates to the medieval or early post-medieval periods. This cultivation either directly truncated the thin subsoil, where present, or the natural substrate, reducing the likelihood of pre-existing archaeological remains. The survival of the ridge and furrow cultivation as upstanding earthworks indicates little substantial subsequent activity.*

*It is considered that the results of the programme of evaluation trenching are sufficient to inform a planning decision with respect to the archaeological potential of the proposed development site. Given the absence of any significant archaeology within either block of the development, it is considered that no further archaeological works would be necessary.*

# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Project Outline

This report has been prepared by Solstice Heritage LLP on behalf of Taylormade Timber Products Ltd to outline the results of an archaeological evaluation. The evaluation was required by Durham County Council in advance of proposed development within land to the west and north of the existing Taylormade Timber site. The design of the scheme of evaluation was based upon a Written Scheme of Investigation produced by Solstice Heritage LLP (Cockcroft 2022).

## 1.2 Site Location and Description

The proposed development area comprised two blocks of land. The first was situated to the west of Taylormade Timber Products Ltd, centred at NGR NZ 33392 42644, whilst the second lay to the north of the Taylormade Timber premises (NZ 33518 42816), bounded by Cookshold Lane to the north and the field boundaries associated with Cookshold Farm to the west. The western fields of the proposed development have been under arable cultivation, but the block to the north was grass pasture.

The proposed works comprised the planned excavation of thirteen 30 x 2 m archaeological evaluation trenches across two blocks of land. One to the north of the proposed development containing Trenches 10 to 13, and the other to the west containing Trenches 1 to 9. Due to health and safety concerns regarding the ground conditions in the northern area, one trench (Trench 10) located outside the footprint of the proposed construction and intended for control was not excavated. Another trench in the northern area (Trench 11) was reduced by 5 m at its northern extent due to similar concerns. The trenches were located to best evaluate the character of subsurface anomalies identified through geophysical survey (Magnitude Surveys 2022). Additionally, they were located to avoid areas shown to have substantial made-ground deposits associated with colliery waste and demolition identified during the geotechnical assessment of the site (Ergo Limited 2021). In addition to testing identified geophysical anomalies, other trenches provided a 'control' to those trenches, specifically targeting areas where no anomalies were identified.

## 1.3 Aims and Objectives

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." (CIfA 2021a, 4).

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 (CIfA) (2021a), the CIfA *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2020a) and the *Standards for all Archaeological Work in County Durham and Darlington* (DCCAS 2021).
- To produce a report on the findings of the site.
- To ensure compliance with the WSI (Cockcroft 2022).

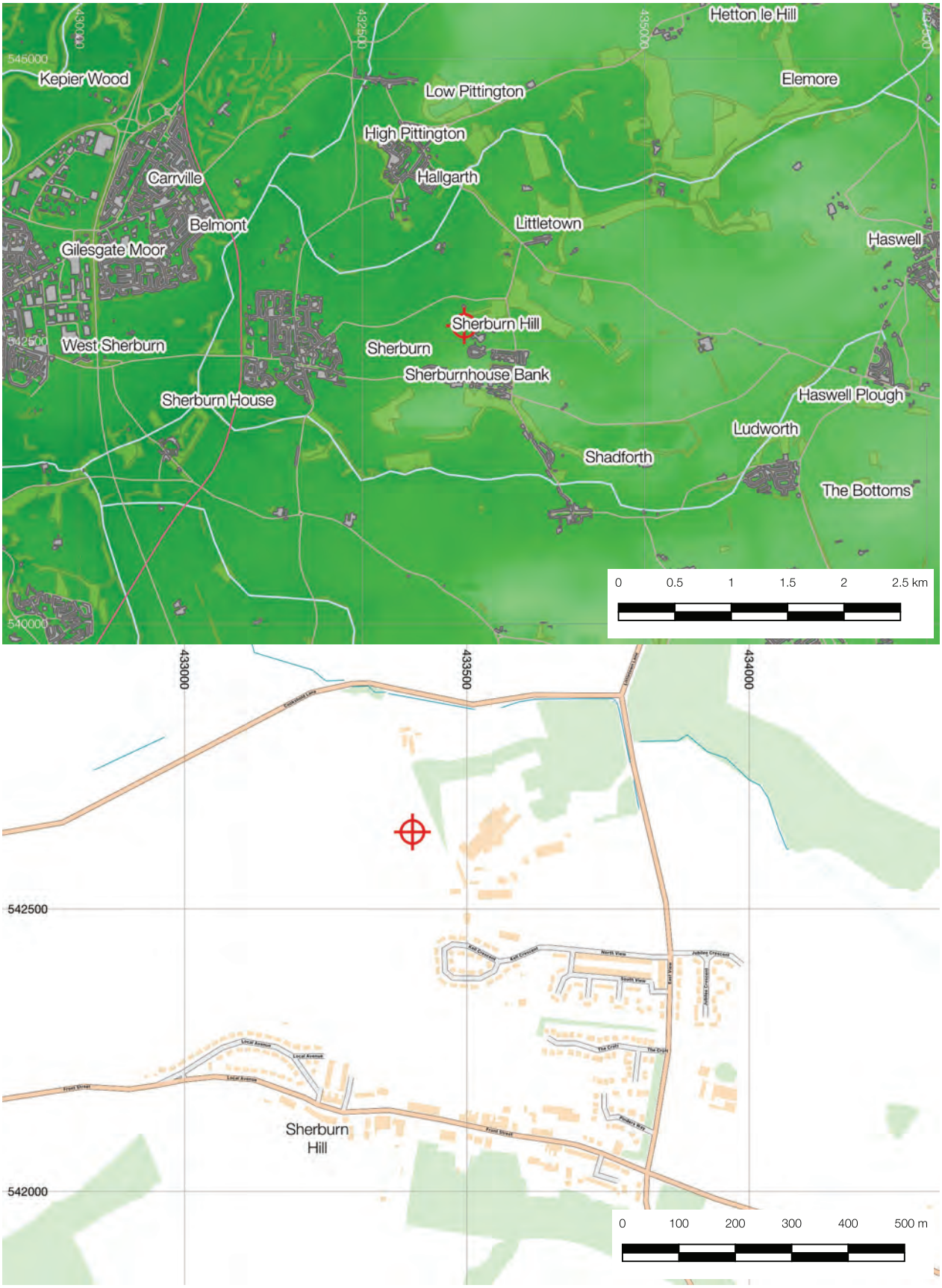
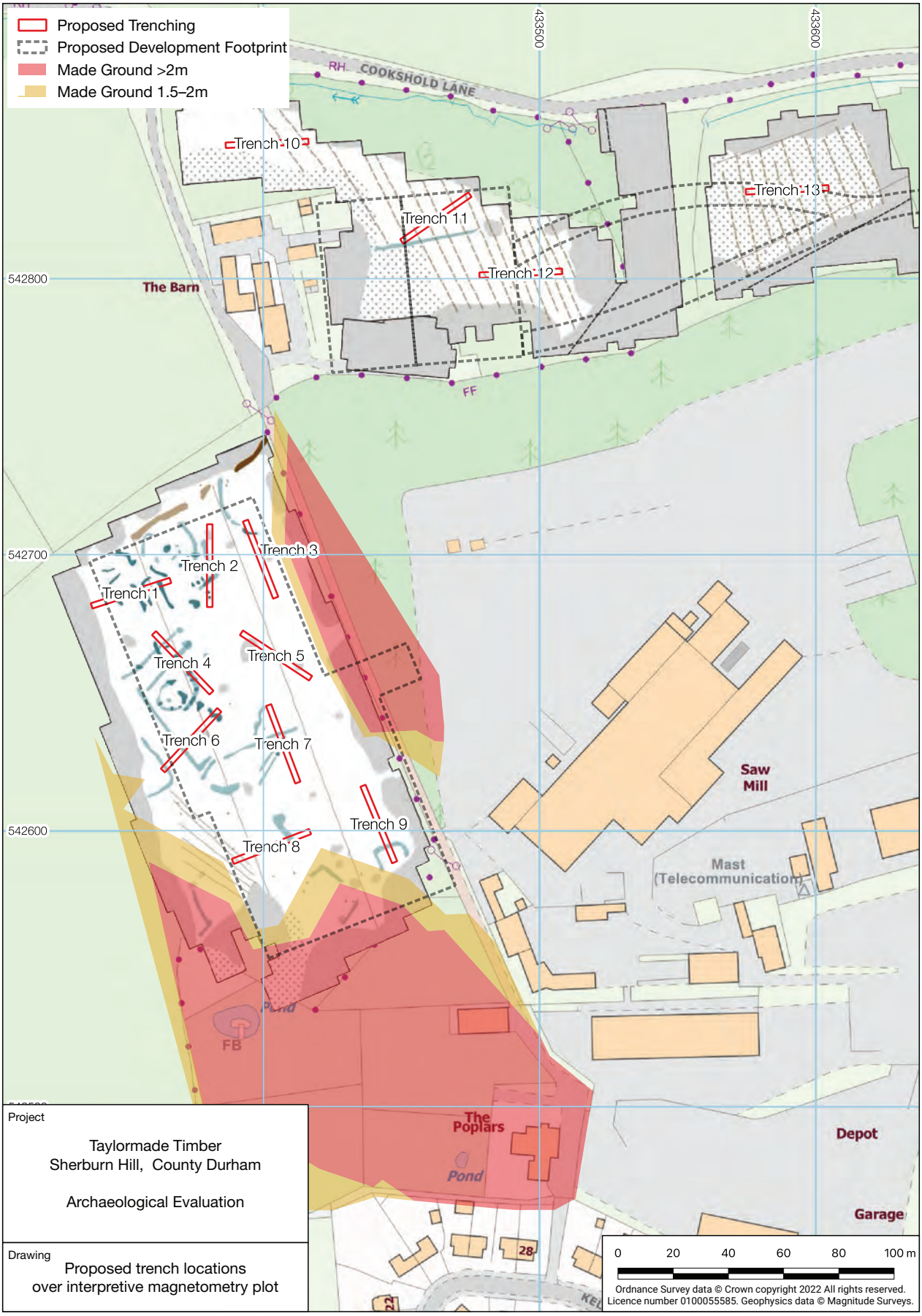



