

AD348

**Phase 2/3 Brack's Farm,
Bishop Auckland
County Durham**

Archaeological Evaluation



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Commissioned by	Gleeson Homes
Project Number	348
OASIS Number	adarchae1-393539
Date	May 2020

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

AD Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by Gleeson Homes to carry out evaluation trenching in advance of the construction of a proposed housing development on land forming part of the Phase 2/3 development site at Brack's Farm, Bishop Auckland, County Durham.

No significant archaeological features were located in the three trenches excavated in May 2020, which represent trenches supplementary to an earlier phase of evaluation trenching undertaken by Archaeology Services Durham University in February 2018 on behalf of Keepmoat Homes (ASDU 2018).

The three trenches excavated in May 2020 located in the southern portion of the site produced negative with no significant archaeological features being found. It was apparent that this area of the site has been heavily disturbed during works associated with the construction of the Phase 1 development immediately to the east. These building works and the construction of a SUDS pond in the south-western corner of the site were undertaken in 2018 prior to the involvement of Gleeson Homes in the development.

In view of the negative results no further archaeological work would be appropriate in this southern portion of the site where the supplementary trenches were excavated.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Project

1.1.1 AD Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by Gleeson Homes to carry out an archaeological evaluation in advance of the construction of a proposed housing development on land at Brack's Farm, Bishop Auckland (Fig. 1).

1.1.2 The Phase 2/3 development area lies at Brack's Farm to the north-west of the A688. The site, centred at NGR NZ 2196 2920, consists of agricultural fields ranged around Brack's Farm. The majority of the Phase 2/3 site had already been tested by evaluation trenches in February 2018 (ASDU 2018).

1.1.3 The archaeological evaluation follows on from work carried out in February 2018 by Archaeological Services Durham University (ASDU) on behalf of Keepmoat Homes, in which 32 trenches out of a planned 37 evaluation trenches were excavated (ASDU report 4676). However when this work was undertaken in 2018 two 50m by 1.8m trenches could not be excavated in the south-east corner of the site due to the installation of modern drainage services associated with the adjacent Phase 1 development, and a further three trenches were not excavated as a SUDS pond was under construction. These building works and the construction of a SUDS pond in the south-western corner of the site were undertaken in 2018 prior to the involvement of Gleeson Homes in the development.

1.1.4 In the present phase of works AD Archaeology have re-sited these two trenches in the south-east corner of the site (excavated as three 33m by 1.8m trenches) to avoid disturbing the services. The trenching, which concludes the evaluation works at the site, was carried out in week commencing 4th of May 2020.

1.2 Geology, Geomorphology and Topography

1.2.1 The site rests on Pennine Middle Coal Measures of the Carboniferous, sealed by Quaternary glacial deposits of the Devensian Stage of the Upper Pleistocene. The underlying rocks are overlain by a mantle of Boulder Clay and Morainic Drift with Glacial Sands and Gravels in places (BGS).

1.2.2 The area of the site is uneven and undulating with several mounds of soil, refuse, building and waste materials. This south-east portion of the site has been used as a building compound and there are areas of compacted hardstanding and areas that are deeply rutted.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 There are no known prehistoric remains within the site. A number of features of possible prehistoric date in the vicinity include a possible Neolithic long barrow listed in the HER (5709) 1.13km to the north; a bank on the north side of St.

Andrew's Church (600m south) interpreted as an Iron Age hill fort (HER 1467); an Iron Age rectilinear enclosure (HER 365) located 850m south-west; a mound located only 80m north (HER 1476); a rectilinear earthwork (HER 2676) 1km to the north-west; a crop mark (HER 2850) visible on aerial photographs 1.15km to the south; a rectilinear enclosure (HER 7997) 1.15km to the south; an enclosure (HER 8000) 1.5km to the south-east and a crop mark (HER 2861) 1.5km to the south. Aerial photographs have also revealed a circular feature 370m to the north, near to Auckland Park which may be of Iron Age date.

2.2 Dere Street Roman Road (HER 3174) ran through Bishop Auckland, 325m to the west and connected Piercebridge Roman fort with Binchester Roman fort (HER 1420), which lies 1.75km to the north. Roman activity has been identified in the wider area with coins found by metal detectorists to the north-east (HER 7934) and two cremation burials (HER 1416) next to the River Gaunless 850m to the north.

2.3 It has been suggested that the Battle of Alutthelia in AD 844 occurred in the Auckland area as the 'Alut' element of Alutthelia is similar to the known Alclit form of the name Auckland in 1050. The earliest settlement in the area was Auckland St Andrew, or South Church as it is now known, 450m to the south where the river Gaunless is crossed by a stone bridge (HER 6886).

