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RECYCLING AND CONSTRUCTION OF DEVELOPMENT PLATFORM

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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FARLEY QUARRY, MUCH WENLOCK, SHROPSHIRE

PROPOSED RECYCLING AND CONSTRUCTION OF DEVELOPMENT PLATFORM

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

Su	mmary	2
1.	Introduction	4
2.	Location and development proposals	5
3.	Planning background	5
4.	Methodology and information sources	9
5.	Baseline information on heritage assets	13
6.	Assessment of development effects	23
7.	Mitigation	26
8.	Summary and conclusion	27
Re	ferences	30
Ар	pendix	32
Fig	gures	
Pla	ates	

FARLEY QUARRY, MUCH WENLOCK, SHROPSHIRE

PROPOSED RECYCLING AND CONSTRUCTION OF DEVELOPMENT PLATFORM ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

SUMMARY

There are no archaeological sites or finds indicating activity or settlement of prehistoric, Roman or early medieval date within the vicinity of Farley Quarry with the exception of a Bronze Age stone axe hammer from near Much Wenlock and a spindle whorl of uncertain date found near Whitwell. Evidence for medieval settlement includes the scheduled moated site at Whitwell and the water mills at Farley and Downsmill. It was during the medieval period that the limestone of the Wenlock Edge became the main source of both building stone and lime within the area, though there is no evidence for limestone extraction or lime burning at Gleedon Hill during this period.

The limestone industry expanded particularly from the 18th century when Wenlock stone was used for iron smelting. Extraction in the vicinity of Gleedon Hill is documented from the early 18th century, and after 1824 a 'rail road' was built northwards from Tomlinson's Hill and the southern side of Gleedon Hill to transport limestone northwards to the River Severn at Buildwas, though this was no longer in existence by 1847. By this date quarrying is only evident on the northern and southern sides of Gleedon Hill, and large scale extraction and lime burning mostly dates from the latter half of the 19th century. In 1882 quarry workings are mapped within the northern limits of the application boundary, with further workings and spoil heaps within the central area, one of which remains largely extant. A lime kiln mapped on the south-western edge has been removed by later extraction. A pair of lime kilns that survive on the eastern edge of the area, one of them largely intact, probably date to the mid- to late 19th century and represent the principal surviving structures within the quarry. There was limited quarrying after 1902 until Farley Quarry was granted consent in 1948, with the most extensive extraction during the 1960s and 1970s that established the existing quarry boundaries. Farley Quarry has been closed since 1988, other than some small-scale working in the early 1990s.

The proposals for recycling and construction of a development platform would have only a limited direct effect upon the few surviving structures or features within the quarry of archaeological or historical interest, and primarily upon a spoil heap of at least partially later 19th century date that would be buried beneath the fill materials. The pair of lime kilns that survive on the eastern edge of the application boundary would be recorded and then preserved in situ, with remedial consolidation works undertaken in order to ensure and enhance their structural integrity, although there would be a minor to moderate adverse effect upon their significance as a result of changes to their setting. These predicted effects would however lead to less than substantial harm.

Due to the proposed development being within the existing quarry and surrounded by woodland, there would be no intervisibility with the designated heritage assets within the vicinity, other than predicted limited views from the attic window of Bradley Farmhouse and from the nearby cart shed and stable through the gap in the surrounding woodland at the entrance into the site. No effects on the architectural significance of these buildings, the group value of the farmstead or its setting are predicted. For the same

reasons only minor effects are predicted upon the Historic Landscape Character of the area, which would be limited to those within the quarry itself.

Mitigation of the predicted effects of the development, and specifically the preservation of the two surviving lime kilns, has been built into the proposals in order to preserve the structures in situ. Should the development be granted consent then it is proposed that it should be preceded by a detailed measured and photographic survey of the kilns, together with any remedial consolidation works identified to ensure their continued survival. Existing surveys of the spoil heap would be supplemented by a photographic record. The details of the scale and scope of this proposed mitigation would be set out in a Written Scheme of Investigation and agreed with the Shropshire Historic Environment Team on behalf of the planning authority.

Subject to the implementation of this outline mitigation strategy it is considered that the predicted effects of the proposed development at Farley Quarry would lead to less than substantial harm to those heritage assets affected and would accord with the National Planning Policy Framework and local plan policies.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Peter Cardwell (archaeological and heritage consultant) has been commissioned by MWP Planning, on behalf of J Cannon, to undertake an archaeological and heritage assessment study of the proposed recycling of construction, demolition and excavation wastes and construction of a development platform by means of the placement of non-recyclable materials at Farley Quarry to the north of Much Wenlock (SJ 629 015). The report will form part of a wider Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) that has been prepared to support the planning application.
- 1.2 In response to a scoping report prepared by MWP Planning dated 12 December 2018, the scoping opinion issued by Shropshire Council dated 7 March 2019 stated the need for a heritage impact assessment to be undertaken. This was as a result of internal consultations with the Council's Historic Environment Team who highlighted that the proposed development was located within an area of former limestone quarries and associated lime kilns. On the basis of this response and further consultations a scope of works specifically for the cultural heritage assessment study was prepared in March 2019 and agreed with the Shropshire Historic Environment Team. This set out that the study would primarily address the potential for surviving remains of former historic quarrying and any associated structures (such as lime kilns) within the planning application boundary and immediate vicinity. Potential effects upon the setting and significance of adjacent designated heritage assets (within 500m) would also be addressed.
- 1.3 The archaeological and heritage assessment study has accordingly been prepared in order to meet the requirements of the scoping opinion issued by Shropshire Council, the agreed scope of works and in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework.
- 1.4 The assessment study addresses all aspects of the proposed recycling, the construction of the development platform and subsequent restoration at Farley Quarry, both in terms of the predicted direct physical effects upon recorded heritage assets within the planning application boundary, as well as the potential indirect visual effects of the development platform and restoration proposals upon the setting and significance of the designated heritage assets within the vicinity.
- 1.5 The report describes the location of the quarry area and its environs, and the methodology and information sources utilised while undertaking the study, including reference to relevant planning policy and guidance. It describes any heritage assets within the study area and also assesses the potential for any previously unknown or unrecorded archaeological sites to survive within the area. The predicted effects of the development and appropriate strategies for further mitigation are discussed. Consultation was maintained with the Shropshire Historic Environment Team (as archaeological advisor to the Planning Authority) during the preparation of the assessment study, and a draft report was reviewed by the Senior Archaeological Advisor prior to completion.
- 1.6 The assessment was undertaken between March 2019 and April 2020 and prepared in accordance with professional standards and guidance (CIFA 2017) and the scope agreed with the Shropshire Historic Environment Team.