Figure 1 Site location


Proposed Trenching
Proposed Development Footprint
Made Ground >2m
Made Ground 1.5–2m
433500
433600
542800
542700
542600
RH
COOKSHOLD LANE
Trench 10
Trench 11
Trench 12
Trench 13
The Barn
FF
Trench 1
Trench 2
Trench 3
Trench 4
Trench 5
Trench 6
Trench 7
Trench 8
Trench 9
Saw Mill
Mast (Telecommunications)
Pond
FB
The Poplars
Pond
Depot
Garage
28
0 20 40 60 80 100 m
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Project
Taylormade Timber
Sherburn Hill, County Durham
Archaeological Evaluation
Drawing
Proposed trench locations
over interpretive magnetometry plot

# 2. Archaeological and Historical Background

## 2.1 Landscape and Geology

The site sits within the Durham Magnesian Limestone Plateau National Character Area (NCA), characterised as being an area "… open, agricultural landscape … strongly shaped by its industry, with coal mining and quarrying in particular leaving a very clear mark on local landscapes and identity" (NE 2013).

The bedrock geology is part of the Pennine Middle Coal Measures Formation consisting of mudstone, siltstone, sandstone and coal seams with overlying superficial deposits comprised of Devensian diamicton till (BGS 2022). Online mapping provided by the UK Soil Observatory (2022) characterises the soils across the area of proposed development as 'slowly permeable, seasonally wet, acid loamy and clayey soils'

## 2.2 Development of the Site

A history of the site has been gleaned through studying cartographic sources and by consulting the DCCAS Historic Environment Record (DCCAS 2021), which shows that the area of the proposed development has been open agricultural land throughout recorded history. To the north of the development site lies Cooks Hold Farm, which is believed to date from at least the early post-medieval period. To the east and south, sources show the area was occupied by Sherburn Hill Colliery, which dates back to at least the middle of the 19th century, with alterations to ancillary buildings and infrastructure happening throughout the late 19th and early 20th century. The most notable of which being the addition of a north-east to south-west orientated spur line of the Lambton Railway in the late 19th century and the subsequent abandonment of the north to south orientated branch of the Sherburn House line in the early 20th century. The colliery was closed in 1964 and the land is now occupied by an industrial estate.

## 2.3 Previous Work

A geophysical (magnetometry) survey was undertaken within the proposed development area (Magnitude Surveys 2022). Whilst a degree of magnetic disturbance along the boundaries limited the confidence in the results, several magnetic anomalies suggestive of possible archaeological features were tentatively identified to allow the preparation of the trenching strategy. The identified features in the centre of the western block suggested the possible presence of a series of enclosures or folds defined by ditched features, with a possible further ditch-defined boundary extending to the south (Figure 2).

## 2.4 Relevant Research Agenda

The evaluation had the potential to provide information to address gaps in knowledge identified in *Shared Visions: The North-East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment* (Petts and Gerrard 2006) by answering these site-specific research question:

- Can the site provide information into the rural character of the area during the medieval and post-medieval period?
- Can work on the site provide insight into post-medieval and modern coal mining and associated transport links?

# 3. Results

## 3.1 Introduction

Results of the evaluation are presented here divided into the two blocks with a note on general site-wide stratigraphy.

## 3.2 General Stratigraphy

The deposit sequence across the nine trenches excavated within the western block was characterised by a dark silty clay topsoil which directly overlay a pale, yellowish orange natural sandy clay substrate. The northern block was characterised by a similar dark silty clay topsoil which overlaid a pale, greyish brown silty clay subsoil, that in turn, sealed a pale yellowish-orange natural sandy clay substrate similar to that identified in the western block.

## 3.3 Western Block

### 3.3.1 Trench 1

Trench 1 (Figure 3 and Figure 4) was located in the north-western corner of the western block and was situated to target a series of possible linear features detected on the geophysical survey. The trench, which measured 30 m in length by 2 m in width and was aligned on an east to west orientation, was excavated through a firm, very dark greyish brown, silty clay topsoil (100). Topsoil (100) measured, on average, 0.30 m thick and contained frequent inclusions of charcoal and brick fragments. Immediately below topsoil (100) was a deposit of a firm, pale yellowish-orange, natural sandy clay (101). Cut into the natural substrate (101) were a number of modern agricultural features, including two probable modern plough furrows spaced 5 m apart, which were aligned on a north to south orientation, and were located 10 m off the western end of the trench. Also, cut into substrate (101) was a ceramic land drain, which was located 10 m off the eastern end of the trench and aligned on a north to south orientation. Excavations ceased upon reaching the upper limits of the natural substrate (101).

### 3.3.2 Trench 2

Trench 2 (Figure 5 and Figure 6) was located along the northern boundary of the western block and was situated to target a series of possible linear features detected on the geophysical survey. The trench, which measured 30 m in length by 2 m in width and was aligned on a north to south orientation, was excavated through a firm, very dark greyish brown, silty clay topsoil (200). Topsoil (200) measured on average 0.31 m thick and contained frequent inclusions of charcoal and brick fragments. Immediately below topsoil (200) was a deposit of a pale yellowish-orange, natural sandy clay (201). Excavations ceased upon reaching the upper limits of the natural substrate (201). No archaeological features or deposits were identified within this trench.

### 3.3.3 Trench 3

Trench 3 (Figure 7 and Figure 8) was situated at the north-eastern corner the western block and was situated to target a possible curvilinear feature located at the trench's northern extent detected on the geophysical survey. The trench, which was aligned on a north-west to south-east orientation and measured 30 m in length by 2 m in width, was excavated through a firm, very dark greyish brown, silty clay topsoil (300). Topsoil (300) measured on average 0.22 m thick and contained frequent inclusions of charcoal and fragments of brick and glass. Immediately below topsoil (300) was a deposit of a firm, pale yellowish-orange, natural sandy clay (301). Cut into the natural substrate (301) was a ceramic land drain, which ran the length of the trench and was aligned on a north to south orientation. Excavations ceased upon reaching the upper limit of the natural substrate (301).

### 3.3.4 Trench 4

Trench 4 (Figure 9 and Figure 10) was located just off the north-west of centre the western block and was located to target a series of possible linear features detected on the geophysical survey. The trench, which was aligned on a north-west to south-east orientation and measured 30 m in length by 2 m in width, was excavated through a firm, very dark greyish brown, silty clay topsoil (400). Topsoil (400) measured on average 0.28 m thick and contained frequent inclusions of charcoal and fragments of brick and glass. Immediately below topsoil (400) was a deposit of a firm, pale yellowish-orange, natural sandy clay (401). Cut into the natural substrate (401) was a ceramic land drain, which was located 12 m off the trench's northern end and was aligned on a north to south orientation. Excavations ceased upon reaching the upper limit of the natural substrate (401).

Figure 3 Trench 1, facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1 m, 1 x 2 m