2.4 The current Auckland Castle, a Grade 1 Listed Building (HER 1386) was established by Bishop Hugh Pudsey in 1183 and is located 400m north-west. Auckland Park, located 100m to the north (HER 1399) is first mentioned in the Boldon Book of 1181.

2.5 Greenwood's map of 1820 is the first to show Brack's Farm. In 1825, the Stockton and Darlington Railway opened and ran to the south of Bishop Auckland along the route of the current railway.

2.6 A geophysical survey (McBride 2011, TWM Archaeology), across the Brack's Farm development area site identified several anomalies of possible archaeological origin. Whilst it is possible that some of these anomalies relate to previous low-levels of scattered occupation across the site the geophysical survey produced no indication of the presence of a major archaeological settlement within the site.

2.7 In the Phase 1 Development Area evaluation trenching immediately to the east of the present site produced no significant archaeological features (AD Archaeology 2015). In the Phase 2/3 Development Area evaluation (ASDU 2018) a shallow undated gully was identified in Trench 14. The sample from the feature contained a small quantity of material indicative of background levels of fuel waste; however the scarcity of charred palaeoenvironmental remains precluded interpretation of the age of the feature. A scheme of archaeological recording was recommended in the vicinity of Trench 14, with no further work in the other areas of the site where trenching had located no significant archaeological features (ASDU 2018).

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 The objective of the evaluation trenching was to establish the presence or absence of archaeological features on the site and to determine their nature, depth, importance and level of preservation.

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1 General Methodology

4.1.1 The evaluation was carried out in compliance with all the relevant codes of practice by suitably qualified and experienced staff.

4.2 Excavation and Recording

4.2.1 The evaluation trench strategy was agreed with the County Archaeology Officer and was undertaken in accordance with an approved written scheme of Investigation (Appendix 2).

5. RESULTS OF THE EVALUATION

5.1 Trench 1 (Fig. 2; Plate 1)

5.1.1 Trench 1, which was 33m by 1.8m in size, was oriented north-west/south-east and located in the northern sector of the area. The natural subsoil (102) consisted of a yellow to yellow-brown clay and was located at a depth of 0.30m-0.50m BGL (108.17m AOD). In the northern half of the trench a brown silty clay ploughsoil (101) survived to a depth of 0.30m. The ploughsoil in the northern half of the trench and the natural subsoil in the southern half of the trench were directly overlain by compacted layers of roadstone and gravel in mixed deposits of grey-brown silty clays and loam (100), 0.20- 0.30m in depth. A ENE-WSW service ran through the northern end of the trench. No significant archaeological features were present.

5.2 Trench 2 (Fig. 2; Plate 2)

5.2.1 Trench 2, which was 33m by 1.8m in size, was oriented ENE-WSW and located in the western sector of the area. The natural subsoil (201) consisted of a yellow clay and was located at a depth of 0.10-0.50m BGL (107.99m AOD). It was overlain by a grey-brown clayey loam topsoil (200), 0.10m-0.50m in depth. The degree of ground disturbance was greater at the eastern end of the trench where the natural subsoil was encountered at 0.10m beneath the present ground level. No significant archaeological features were present.

5.3 Trench 3 (Fig. 2; Plate 3)

5.3.1 Trench 3, which was 33m by 1.8m in size, was oriented north-west/south-east and located in the south-eastern corner of the area. The natural subsoil (301) consisted of a yellow clay and was located at a depth of 0.10m-0.20m BGL (108.10mAOD). In the central area of the trench the natural subsoil was deeply rutted. The natural subsoil was directly overlain by compacted modern layers of roadstone and gravel in mixed deposits of grey-brown silty clays and loam (300), 0.10m-0.20m in depth. No significant archaeological features were present.

6. DISCUSSION

6.1 The three trenches excavated in May 2020 located in the southern portion of the site produced negative with no significant archaeological features being found. It was apparent that this area of the site has been heavily disturbed during works associated with the construction of the Phase 1 development immediately to the east. In view of the negative results no further archaeological work would be appropriate in this southern portion of the site where the supplementary trenches were excavated.

7. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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McBride, R., 2011, Geophysical Survey at Brack's Farm, Bishop Auckland, County Durham, TWM Archaeology report 1310.

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APPENDIX 1: LIST OF CONTEXTS

Context	Depth	Description
100	0.20m-0.30m	Trench 1-modern layers
101	0.30m	Trench 1-ploughsoil
102		Trench 1 –natural subsoil
200	0.10m-0.50m	Trench 2-topsoil
201		Trench 2-natural subsoil
300	0.10m-0.20m	Trench 3-modern layers
301		Trench 3-natural subsoil

APPENDIX 2: WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR PHASE 2 / 3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION OF LAND AT BRACKS FARM, BISHOP AUCKLAND, COUNTY DURHAM

1 Introduction

1.1 This written scheme of investigation represents a methods statement for undertaking an archaeological evaluation in advance of a proposed housing development on land at Bracks Farm, Bishop Auckland, County Durham. This archaeological evaluation will follow on from work carried out in Feb 2018 by Archaeological Services Durham University (ASDU) on behalf of Keepmoat Homes; 37 evaluation trenches were excavated (ASDU report 4676), at this time two 50m x 2m trenches could not be excavated in the south-east corner of the site due to the installation of modern drainage services associated with the adjacent Phase 1 development. Now that accurate service plans have been made available AD Archaeology will relocate these trenches to avoid the disturbance of the services and excavate and evaluate these trenches on behalf of Gleeson Homes prior to the development of the site.

1.2 An archaeological desk-based assessment (TWM Archaeology, 2011) and geophysical survey (TWM Archaeology, 2011) were undertaken for the wider development area and the Phase 1 (AD Archaeology, 2015) and Phase 2 evaluation work (ASDU, 2018) were carried out in this area of the development site.

1.3 Policy relating to the assessment and mitigation of impacts to the heritage resource within the planning system is set out in the National Planning Policy Framework. The Framework identifies that the planning system should perform an environmental objective – to contribute to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment (NPPF 2018, para 8, page 5).

1.4 The Framework further clarifies that, in circumstances where heritage assets will be damaged or lost as a result of development. Local planning authorities should require developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible (NPPF 2018, para 199, page 56).

2 Archaeological and Historical Background

2.1 The archaeological and historical background of the site is recorded in more detail within the earlier Desk-Based Assessment. The results are summarised below.

2.2 Prehistoric Period

2.2.1 There are no known prehistoric remains within the survey area. A number of features of possible prehistoric date include a possible Neolithic long barrow listed in the HER (5709) 1.13km to the north; a bank on the north side of St. Andrew's Church (600m south) interpreted as an Iron Age hill fort (HER 1467); an Iron Age rectilinear

enclosure (HER 365) located 850m south-west; a mound located only 80m north (HER 1476); a rectilinear earthwork (HER 2676) 1km to the north-west; a crop mark (HER 2850) visible on aerial photographs 1.15km to the south; a rectilinear enclosure (HER 7997) 1.15km to the south; an enclosure (HER 8000) 1.5km to the south-east and a crop mark (HER 2861) 1.5km to the south. Aerial photographs have also revealed a circular feature 370m to the north, near to Auckland Park and which may be Iron Age in date.

2.3 Romano-British Period

2.3.1 Dere Street Roman Road (HER 3174) ran through Bishop Auckland, 325m to the west and connected Piercebridge Roman fort with Binchester Roman fort (HER 1420), which lies 1.75km to the north. Roman activity has been identified in the wider area with coins found by metal detectorists to the north-east (HER 7934) and two cremation burials (HER 1416) next to the River Gaunless 850m to the north. A well located 120m to the west (HER 1473) may be of Roman date, but could also be of Post-medieval date.

2.4 Early-Medieval period

2.4.1 It has been suggested that the Battle of Alutthelia in 844 occurred in the Auckland area as the 'Alut' element of Alutthelia is similar to the known Alclit form of the name Auckland in 1050. The earliest settlement in the area was Auckland St Andrew, or South Church as it is now known, 450m to the south where the river Gaunless is crossed by a stone bridge (HER 6886). The Church of St Andrew (HER 36900) is probably of early medieval date as there are a number of Anglo-Saxon carvings and grave markers (HER 691-694) including the remains of at least one carved stone cross, probably dating to the late 8th or early 9th century. Coundon, 600m to the north-east, is probably of Anglo-Saxon origin, derived from the Old English 'Cuna Dun' meaning 'cows hill' (HER 1480).

2.5 Medieval Period

2.5.1 The current Auckland Castle, a Grade 1 Listed Building (HER 1386) was established by Bishop Hugh Pudsey in 1183 and is located 400m north-west. Auckland Park, located 100m to the north (HER 1399) is first mentioned in the Boldon Book of 1181. Coal mining within Auckland Park dates back to the 14th century. The settlement of Bishop Auckland extended west from the castle around Market Place and North Bondgate. Coundon, 600m to the north-east, was first recorded in 1196 in official records. Map evidence suggests that it was an irregular two-row plan without a village green (HER 1480). Coundon Grange is mentioned in a medieval calendar of 1337 and in Bishop Hatfield's survey of 1377 (HER 1475) and there is now only a single farm on the site (HER 1477). The other medieval settlement close to the site was St Andrew's Auckland, or South Church as it is now known. Aerial photographs of the site show ridge and furrow cultivation crop marks across much the survey area.