Figure 4 South-east-facing section of Trench 1. Scale 1 x 1 m

Figure 5 Trench 2, facing south. Scale 1x1 m, 1x2 m

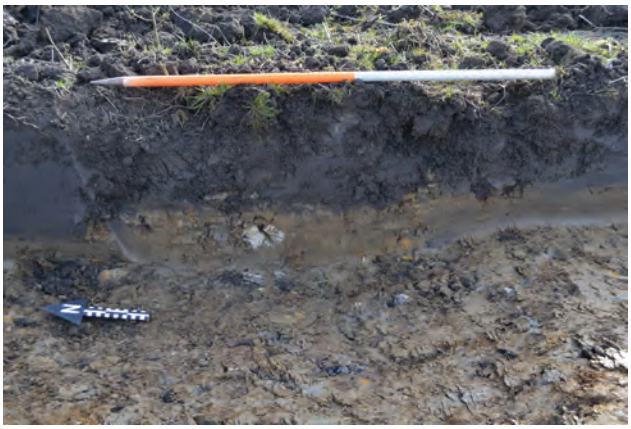

Figure 6 East-facing section of Trench 2. Scale 1x1 m

Figure 7 Trench 3, facing north-east. Scale 1x1 m, 1x2 m

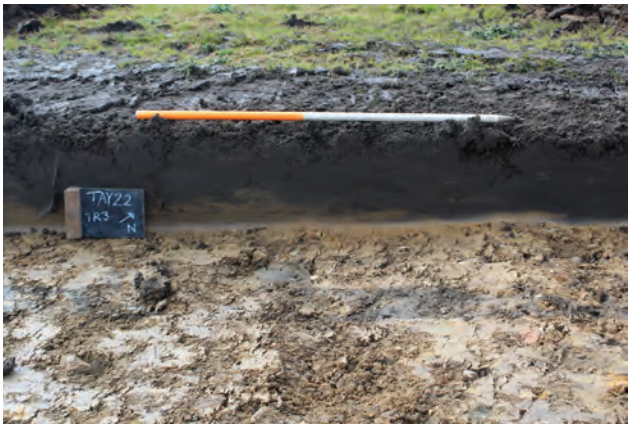


Figure 8 North-west-facing section of Trench 3. Scale 1x1 m, 1x2 m

Figure 9 Trench 4, facing south-west. Scale 1x1 m, 1x2 m

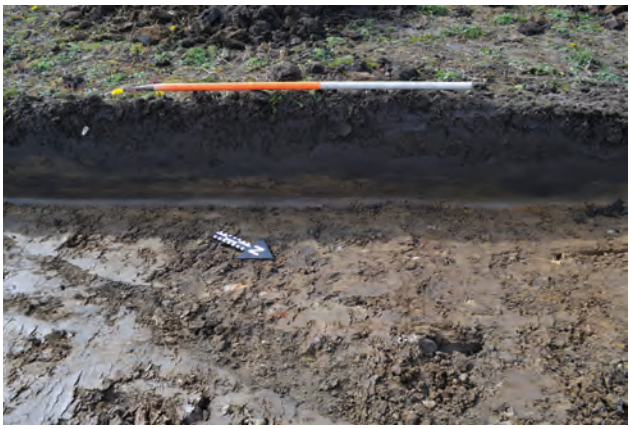

Figure 10 South-west-facing section of Trench 4. Scale 1x1 m

### 3.3.5 Trench 5

Trench 5 (Figure 11 and Figure 12) was located just off the north-east of centre in the western block and was located to target circular anomalies detected on the geophysical survey. The trench, which measured 30 m in length by 2 m in width and was aligned on a north-west to south-east orientation, was excavated through a firm, very dark greyish brown, silty clay topsoil (500). Topsoil (500) measured on average 0.31 m thick and contained frequent inclusions of charcoal and fragments of brick and glass. Immediately below Topsoil (500) was a deposit of a firm, pale yellowish-orange, natural sandy clay (501). Cut into the natural substrate (501) was a series of ceramic land drains, which were aligned on a north-west to south-east orientation and spaced 8 m apart. Excavations ceased upon reaching the upper limits of the natural substrate (501).

### 3.3.6 Trench 6

Trench 6 (Figure 13 and Figure 14) was situated to the south-west of centre in the western block and was located to target a number of possible linear features detected on the geophysical survey. The trench, which was aligned on a north-east to south-west orientation and measured 30 m in length by 2 m in width, was excavated through a firm, very dark greyish brown, silty clay topsoil (600). Topsoil (600) measured on average 0.28 m thick and contained frequent inclusions of charcoal and fragments of brick and glass. Immediately below topsoil (600) was a deposit of a firm, pale yellowish-orange, natural sandy clay (601). Cut into the natural substrate was a ceramic land drain, which was located 14 m off the trench's eastern end and was aligned on a north to south orientation. Excavations ceased at the upper limit of the natural substrate (601).

### 3.3.7 Trench 7

Trench 7 (Figure 15 and Figure 16) was situated in the centre of the western block and was located to target a number of possible linear features detected on the geophysical survey. The trench, which was aligned on a north to south orientation and measured 30 m in length by 2 m in width, was excavated through a firm, very dark greyish brown, silty clay topsoil (700). Topsoil (700) ranged in thickness from 0.27 m at its southern end to 0.32 m at its northern end and contained frequent inclusions of charcoal and fragments of brick and glass. Immediately below topsoil (700) was a deposit of a firm, pale yellowish-orange, natural sandy clay (701). Excavations ceased upon reaching the upper limits of the natural substrate (701). No archaeological features or deposits were identified within this trench.

### 3.3.8 Trench 8

Trench 8 ( Figure 17 and Figure 18) was situated in the south-west of the western block and was located to target a discrete anomaly detected on the geophysical survey. The trench, which measured 30 m in length by 2 m in width and was aligned on an east to west orientation, was excavated through a firm, very dark greyish brown, silty clay topsoil (800). Topsoil (800) measured on average 0.28 m thick and contained frequent inclusions of charcoal and fragments of brick and glass. Immediately below topsoil (800) was a deposit of a firm, pale yellowish-orange, natural sandy clay (801). Cut into the natural substrate (801) was a ceramic land drain, which was located 1 m off the trench's eastern end and was aligned on a north to south orientation. Excavations ceased upon reaching the upper limits of the natural substrate (801).

### 3.3.9 Trench 9

Trench 9 (Figure 19 and Figure 20) was situated in the south-east of the western block and was located to target a possible linear feature detected on the geophysical survey, located at the trenches southern end. The trench, which was aligned on a north-west to south-east orientation and measured 30 m in length by 2 m in width, was excavated through a firm, very dark greyish brown, silty clay topsoil (900). Topsoil (900) ranged in thickness from 0.27 m at its southern end to 0.32 m at its northern end and contained frequent inclusions of charcoal and fragments of brick and glass. Immediately below topsoil (900) was a deposit of a firm, pale yellowish-orange, natural sandy clay (901). Excavations ceased upon reaching the upper limits of the natural substrate (901). No archaeological features or deposits were identified within this trench.

## 3.4 Northern Block

### 3.4.1 Trench 10

Trench 10 was situated at the north-western limits of the northern block, however, due to the steepness of the slope on which the trench was located, it was considered impossible to excavate it safely, and as such the trench was abandoned.