2.6 Post-Medieval and Victorian Periods

2.6.1 During the 18th century, the long-established Auckland Colliery near the south

wall of the Bishop's Park (100-200m to the north) drained water from several small pits on the Bishop's land in the vicinity of the Black Boy Inn at Canney Hill. These small pits may have been located within eastern side of the survey area, where both Smith's map of 1818 and Greenwood's map of 1820 show a Black Boy to the east of the main road from Durham to St Andrew's Auckland. A description of Coundon in c. 1800 suggested the presence of a manor house, an 'old hall' and a few cottages. Its estimated population including outlying farmsteads was 160. The manor house and old hall are probably Coundon Grange, or Grange Hill as it is now called and Howlish Hall (1km to the east) which was built in around 1700 and originally owned by the Hopper family. Smith's map of 1818 and Greenwood's map of 1820 (Pugh 2011, figure 4) show Bishop Auckland as one of the largest settlements in the area, at a meeting of several roads including a main road from Durham to Barnard Castle. This road ran around the southern extent of Auckland Park and probably followed the route of the present Durham Road, which forms the northern boundary of the western side of the survey area. Coundon and Coundon Grange are also shown along with Black Boy. Greenwood's map is the first to show Brack's Farm. In 1825, the Stockton and Darlington Railway opened and ran to the south of Bishop Auckland along the route of the current railway which forms part of the southern boundary of the western side of the survey area. In 1830, the Black Boy Colliery was opened by Nicholas Wood and Company, with its Pasture Pit located in the centre of Area 2. A map of the Auckland Coalfield, 1852 shows a cluster of mines to the south-east of Bishop Auckland, including Black Boy.

2.7 Geophysical Survey

2.7.1 The geophysical survey (McBride 2011, TWM Archaeology), identified several anomalies of possible archaeological origin. Whilst it is possible that some of these anomalies relate to previous low-levels of scattered occupation across the site the geophysical survey produced no indication of the presence of a major archaeological settlement within the site.

2.8 Phase 1 Evaluation

2.8.1 No significant archaeological features were found in the trenches. A post-medieval field boundary was located in Trench 2. A google-earth image of 2001 shows the site being stripped for use as a temporary haul road and site compound when the modern housing estate was built to the north-east. It is clear that ground disturbance relating to these works have been significant, with ploughsoil surviving in only two of the six trenches. An east-west linear geophysical anomaly in Trench 4 relates to the former haul road. In view of the absence of archaeological features in the trenches no further archaeological investigation would be appropriate.

2.9 Phase 2 Evaluation

2.9.1 A shallow undated gully was identified in Trench 14. The sample from the feature

contained a small quantity of material indicative of background levels of fuel waste; however the scarcity of charred palaeoenvironmental remains precludes interpretation of the age of the feature. No artefacts were recovered from it. Furrows, the remains of medieval or post-medieval ploughing, were recorded in five trenches, cutting into the natural subsoil. No further scheme of archaeological works is required over the majority of the site. A scheme of archaeological recording in the vicinity of Trench 14 is recommended.

3 Aims and Recommended Course of Action

3.1 The aim of the archaeological evaluation is to establish the presence or absence of significant archaeological features and/or deposits. Should significant deposits and/or features be located the aim of the evaluation is to determine the nature, extent, date and state of preservation of the deposits in order to inform potential subsequent stages of mitigation.

3.2 'Shared Visions: The North-East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment' by David Petts with Christopher Gerrard, 2006 notes the importance of research questions as a vital element of development-led archaeological work. It sets out key research priorities for all periods of the past allowing commercial contractors to demonstrate how their fieldwork relates to wider regional and national priorities for the study of archaeology and the historic environment. The aim of NERRF is to ensure that all fieldwork is carried out in a secure research context and that commercial contractors ensure that their investigations ask the right questions.

3.3 Whilst there are no known archaeological features on the site, there is a growing awareness of the density of prehistoric settlement activity. In recent years development control-led archaeological investigation in the area has contributed significantly to our knowledge of the density of settlement and activity in this area during the prehistoric period (North East Regional Research Framework, Petts & Gerrard, 2006).

Recent excavations have begun to challenge established models of prehistoric settlement morphology. It is therefore important for any evidence of prehistoric settlement to be studied in order to establish more firm chronologies. Also needed is the study of site function and the social role of settlements in the landscape (NERRF Research Priority lii).

3.4 The two outstanding 50m by 1.8m trenches from the Phase 2 Evaluation have been reassigned as three 33m by 1.8m trenches and have been relocated in order to fit within the layout of services present on this area of the site. See Figure 1 for trench locations overlaid on modern topographic survey showing service locations.

3.5 During the course of the trenching it may become apparent that variation is required, dependent on the nature, extent and importance of archaeological

remains uncovered. It also may become apparent during the course of the operation that some areas where trenches have been sited are inappropriate for potential archaeological activity (for instance lying entirely within the line of a furrow) or due to logistical or practical reasons. Trenches can only be moved with the approval of the County Archaeologist.

3.6 Contingency will be allowed for the excavation of up to an additional 1% of the site (above and beyond the 18 trenches indicated on the accompanying trench plan). The implementing of contingency would require approval by DCC Archaeology Section and the client.

4 General Standards

4.1 All work will be carried out to the standards set by the DCC Archaeology Section as detailed in <http://www.durham.gov.uk/media/22749/Standards-for-Archaeological-Work-in-County-Durham-and-Darlington/pdf/StandardsForArchaeologicalWorkInCountyDurhamAndDarlington.pdf>

. All work will be carried out in compliance with the codes of practice of the Chartered Institute for Field Archaeologists CIfA (2014a) and will follow the CIfA (2014b) Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation. All work will be in compliance with the Regional Statement of Good Practice (Yorkshire, The Humber and the North-East 2009).

5 Pre-Site Work Preparation

5.1 All staff will familiarise themselves with the archaeological background of the site, and the results of any previous work in the area, prior to the start of work on site. All staff will be briefed in the work required under the specification and the project aims and methodologies.

5.2 An environmental sampling strategy in accordance with the previous advice of the Historic England Science Advisor (see 8 below) will be followed.

6 Fieldwork

6.1 Each evaluation trench will be accurately surveyed and related to the National Grid, using a Total Station Theodolite or GPS system, and located on a map of the area at an appropriate scale.

6.2 Topsoil and unstratified modern material will be removed mechanically by a back-acting machine using a wide toothless ditching blade. This machine stripping will be carried out under continuous archaeological supervision.

6.3 The topsoil or recent overburden will be removed in successive level spits down to the first significant archaeological horizon or the natural subsoil, whichever is encountered first.

6.4 All faces of the trenches that require examination or recording will be cleaned sufficiently to establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains, particularly the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the natural subsoil. All subsequent deposits will be hand-excavated.

6.5 In the event that small discrete archaeological features are revealed including but not limited to postholes and pits, during machining or subsequent cleaning of the trench, the trench will be expanded either side of the feature by a machine bucket width as standard. If further additional trench expansion is required this should be carried out following discussions with the County Archaeologist and the client.

6.6 The archaeology will be investigated sufficiently to establish its nature, extent and date, unless it is deemed of sufficient importance to require total preservation *in situ*. This will be achieved by excavation of the following samples of all exposed features.

- 50% of every discrete feature (e.g. pits, post-holes)
 - 25% of the area of linear/curvilinear features (e.g. ditches, gullies) with a non-uniform fill
- 20% of the area of linear/curvilinear features (e.g. ditches, gullies) with a uniform fill, linear terminals will be excavated.
- 100% of feature intersections will be examined

6.7 Within the constraints of the site, the excavations will be maintained in a manner that allows quick and easy inspection without any requirement for additional cleaning.

6.8 Deposits will be assessed for their potential for providing environmental or dating evidence. Sampling will be in line with the strategy agreed with Historic England Science Advisor and the County Archaeologist.

6.9 In the event of human burials being discovered, they will be left *in situ*, covered and protected and the coroners' office will be informed. If removal is essential, work will comply with the relevant Ministry of Justice regulations.

6.10 Appropriate procedures under the relevant legislation will be followed in the event of the discovery of artefacts covered by the provisions of the Treasure Act 1996.

6.11 The drawn record from the site will include a representative selection of long sections from the excavations that clearly allow the nature and depth and any significant changes in the deposits recorded to be demonstrated. If there is any uncertainty, advice will be sought from the County Archaeologist as to which sections may be appropriate for inclusion within the site record.

6.12 During and after the excavation, all recovered artefacts will be stored in the appropriate materials and storage conditions to ensure minimal deterioration and loss of information (this will include controlled storage, correct packaging, and regular monitoring of conditions, immediate selection for conservation of vulnerable material. All finds work will be undertaken in line with the standards set out “A strategy for the Care and Investigation of Finds” (English Heritage 1995); “First Aid for Finds” (Wilkinson & Neal 2001); and “Packaging and Storage of Freshly Excavated Artefacts from Archaeological Sites”(UKIC 1993).

7 Archaeological Recording

7.1 A full and proper record (written, graphic and photographic as appropriate) will be made for all work, using pro forma record sheets and text descriptions appropriate to the work. Accurate scale plans and section drawings will be drawn at 1:50, 1:20 and 1:10 scales as appropriate.

7.2 The stratigraphy of all trenches will be recorded even where no archaeological deposits have been identified.

7.3 All archaeological deposits and features, the current ground level and base of each trench will be recorded with an above ordnance datum (AOD) level.