Figure 11 Trench 5, facing south-east. Scale 1x1 m, 1x2 m

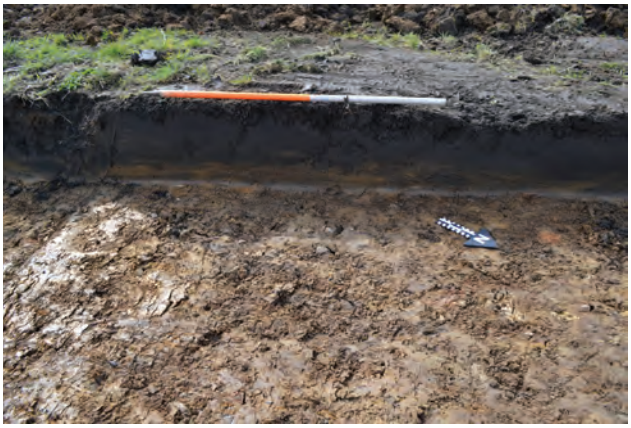

Figure 12 North-east-facing section of Trench 5. Scale 1x1 m

Figure 13 Trench 6, facing south-west. Scale 1x1 m, 1x2 m

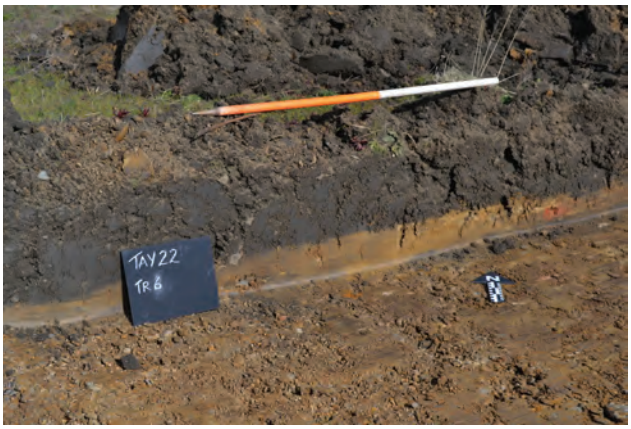


Figure 14 South-west-facing section of Trench 6. Scale 1x1 m

Figure 15 Trench 7, facing south. Scale 1x1 m, 1x2 m

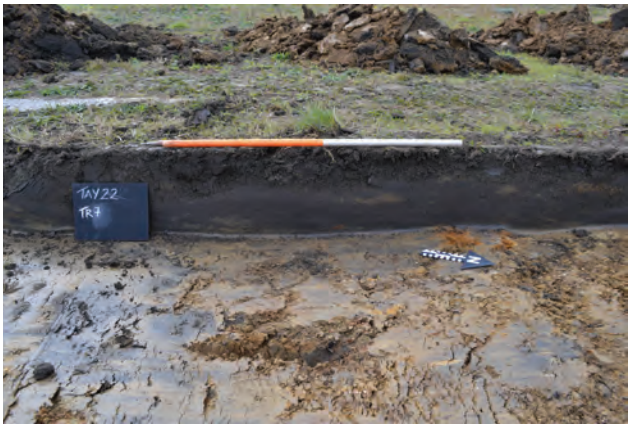


Figure 16 East-facing section of Trench 7. Scale 1x1 m

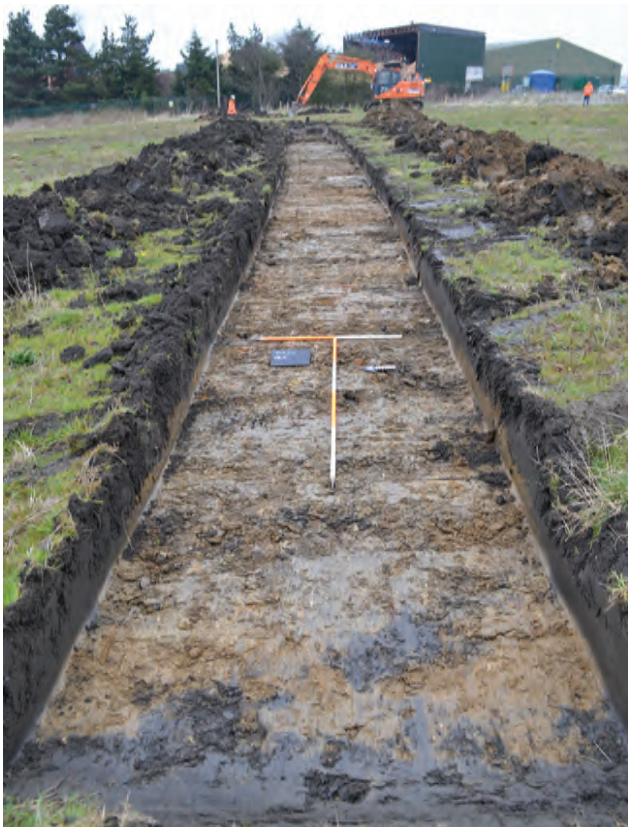

Figure 17 Trench 8, facing east. Scale 1x1 m, 1x2 m

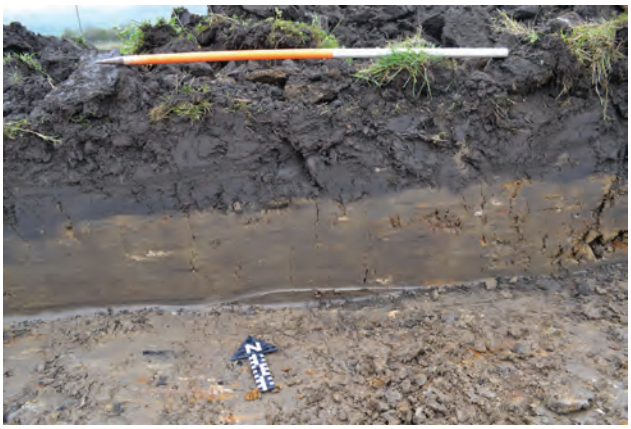

Figure 18 South-facing section of Trench 8. Scale 1x1 m

Figure 19 Trench 9, facing south. Scale 1x1 m, 1x2 m


Figure 20 East-facing section of Trench 9. Scale 1x1 m

Figure 21 Trench 11, facing south. Scale 1x1 m, 1x2 m

Figure 22 East-facing section of Trench 11. Scale 1x1 m

### 3.4.2 Trench 11

Trench 11 (Figure 21 and Figure 22) was situated to the north-west of the centre the northern block and was located to target an area of possible ridge and furrow detected on the geophysical survey. The trench was aligned on a north-east to south-west orientation and measured 25 m in length by 2 m in width, having been shortened at its northern end by 5 m due to the severity of the decline present at that end. The trench was excavated through a firm, very dark greyish brown, silty clay topsoil (1100). Topsoil (1100) measured on average 0.18m thick and contained frequent inclusions of charcoal and fragments of brick. Immediately below topsoil (1100) was a deposit of a pale, grey-brown, silty clay subsoil (1101), which measured 0.09m thick. Immediately below the subsoil (1101) was a deposit of a firm, pale yellowish-orange, natural sandy clay (1102). Cut into the natural substrate (1102) and filled by subsoil (1101) was a series of plough furrows which were aligned on a north to south orientation, spaced 2 m apart and were present across the width of the trench. Excavations ceased upon reaching the upper limits of the natural substrate (1102).

### 3.4.3 Trench 12

Trench 12 (Figure 23 and Figure 24) was situated in the centre of the northern block and was located to target an area of possible ridge and furrow detected on the geophysical survey. The trench, which measured 30 m in length by 2 m in width and was aligned on an east to west orientation, was excavated through a firm, very dark greyish brown, silty clay topsoil (1200). Topsoil (1200) measured on average 0.18m thick and contained frequent inclusions of charcoal and fragments of brick. Immediately below topsoil (1200) was a deposit of a pale, grey brown, silty clay subsoil (1201), which measured 0.10 m thick. Immediately below the subsoil (1201) was a deposit of a firm, pale yellowish-orange, natural sandy clay (1202). Cut into the natural substrate (1202) and filled by subsoil (1201) was a series of plough furrows which were aligned on a north to south orientation, spaced 2 m apart and were present across the width of the trench. Excavations ceased upon reaching the upper limits of the natural substrate (1202).

### 3.4.4 Trench 13

Trench 13 (Figure 25 and Figure 26) was situated towards the eastern extent of the northern block and was located to target an area of possible ridge and furrow detected on the geophysical survey. The trench, which measured 30 m in length by 2 m in width and was aligned on an east to west orientation, was excavated through a firm, very dark greyish brown, silty clay topsoil (1300). Topsoil (1300) measured on average 0.18m thick and contained frequent inclusions of charcoal and fragments of brick. Immediately below topsoil (1300) was a deposit of a firm, pale yellowish-orange, natural sandy clay (1301). Cut into the natural substrate (1301) was a series of plough furrows which were aligned on a north to south orientation, spaced 2 m apart and were present across the width of the trench. Excavations ceased upon reaching the upper limits of the natural substrate (1301).

Figure 23 Trench 12, facing south. Scale 1x1 m, 1x2 m

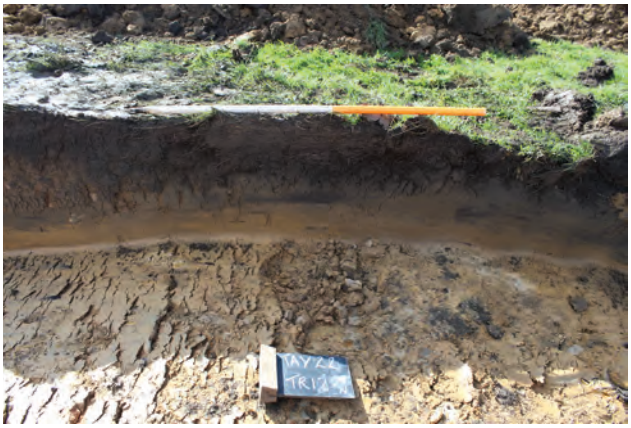
Figure 24 East-facing section of Trench 12. Scale 1x1 m

Figure 25 Trench 13, facing south. Scale 1x1 m, 1x2 m

Figure 26 East-facing section of Trench 13. Scale 1x1 m

# 4. Discussion

## 4.1 Geology and Geomorphology

Across both areas within the overall proposed development area, the evaluation characterised the underlying natural substrate as variable deposits of grey/yellow diamicton (glacially derived clay till), in line with previous geological surveys of the area.

## 4.2 Archaeology

No definitive archaeological features were identified in the western block, aside from relatively modern interventions characterised by the late 19th-century to early 20th-century agricultural drainage. Furthermore, the slope of hill in the western block was gentler in comparison with the surrounding area. This, in combination with the relatively thin deposit sequence identified within the trenches in this area is suggestive of substantial horizontal truncation as a result of modern arable cultivation (i.e., deep ploughing techniques) in combination with the demolition of Sherburn Hill Colliery during the late 20th century.

In the northern block, located outside the footprint of the colliery, the archaeological evaluation identified a phase of ridge and furrow cultivation in Trenches 11, 12 and 13 likely dating to the early post-medieval period. This cultivation either directly truncated the thin subsoil, where present, or the natural substrate precluding the likelihood of pre-existing archaeological remains and their survival indicates little substantial, subsequent activity.

# 5. Conclusions

## 5.1 Confidence, Constraints and Limitations

All trenches except for Trench 10, which was abandoned, were excavated at their planned locations. Additionally, Trench 11 was shortened by 5 m at its northern extent. It is not considered that these minor limitations have affected the accuracy of the results of the evaluation or diminished its value.

## 5.2 Research Potential

The site could have the potential to contribute towards research theme MDii of the *North East Regional Research Framework*, which deals with the need to better understand the formation, patterning and dating of ridge and furrow ploughing (Petts and Gerrard 2006). Aside from this however, the absence of any other significant archaeological features or deposits detected during this evaluation work means the site is not considered to have the potential to contribute to any further research themes identified within the *North East Regional Research Framework*.

## 5.3 Potential Impacts on the Archaeological Resource

The level of ground reduction/reworking noted in Trenches 1–9 suggests that the western block of the proposed development area contains almost no archaeological potential. The potential for direct impact on the archaeological resource in this area is considered to be extremely low. With regards to northern block, the potential impact of the proposed development on the archaeological resource would be the removal of the extant earthwork ridge and furrow ploughing observed. Given their likely date, there remains a low potential that this area could contain surviving archaeological deposits which might predate the ridge and furrow cultivation. With that being said, it must be noted that the topography of the proposed development has also limited its potential for surviving well-preserved or significant archaeological remains. Both blocks of land comprise exposed north-facing slopes, a setting which is not conducive to past settlement due to the increased exposure to the elements.

## 5.4 Recommendations

It is considered that the results of the programme of evaluation trenching are sufficient to inform a planning decision with respect to the archaeological potential of the proposed development site. Given the absence of any significant archaeology within both blocks of the proposed development area, it is considered that no further archaeological works are required.