7.4 A photographic record of all archaeological features will be taken, both in detail and in a wider context.

7.5 Where stratified deposits are encountered, a 'Harris' matrix will be compiled

8 Environmental Sampling and Scientific Dating Strategy

8.1 This sampling strategy is intended to provide sufficient data to characterise the nature and informative potential of deposits and features identified during the works. Because this is the first stage of intrusive works and there is a possibility that a wide range of features may be encountered, this strategy is best set out as a series of principles.

These are:

- 3 30 litre samples will be taken from structural, occupational and industrial features, as well as pits and ditch fills. Other features should be sampled to help to characterise the deposits on the site. Priority should be given to processing samples from identifiable, dated features, or to those undated features which have potential for other forms of dating (e.g. radiocarbon dating).
- 4 Bulk sample residues should be checked for the presence of industrial waste (e.g. slags, hammerscale) and small faunal remains (e.g. fishbones, small mammal/avian bones) as well as for plant material.
- 5 The potential of buried soils and ditch fills to provide dated (using radio-

carbon dating) pollen cores or Optically Stimulated Luminescence (OSL) dating of sediments should be considered, although this type of sampling will be undertaken in consultation with the Historic England's Regional Scientific Advisor.

8.2 In the event that hearths, kilns or ovens are identified, provision will be made to collect at least one archaeo-magnetic date to be calculated from each individual hearth surface (or in the case of domestic dwellings a minimum of one per building identified). Where applicable, samples to be collected from the site and processed by a suitably trained specialist for dating purposes.

8.3 The selection of suitable deposits for sampling will be confirmed at site meetings with the County Archaeologist. In principle palaeo-environmental samples will be taken from deposits which have clear stratigraphic relationships. Particular attention will be paid to the recovery of samples from any waterlogged samples that may be present.

9 Monitoring

9.1 The County Archaeologist will be informed on the start date and timetable for the evaluation in advance of work commencing (ideally 2 weeks' notice but as a minimum 48 hours before commencement).

9.2 Reasonable access to the site will be afforded to the County Archaeologists or his/her nominee at all times, for the purposes of monitoring the archaeological evaluation.

9.3 Regular communication between the archaeological contractor, the County Archaeologist and other interested parties will be maintained to ensure the project aims and objectives are achieved.

9.4 If appropriate, specialists will be contacted and allowed access to the site to help inform any detailed study / information retrieval depending upon the nature of the archaeological features being revealed.

- 1 Pottery and ceramic building material (Rob Young; Alex Croom; Paul Bidwell; Andy Sage)
- 2 Bone (Louisa Gidney)
- 3 Flint (Rob Young)
- 4 Metal work (David Dungworth)
- 5 Industrial debris (David Dungworth)
- 6 Environmental micro and macro fossils (Charlotte O'Brien ASDU)
- 7 Residue analysis (ASDU)
- 8 Radio carbon dating (ASDU/SUERRC)
- 9 Any other analysis identified as necessary during the fieldwork or post excavation work

10 Post Excavation Work, Archive, and Report Preparation

10.1 Finds

10.1.1 All finds processing, conservation work and storage of finds will be carried out in compliance with the ClfA Guidelines for Finds Work (2014c) and those set by UKIC.

10.1.2 The deposition and disposal of artefacts will be agreed with the legal owner and recipient museum prior to the work taking place. Where the landowner decides to retain artefacts, adequate provision will be made for recording them. Details of land ownership will be provided by the developer.

10.1.3 All retained artefacts will be cleaned and packaged in accordance with the requirements of the recipient museum.

10.2 Site Archive

10.2.1 The final location for the site archive is County Durham Archaeological Archives.

10.2.2 Archiving work will be carried out compliance with the ClfA Guidelines for Archiving (2014d).

10.2.3 Before fieldwork, contact will be made with the landowners and with the appropriate local museum to make the relevant arrangements. Details of land ownership will be provided by the developer.

10.3 Report

10.3.1 The HER requires one bound paper copy and one digital copy (in PDF/A compliant format) of the report.

10.3.2 The report will include the following as a minimum:

Each page and paragraph will be numbered within the report and illustrations cross referenced within the text.

The report will include the following as a minimum:

- OASIS reference numbers and an 8 figure grid reference
- The nature and extent of the proposed development and client information
- A location plan of the site at an appropriate scale of at least 1:10 000
- A location plan showing trench locations within the site. This will be at a recognisable planning scale, and located with reference to the national grid, to allow the results to be accurately plotted on the Historic Environment Record
- Plans and sections of main trench axes and excavated features located at a recognisable planning scale (1:10, 1:20, 1:50 or 1:100, as appropriate)
- Period based discussion of the known and potential archaeological sites within the proposed development area
- A summary statement of the results

- A table summarising the deposits, features, classes and numbers of artefacts encountered and spot dating of significant finds
- A description of the geology on the site
- Discussion of the physical impact of the proposed development on known and potential archaeological sites

10.3.4 Any variation to the above requirements will be approved by the planning authority prior to work being submitted

10.3.5 Post-Excavation Assessment Report

10.3.6 Should a significant archaeological site be located a post-excavation assessment report will include all the information necessary to make decisions about the future direction of the project in line with Historic England's Guidelines on the Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (Historic England 2015). The report will be submitted to the Durham County Archaeologist for comment and approval prior to any further analysis or publication work commencing.

10.3.7 This document will be submitted within six months of the end of fieldwork unless previously agreed with all relevant parties.

10.3.8 The archaeological contractor will submit an updated specification for full analysis and publication in line with Historic England's Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment. An appropriate level of publication will then be agreed with Durham County Archaeologist and will be prepared in line with Historic England's Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment. A short report of the work will be submitted to a local journal if appropriate.

10.4 OASIS

10.4.1 The overall aim of the OASIS project is to provide an online index to the mass of archaeological grey literature that has been produced as a result of the advent of large scale developer funded fieldwork.

10.4.2 The archaeological contractor will therefore complete the online OASIS form at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/>. A pdf copy of the report will be uploaded to Oasis within 3 months of its production.