## 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.

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# Appendix 1 – Context Register

| Context Number | Description | Type | Date |
|---|---|---|---|
| (100) | Topsoil | Deposit | Modern |
| (101) | Natural | Deposit | Glacial |
| (200) | Topsoil | Deposit | Modern |
| (201) | Natural | Deposit | Glacial |
| (300) | Topsoil | Deposit | Modern |
| (301) | Natural | Deposit | Glacial |
| (400) | Topsoil | Deposit | Modern |
| (401) | Natural | Deposit | Glacial |
| (500) | Topsoil | Deposit | Modern |
| (501) | Natural | Deposit | Glacial |
| (600) | Topsoil | Deposit | Modern |
| (601) | Natural | Deposit | Glacial |
| (700) | Topsoil | Deposit | Modern |
| (701) | Natural | Deposit | Glacial |
| (800) | Topsoil | Deposit | Modern |
| (801) | Natural | Deposit | Glacial |
| (900) | Topsoil | Deposit | Modern |
| (901) | Natural | Deposit | Glacial |
| (1100) | Topsoil | Deposit | Modern |
| (1101) | Subsoil | Deposit | Medieval/Post-Medieval |
| (1102) | Natural | Deposit | Glacial |
| (1200) | Topsoil | Deposit | Modern |
| (1201) | Subsoil | Deposit | Medieval/Post-Medieval |
| (1202) | Natural | Deposit | Glacial |
| (1300) | Topsoil | Deposit | Modern |
| (1301) | Natural | Deposit | Glacial |

Table 1 Context register

# Appendix 2 – Illustrations

N

Trench 1

Trench 2

Trench 3

Trench 4

Trench 5

Trench 6

Trench 7

Trench 8

Trench 9

Taylormade Timber Products Ltd - Western Block Site Plan
County Durham
NZ 33392 42644

Fieldwork: CS, NB, and DGC
Drawn: DGC - April 2022
Drawing Version: 1.0



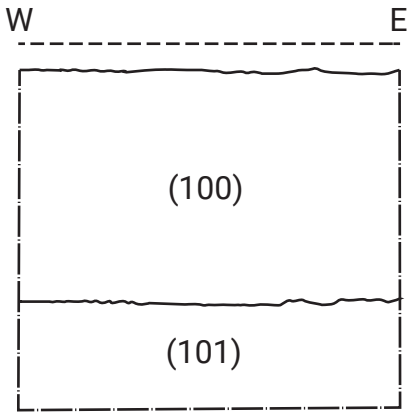
10 m 0 50 m

50 ft 0 200 ft

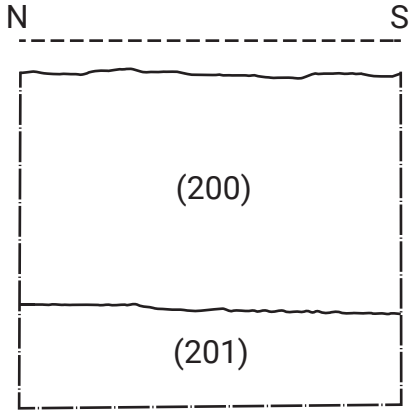
**Legend**

- Limit of excavation
- Field boundary
- Proposed building outline
- Land drain
- Plough furrow

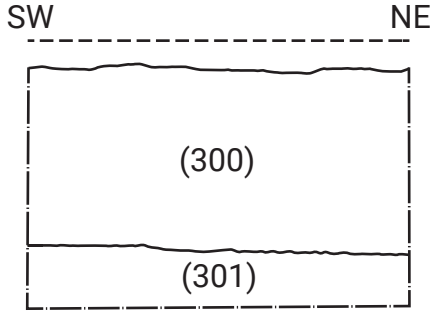
Representative section of Trench 1



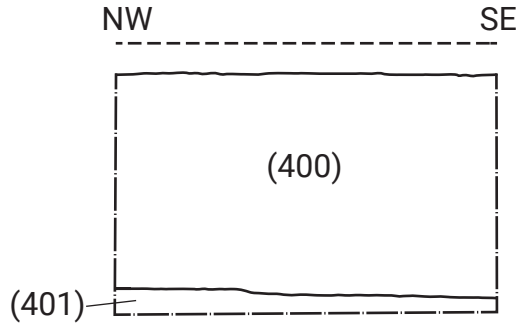

Representative section of Trench 2



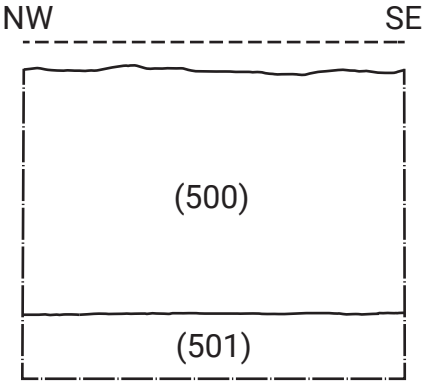

Representative section of Trench 3



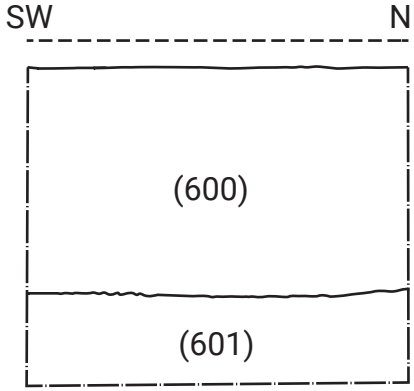

Representative section of Trench 4



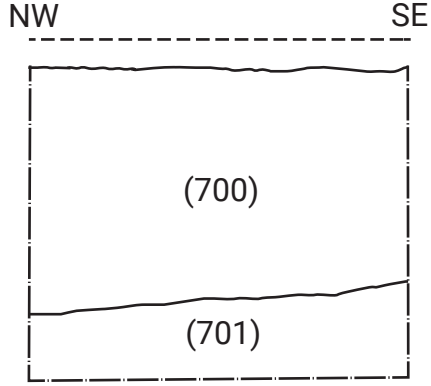

Representative section of Trench 5



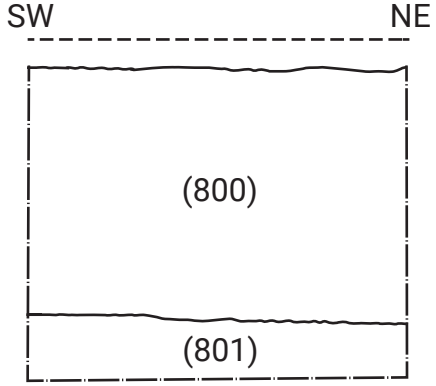

Representative section of Trench 6



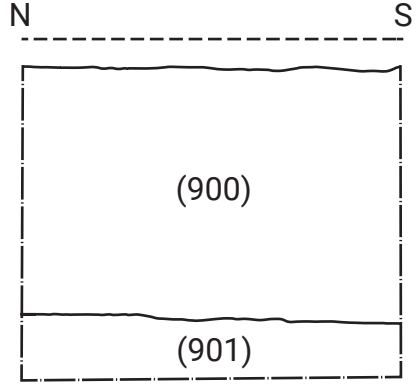

Representative section of Trench 7




Representative section of Trench 8



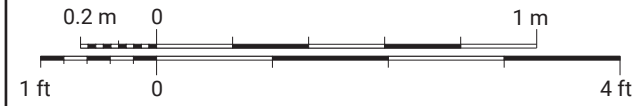

Representative section of Trench 9




Representative sections of evaluation trenches in the western block

Taylormade Timber Products Ltd - Western Block
County Durham
NZ 33392 42644

Fieldwork: CS, NB, and DGC
Drawn: DGC - April 2022
Drawing Version: 1.0



N

Trench 10
(Unexcavated)

Trench 11

Trench 12

Trench 13

Taylormade Timber Products Ltd - Northern Area
County Durham
NZ 33518 42816

Fieldwork: CS, NB, and DGC
Drawn: DGC - April 2022
Drawing Version: 1.0



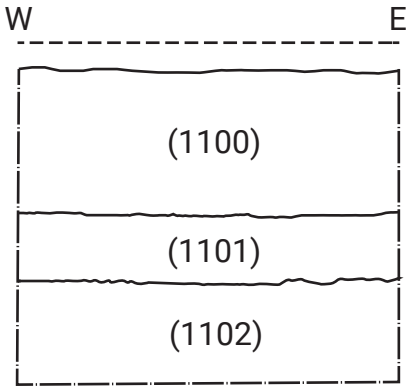
10 m 0 50 m

50 ft 0 200 ft

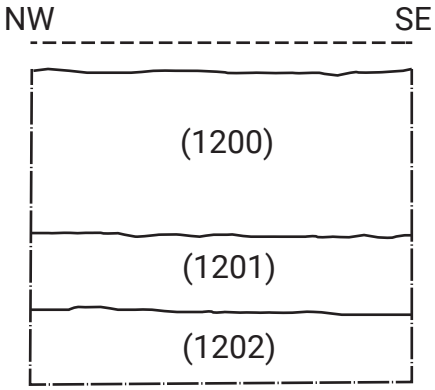
**Legend**

- Limit of excavation
- Field boundary
- Proposed building outline
- Plough furrow