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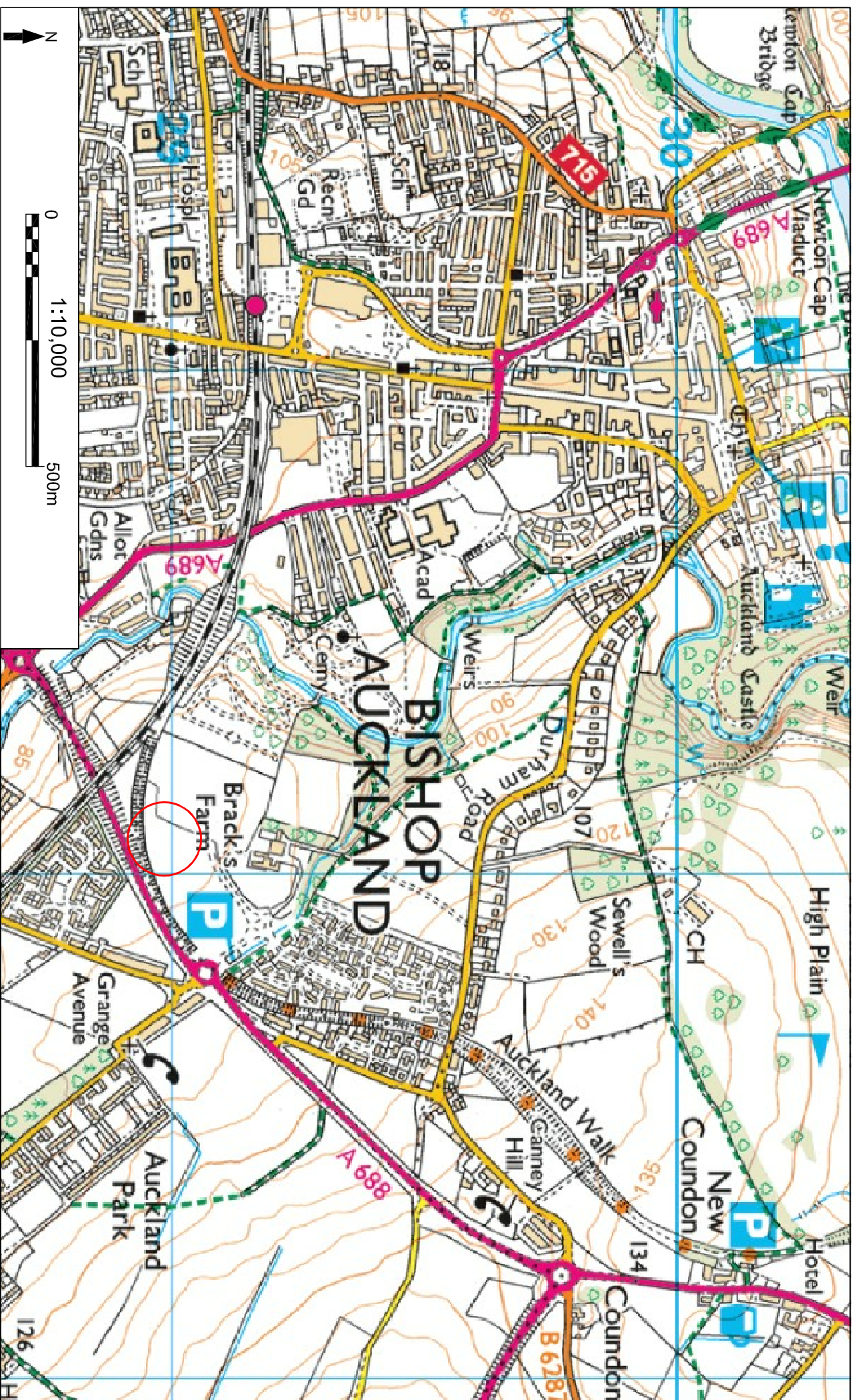
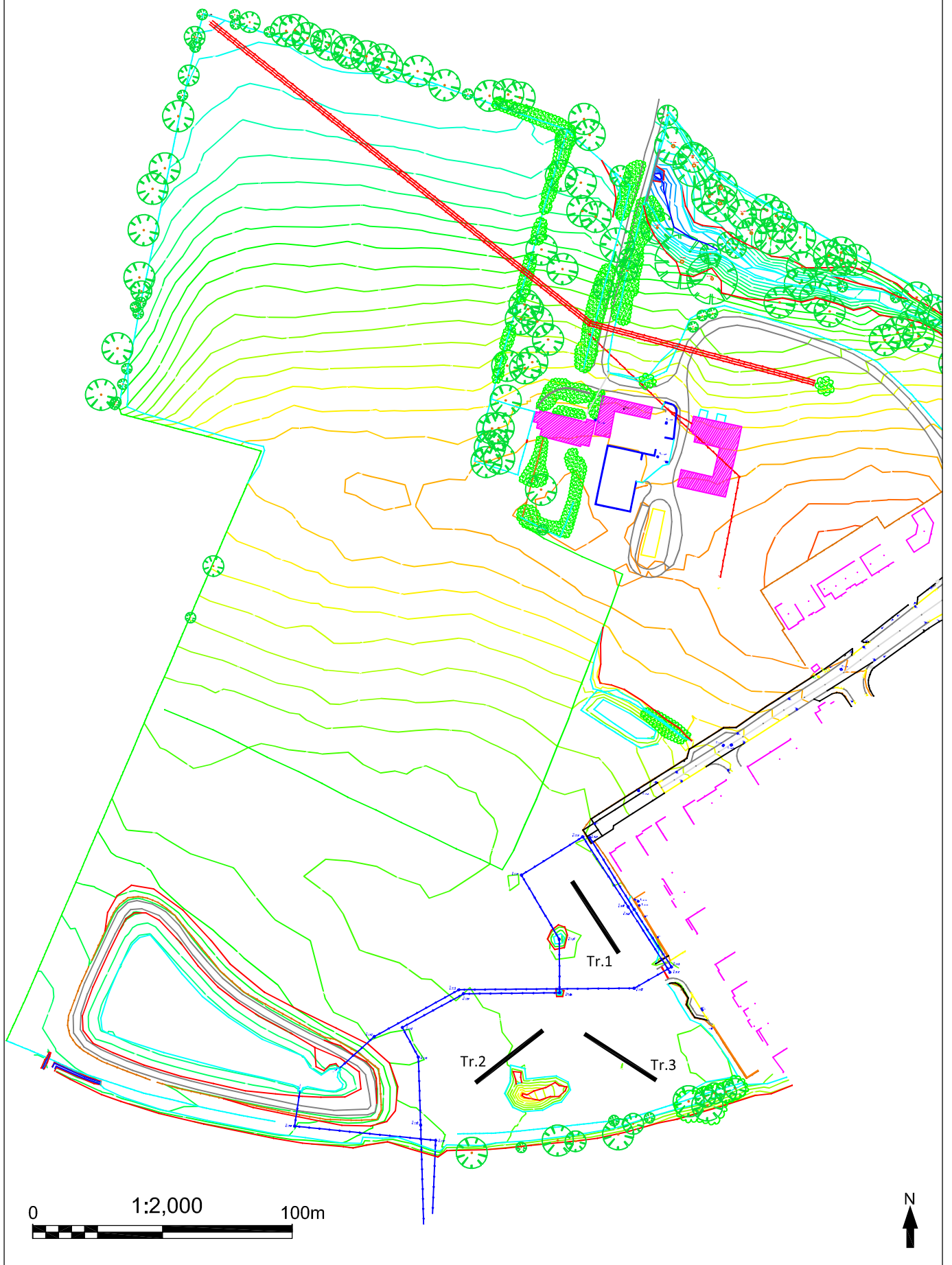


Figure 1: General location plan



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Figure 2: Trench location plan





Plate 1: Trench 1 looking south (ENE-WSW service in foreground)



Plate 2: Trench 2 looking east



Plate 3 Trench 3 looking north-west