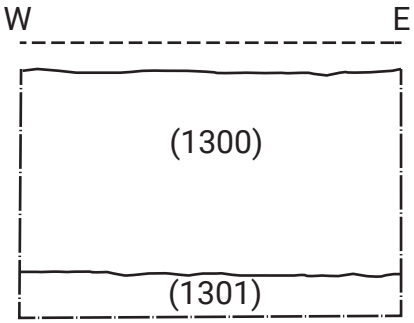
Representative section of Trench 11




Representative section of Trench 12




Representative section of Trench 13




Representative sections of evaluation trenches in the northern block

Taylormade Timber Products Ltd - Western Block
County Durham
NZ 33392 42644

Fieldwork: CS, NB, and DGC
Drawn: DGC - April 2022
Drawing Version: 1.0

# Appendix 3 – Legislation, 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. |
| 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 cultural heritage in planning

## Policy

### National

The principal instrument of national planning policy within England is the *National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)* (MHCLG 2021a) 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. |
| 194 | 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". |
| 195 | Paragraph 195 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. |
| 199 | '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. |
| 200 | '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. |
| 201 | Substantial harm to a designated heritage asset will be refused unless it is outweighed by substantial public benefits. |
| 202 | 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'. |
| 203 | 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

### 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 *County Durham Plan* (2020). Within the extant local plan, the following are key policies with reference to cultural heritage and the nature of the proposed development:

| Policy | Key Text |
|---|---|
| 44 | Non-designated Assets<br><br>A balanced judgement will be applied where development impacts upon the significance and setting of non-designated heritage assets.<br><br>In determining applications which would affect a known or suspected non-designated heritage asset with an archaeological interest, particular regard will be given to the following:<br><br>i. ensuring that archaeological features are generally preserved in situ; and<br><br>j. in cases where the balanced judgement concludes preservation in situ should not be pursued, it will be a requirement that they are appropriately excavated and recorded with the results fully analysed and made publicly available. |

Table 4 Key local planning policies with reference to cultural heritage

## Guidance

During the preparation of this document and during the fieldwork and post-excavation work, the following guidance documents will be referred to, where relevant:

- *Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance* (EH 2008)
- *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (EH 2006a)
- *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) Technical Guide 1 Digital Archiving and Digital Dissemination* (EH 2006b)
- *Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation (Second edition)* (EH 2011)
- *Standard and guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (CIfA 2020a)
- *Standard and guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials* (CIfA 2014)
- *Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives* (CIfA 2020b)
- *Standards for all Archaeological Work on County Durham and Darlington* (DCCAS 2021)
- *Yorkshire, The Humber and The North East: A Regional Statement of Good Practice for Archaeology in the Development Process* (SYAS 2019).

# Appendix 4 – Written Scheme of Investigation

# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Project Background

This Written Scheme of investigation (WSI) has been prepared by Solstice Heritage LLP on behalf of Taylormade Timber Products Ltd to allow the agreement of a scope of works of an archaeological evaluation. The evaluation is required by Durham County Council in advance of proposed development within land to the west of the existing Taylormade Timber Products Ltd site. This evaluation is required to understand the presence and character of the archaeological resource within the area to potentially inform the design of the project and best strategy going forwards.

## 1.2 Site Location

The proposed development area comprises two blocks of land. The first is situated to the west of Taylormade Timber Products Ltd, centred on National Grid Reference NZ 33392 42644, whilst the second lies to the north of the Taylormade Timber premises (NZ 33518 42816), bounded by Cookshold Lane to the north and the field boundaries associated with Cookshold Farm and Kennels to the west. The western fields of the proposed development have been under arable cultivation, but the block to the north is grass pasture.

## 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 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.

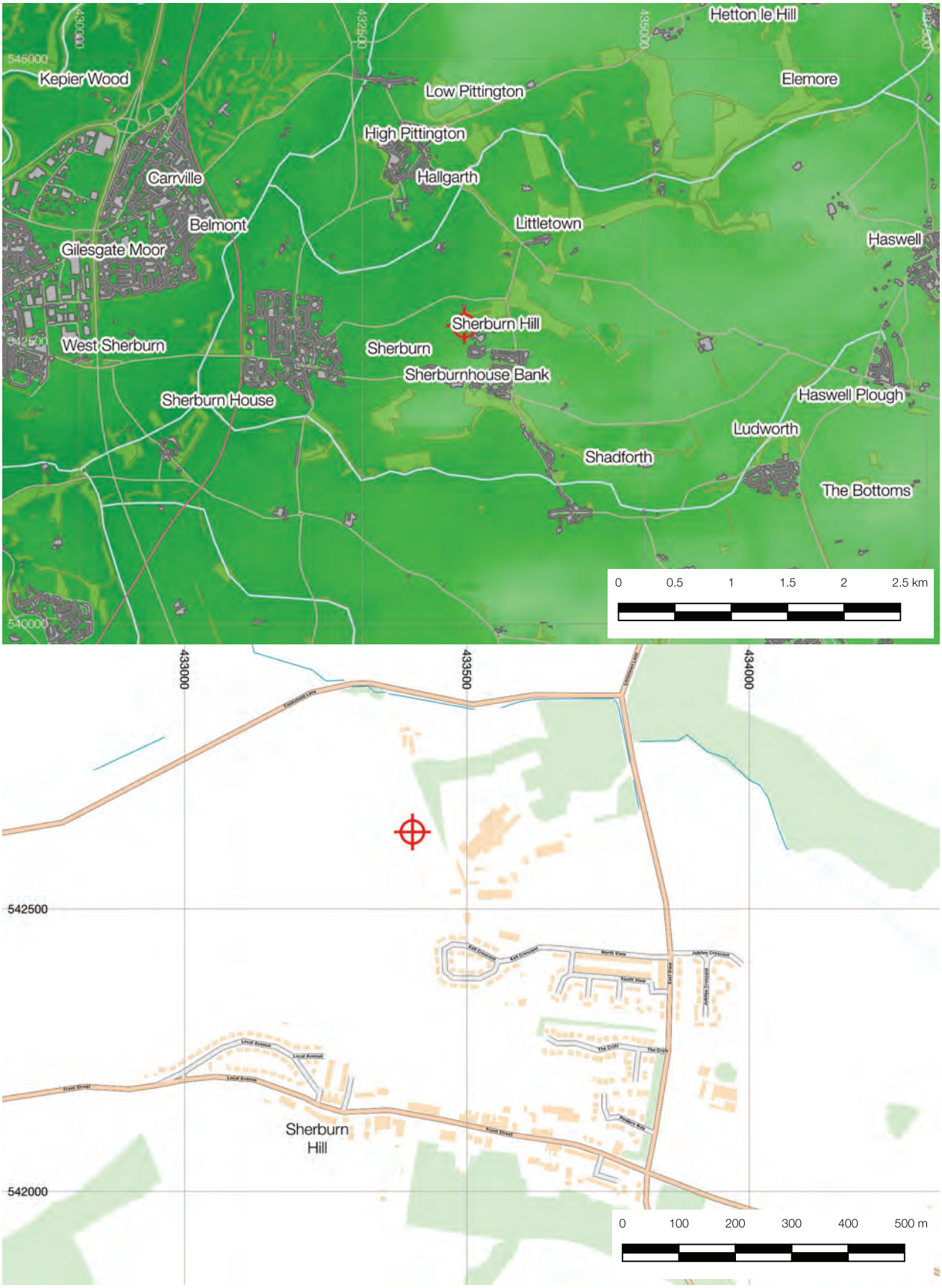
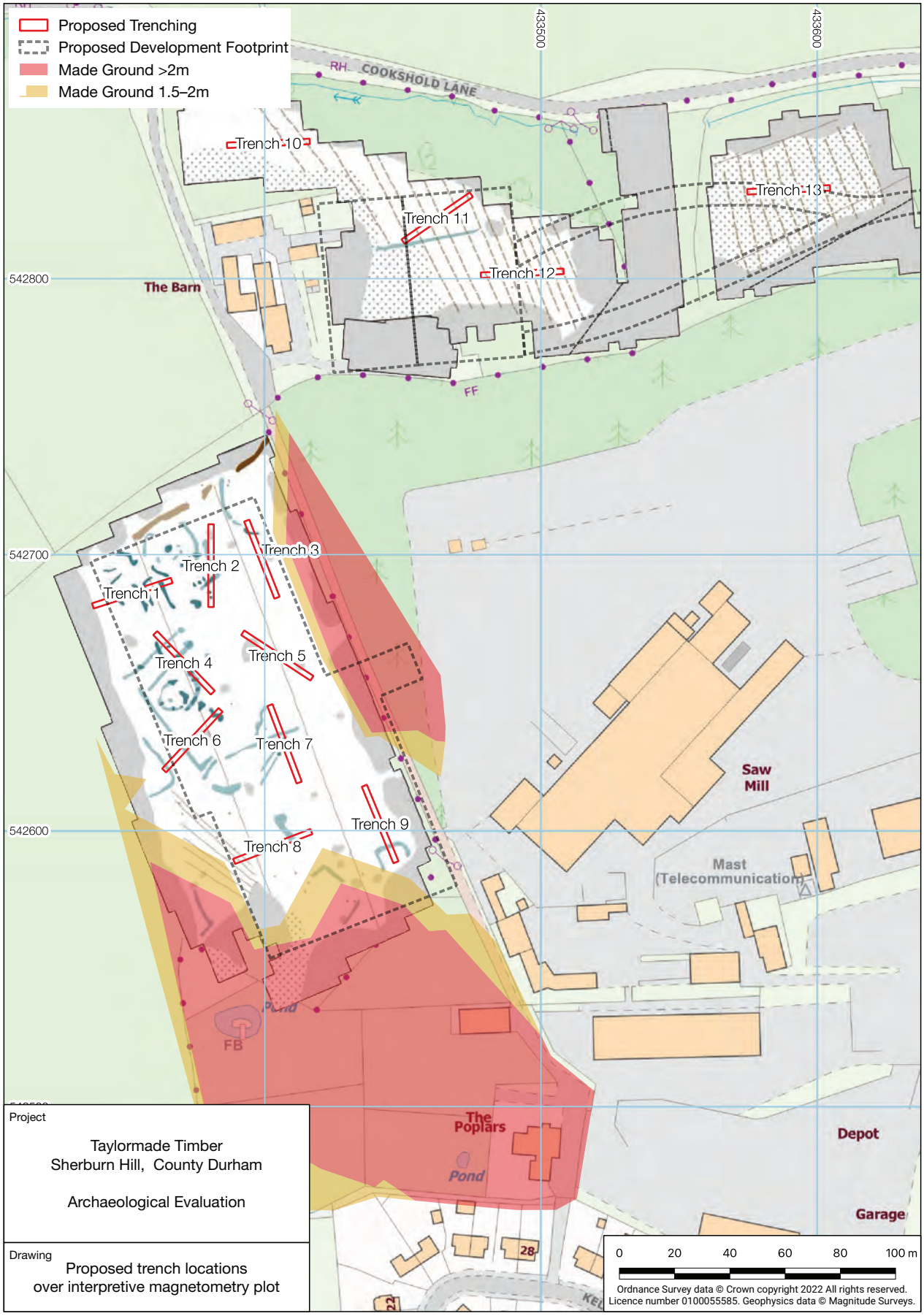



Figure 1 Site location


Proposed Trenching
Proposed Development Footprint
Made Ground >2m
Made Ground 1.5–2m
433500
433600
542800
542700
542600
RH
COOKSHOLD LANE
Trench 10
Trench 11
Trench 12
Trench 13
The Barn
FF
Trench 1
Trench 2
Trench 3
Trench 4
Trench 5
Trench 6
Trench 7
Trench 8
Trench 9
Saw Mill
Mast (Telecommunications)
Pond
FB
The Poplars
Pond
Depot
Garage
28
0 20 40 60 80 100 m
Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright 2022 All rights reserved.
Licence number 0100055585. Geophysics data © Magnitude Surveys.
Project
Taylormade Timber
Sherburn Hill, County Durham
Archaeological Evaluation
Drawing
Proposed trench locations
over interpretive magnetometry plot

# 2. Archaeological and Historical Background

## 2.1 Development of the Site

A history of the site has been gleaned through studying cartographic sources and by consulting the DCCAS Historic Environment Record (DCCAS 2021), which shows that the area of the proposed development has been open agricultural land throughout recorded history. To the north of the development site lies Cooks Hold Farmstead, which is believed to date from at least the early post-medieval period. To the east and south, sources show the area was occupied by Sherburn Hill Colliery, which dates back to at least the middle of the 19th century, with alterations to ancillary buildings and infrastructure happening throughout the late 19th and early 20th century. The most notable of these was the addition of a north-east-to-south-west-orientated spur line of the Lambton Railway in the late 19th century and the subsequent abandonment of the north-to-south-orientated branch of the Sherburn House line in the early 20th century. The colliery was closed in 1964, and the land is now occupied by an industrial estate.

## 2.2 Previous Work

A geophysical (magnetometry) survey was undertaken within the proposed development area (Magnitude Surveys 2022). Whilst a degree of magnetic disturbance along the boundaries limited the confidence in the results, several magnetic anomalies suggestive of possible archaeological features were tentatively identified from the preliminary plots to allow the preparation of the trenching strategy proposed in this document. The identified features in the centre of the western block suggest the possible presence of a series of enclosures or folds defined by ditched features, with a possible further ditch-defined boundary extending to the south (Figure 2).

# 3. Aims and Objectives

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" (CIfA 2020a, 4).

The overarching aim of the evaluation is:

- To gain information about the presence, character, and condition of the potential archaeological resource within the area of the proposed development.

The objectives of the evaluation are:

- To attempt to establish the condition and character of any archaeological and palaeoenvironmental deposits that would be impacted by the proposed development works
- 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 (CIfA) (2021a), the CIfA *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (2020a) and the *Standards for all Archaeological Work in County Durham and Darlington* (DCCAS 2021)
- To ensure compliance with the WSI (this document).

# 4. Methodology

Where not otherwise stated, the CIfA *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation* (2020a) and the *Standards for all Archaeological Work in County Durham and Darlington* (DCCAS 2021) will apply.

## 4.1 Trench Locations

The evaluation will comprise the excavation of 13 targeted trenches measuring 2 m x 30 m. This represents a sample of 4.88% of the impact footprint of the proposed development. The proposed trenches, shown on Figure 2, have been located to investigate areas of impact of the proposed development to best evaluate the character of the subsurface anomalies identified through geophysical survey. Trenches have also been located to avoid those areas shown to have deep made ground associated with colliery waste within the geotechnical assessment of the site (Ergo Limited 2021) as well as to serve the dual purpose of testing more ephemeral geophysical anomalies and provide a 'control' to those trenches which have been specifically targeted

## 4.2 Excavation

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 1 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 natural substratum 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.*1m in diameter or equivalent area | 50% | 100% |
| Cut feature greater than *c.*1m in diameter or equivalent area | 25% or until form, function and date can be adequately characterised | 100% |
| Linear features | 10% in 1m slots evenly spaced along the length of the features though focussing on junctions and relationships with other features where present. Minimum sample of 2m where the linear feature is less than 20m in total length. Sufficient slots will be excavated up to the maximum of 50% until form, function and date can be adequately characterised | 50% |

Table 1 Sampling strategy for investigation of cut features

## 4.3 Recording

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 record of each trench will also be made on a *pro forma* sheet which will describe overall form, the local geomorphological and soil profile, features within and artefacts recovered.

A drawn record will be compiled of all trenches, including plan and section/profile illustrations at a suitable scale (usually 1:10 and 1:20). Plans and sections of any features will also be made where they are not suitably captured on the overall drawings of the trenches.

The photographic record of the groundworks will be undertaken in high-resolution digital format. Photographs will be taken of all trenches and features in addition to general site photography.

All trenches will be located and tied to the national grid through an established survey network. Initial survey control will be established with a site datum located using a Leica Smartrover survey-grade GPS with an accuracy of ±10 mm. A control network from the site datum and all further survey measurements will be undertaken using a Leica TCR805 total station (5" accuracy). All features will be located accurately within this network and their height above ordnance datum recorded.

## 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 local Coroner will be informed, and the correct procedures will be followed as outlined under the Treasure Act 1996.

## 4.5 Human Remains

Should human remains be encountered then work will cease, the local coroner will be informed, and if excavation of the remains is deemed necessary in consultation with the landowner and the local authority archaeological curator, then a Ministry of Justice (MoJ) licence will be obtained for the work. The default position for human remains is that they will be revealed, recorded and re-buried unless there is a compelling reason to excavate the remains for further analysis. In this instance, excavation will only proceed in line with agreed legal processes and licensing and in accordance with industry-standard guidance on the treatment of human remains within archaeological excavations (CIfA and BABAO 2018).

## 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 the monitoring works, 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. Should it be deemed necessary to excavate intact archaeological deposits or features, in consultation with the Durham County Council Senior Archaeologist, a feature-specific sampling strategy will be agreed with the client and the Durham County Council Senior Archaeologist. Sampling and assessment methodologies will follow best practice as set out in relevant guidance documents, including *Environmental Archaeology* (English Heritage 2011).

## 4.7 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:

- The archaeological remains will be delimited and no machinery or contractors other than project archaeologists will operate in the area.
- The client, Durham County Council Senior Archaeologist, and any other key stakeholders will be informed, and an agreement will be reached on any amendments to the methodology and project scope.
- Where required, a modified WSI or addendum to this document will be prepared and agreed with all stakeholders.

# 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* (CIfA 2020b). The processing will be undertaken by a suitably qualified and experienced professional archaeologist. Processing and cataloguing will result in a quantification of all artefacts and ecofacts suitable for submission to a relevant specialist for full assessment. Archive retention and selection in terms of small finds will follow the process set out in the CIfA *Toolkit for Selecting Archaeological Archives* (CIfA 2021).

## 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 Senior Archaeologist

## 5.3 Reporting

Following completion of fieldwork, all information will be synthesised in a project report, which will include as a minimum:

- Project number, OASIS reference number and site grid reference
- A non-technical summary of results
- Introduction
- Aims and method statement
- Stratigraphic description outlining all archaeological deposits, features, classes and numbers of artefacts and spot dating of significant finds
- Results of any specialist assessment and analysis undertaken on artefacts and ecofacts recovered through the course of the fieldwork
- Discussion of results related to previous research and fieldwork, and in the local, regional and, where relevant, national context
- Illustrative photography
- Location plan of the site of at least 1:10000 scale
- Extent plan of the site and, where necessary, individual trenches at recognised scale(s) positioning all archaeological and palaeoenvironmental features and deposits in relation to the national grid
- Plans and sections of all archaeological features at a suitable scale
- Above Ordnance Datum (aOD) levels on plans and incorporated into the text
- Legislative, policy and guidance framework
- A copy of this WSI as an appendix.

Any variation to the minimum requirements above will be approved in advance and in writing by the Durham County Council Senior Archaeologist. One bound hard copy and one digital copy will be supplied to the client, Durham County Council Historic Environment Record Officer.

## 5.4 Archiving

Within 6 months of the completion of all post-fieldwork stages of the project, a fully digital archive, including all fieldwork records will be compiled and deposited with an appropriate repository. The archive will be compiled in accordance with the *Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of*

*Archaeological Archives* (CIfA 2020c), the *Toolkit for Selecting Archaeological Archives* (CIfA 2021b) and and the *Standards for all Archaeological Work in County Durham and Darlington* (DCCAS 2021, 18–19).

The archive and all material in it will be compiled in accordance with the *Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives* (CIfA 2020c) and 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
- All born 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).

All born digital material will also be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) in accordance with the *Standards for all Archaeological Work in County Durham and Darlington* (DCCAS 2021), 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 Senior Archaeologist. This may include a digital download document made freely available or publication in a local, regional or national journal

## 5.7 Extensive Remains and/or Significant Finds

In the event of discovery of archaeological remains which are more extensive and/or significant than could reasonably have been anticipated then this will require a more detailed post-fieldwork approach. Should this be required, a suitable and proportionate post-fieldwork methodology will be agreed with the client and the Durham County Council Senior Archaeologist upon completion of fieldwork, including a suitable level of publication and/or dissemination as noted above.

# 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. In addition, Chris has completed Historic England's online training in the use of *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (English Heritage 2006a). It is anticipated that the fieldwork will be undertaken by Chris Scott MCIfA, David Cockcroft ACIfA and Nathan Berry PCIfA of Solstice Heritage LLP, though in the event of a change, details of fieldwork staff will be confirmed in writing to the Local Authority Senior Archaeologist prior to commencement.

## 6.2 Post-Fieldwork Staff

The post-fieldwork reporting and archiving will also be managed by Jim Brightman, ensuring continuity from the fieldwork stage. Details of any other post-fieldwork or reporting staff will be confirmed in writing to the Local Authority Senior Archaeologist 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 | Dr Frederick Foulds | Independent specialist |
| Prehistoric pottery | Dr Chris Cumberpatch | Independent specialist |
| Romano-British Pottery | Dr David Griffiths | Independent specialist |
| Roman brick/tile | Dr David Griffiths | Independent specialist |
| Early glasswork | Dr Elizabeth Foulds | Independent specialist |
| Medieval/Post-medieval pottery | Dr Chris Cumberpatch | Independent specialist |
| Archaeometallurgy | Dr Gerry McDonnell | Gerry McDonnell Archaeometallurgy |
| Clay pipe | Dr Elizabeth Foulds | University of Liverpool |
| Industrial/later glasswork | Jim Brightman | Solstice Heritage |
| Industrial/later metalwork | Chris Scott | Solstice Heritage |
| Medieval/later CBM | Jim Brightman | Solstice Heritage |
| Conservation of artefacts | Jennifer Jones | Independent specialist |
| Botanical macrofossils | Dr Charlotte O'Brien | Archaeological Services Durham University (ASDU) |
| Pollen | Dr Charlotte O'Brien | ASDU |
| Human remains | Dr Malin Holst | York Osteoarchaeology |
| Faunal remains | Dr Hannah Russ | 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 anticipated that the trenching will commence in March–April 2022. Two weeks' notice of the commencement of fieldwork will be given to the DCC Senior Archaeologist.

## 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 Durham County Council Archaeology Service contact for monitoring of the project will be:

Archaeology Section
Environment & Design,
Environment,
Neighbourhoods and Climate Change
Durham County Council
County Hall
Durham
DH1 5UQ

Direct Line: 03000 267009
E-mail: archaeology@durham.gov.uk

# 7. Quality Assurance

## 7.1 Standards

In preparation for a current application to be accredited as a Registered Organisation with CIfA, Solstice Heritage LLP has passed a resolution to ensure that all work is committed to be undertaken in line with the CIfA *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2021a) and all CIfA standards and guidance. The Project Manager is a full corporate member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (MCIfA level), and all Solstice Heritage staff are accredited corporate members of CIfA or are currently awaiting determination of their application to become such.

## 7.2 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. The archaeological fieldwork risk assessment will also comply with current COVID-19 control measures and guidelines.

## 7.3 Insurance

Solstice Heritage LLP holds full Professional Indemnity, Public Liability and Employer's Liability insurance, brokered through Towergate Insurance, who are a specialist in providing relevant insurance support to archaeological contractors and consultancies.

# 8. Sources

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2020a. *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation*. Reading, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

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Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2020c. *Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials*. Reading, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2021a. *Code of Conduct*. Reading, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2021b. *Toolkit for Selecting Archaeological Archives*. <https://www.archaeologists.net/selection-toolkit>. Accessed [14th October 2021].

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and the British Association for Biological Anthropology and Osteoarchaeology. 2018. *Updated Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains*. Swindon and Cambridge, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and the British Association for Biological Anthropology and Osteoarchaeology.

Durham County Council. 2020. County Durham Plan. Adopted 2020. Durham, Durham County Council.

Durham County Council Archaeology Section. 2021. *Standards for all Archaeological Work on County Durham and Darlington*. Durham, Durham County Council Archaeology Section.

English Heritage. 2006a. *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment*. Swindon, English Heritage.

English Heritage. 2006b. *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) Technical Guide 1 Digital Archiving and Digital Dissemination*. Swindon, English Heritage.

English Heritage. 2008. *Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance*. London, English Heritage.

English Heritage. 2011. *Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation (Second edition)*. London, English Heritage.

Ergo Limited. 2021. *Land at Taylormade Timber, Sherburn Hill: Phase II Geo-Environmental Assessment*. Unpublished report prepared by Ergo Limited.

Magnitude Surveys. 2022. *Geophysical Survey Report of Taylormade Timber, Sherburn Hill, Durham*. Unpublished report prepared by Magnitude Surveys. MSNZ1123.

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG). 2021a. *National Planning Policy Framework*. London, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG). 2021b. *National Planning Practice Guidance*. London, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

# Appendix 1 – Legislation, 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. |
| Hedgerows Regulations 1997 | The Hedgerow Regulations (1997) include criteria by which hedgerows can be regarded as historically important (Schedule 1 Part III). |

Table 3 Legislation relating to cultural heritage in planning

## Policy

### National

The principal instrument of national planning policy within England is the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (MHCLG 2021a) 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. |
| 194 | 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". |
| 195 | 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. |
| 199 | '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. |
| 200 | '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. |
| 201 | Substantial harm to a designated heritage asset will be refused unless it is outweighed by substantial public benefits. |

| Paragraph | Key Points |
|---|---|
| 202 | 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'. |
| 203 | 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 *County Durham Plan* ( Durham County Council 2020). Within the extant local plan, the following are key policies with reference to cultural heritage and the nature of the proposed development:

| Policy | Key Text |
|---|---|
| 44 | Non-designated Assets<br><br>A balanced judgement will be applied where development impacts upon the significance and setting of non-designated heritage assets.<br><br>In determining applications which would affect a known or suspected non-designated heritage asset with an archaeological interest, particular regard will be given to the following:<br><br>i. ensuring that archaeological features are generally preserved in situ; and<br><br>j. in cases where the balanced judgement concludes preservation in situ should not be pursued, it will be a requirement that they are appropriately excavated and recorded with the results fully analysed and made publicly available. |

Table 5 Key local planning policies with reference to cultural heritage and the proposed project

## Guidance

During the preparation of this document and during the fieldwork and post-excavation work, the following guidance documents will be referred to, where relevant:

- *Standards for all Archaeological Work on County Durham and Darlington* (DCCAS 2021)
- *National Planning Practice Guidance* (MHCLG 2021b)
- *Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance* (EH 2008)
- *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (EH 2006a)
- *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) Technical Guide 1 Digital Archiving and Digital Dissemination* (EH 2006b)
- *Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation (Second edition)* (EH 2011)
- *Standard and guidance for Archaeological Evaluation* (CIfA 2020a)
- *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA 2020b)
- *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (CIfA 2020c)

# Appendix 2 – Project Manager Statement of Competence

# Chris Scott

BA (Hons), MA, MCIfA

## 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 challenges. 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. I acted as the regional manager for the north-east and Scotland and was also the company health and safety officer.
- 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, organising their operations around the smooth and safe running of the museum, 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. Within this role, and due to the portfolio of collections I managed, I became responsible for the museum's proactive management of asbestos within the collections, including liaison with external asbestos removal contractors. I was also responsible, as the appointed Radiation Supervisor, for the museum's compliance with the Ionising Radiation Regulations and our management of radioactive items within the collections.

## 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 19th and 20th 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* 5th 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.

# Appendix 3 – Project Manager Certificate of MoRPHE Training

Historic England

# Certificate of Completion

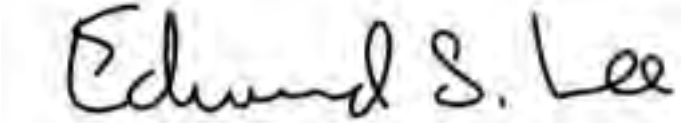
This is to certify that

## Chris Scott

has completed the following Historic England training course:

## Using MoRPHE

Awarded on 12/01/2022



Edmund Lee, Knowledge Transfer Manager, Historic England

This course can count towards CPD requirements for members of professional bodies body (e.g. CIfA, IHBC, RTPI). Please check with your organisation.