2.0 LOCATION AND DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

- 2.1 Farley Quarry is located entirely within the County of Shropshire and the civil parish of Much Wenlock, other than a small part to the north-west of the quarry (outwith the planning application boundary) that is located within the civil parish of Sheinton (**Figure 1**). The quarry is located some 1.5km to the north of the centre of Much Wenlock and 1km to the east of the village of Homer. The A4169 between Much Wenlock and Telford runs to the east of the quarry, with the hamlet of Farley adjacent to the road to the north-east.
- The guarry is located within the existing and former plateau of Gleedon Hill, the 2.2 upper level of which attains a height of some 170m OD (Plates 1 and 2). The quarry is of significant size, measuring up to some 750m from north to south and 290m from east to west, with a maximum depth of 30m (Plates 3 and 4). The edges of the plateau slope down along distinct escarpments to the east to a height of some 125m OD to the valley of the Farley Brook within which the A4169 is located, and to the west towards the upper reaches of the Sheinton Brook at a height of some 115m OD. The upper slopes of the escarpment are wooded and largely screen the existing quarry from all directions, with mostly pasture fields along the lower slopes and particularly to the west. Disused quarries at Bradley and Shadwell are located to the east and the south respectively. The bedrock geology within the area is Much Wenlock Limestone. No superficial deposits are recorded (NERC 2019). The soils within the immediate vicinity of the proposed development are classified as of the Soilscape 8 association, being slightly acid loamy and clayey soils with impeded drainage (Cranfield University 2019).
- 2.3 The planning application at Farley Quarry is for the recycling of construction, demolition and excavation wastes and the construction of a platform by means of the placement of materials that cannot be recycled, and which would be used for future commercial or recreational development (**Figure 2**). The platform would be established at 156m OD at the north-eastern end and at between 160m and 163m towards the south-western end, with a graded slope and access road inbetween. An area for treatment and stockpiles would be established to the north of the area, with access along the existing road from the A4169. The current footpaths across the quarry would be diverted around the western and southern edges. The development would have an operational life of eleven years.
- 2.4 Upon completion of the development platform the area would be restored over the course of a further year (**Figure 3**). The site would be seeded with a neutral wildflower grassland mix generally, with areas of calcareous grassland seeded on the steeper slopes. Existing areas of calcareous grassland would be retained on those parts of the quarry unaffected by the development. Areas of native scrub woodland would be planted on the edges of the site, particularly to the north and west, as a potential dormouse habitat, and the steeper quarry faces allowed to regenerate naturally. An existing pond at the northern end of the site containing great crested newts would be retained and two additional ponds created.

3.0 PLANNING BACKGROUND

3.1 The planning context with respect to heritage assets in relation to the study includes statutory legislation, the National Planning Policy Framework (2019), the

National Planning Policy for Waste (2014) the Adopted Core Strategy of the Shropshire Local Development Framework (2011) and the Adopted Plan of the Shropshire Councils Site Allocations and Management of Development (2015). The latter is supported by the consultation draft of the Shropshire Council Historic Environment Supplementary Planning Document (2016).

Statutory Legislation

- 3.2 Scheduled Monuments are designated by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport on the advice of Historic England as selective examples of nationally important archaeological remains. Under the terms of Part I Section 2 of the *Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979* it is an offence to damage, disturb or alter a Scheduled Monument either above or below ground without first obtaining permission (Scheduled Monument Consent) from the Secretary of State. This Act does not allow for the protection of the setting of Scheduled Monuments.
- 3.3 When considering whether to grant planning permission for development which affects a Listed Building or its setting, Section 66 of the *Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990* places a statutory duty on a local planning authority or, as the case may be, the Secretary of State to 'have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses'.
- 3.4 Every application for an EIA development is subject to the requirements of the *Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England)*Regulations 2017 which, amongst other things, define the EIA process and identify the information for inclusion in Environmental Statements (Schedule 4). This includes a description of the development; a description of the current state of the environment (baseline scenario); a description of factors likely to be significantly affected by development, listed as (inter alia) 'material assets, cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological aspects'; the likely significant effects which 'should cover the direct effects and any indirect, secondary, cumulative, transboundary, short-term, medium-term and long-term, permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects of the development'; and the measures envisaged to 'avoid, prevent, reduce or, if possible, offset any identified significant adverse effects on the environment and, where appropriate, of any proposed monitoring arrangements'.

National Planning Policy Framework (2019)

- 3.5 The National Planning Policy Framework and supporting Planning Practice Guidance sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these should be applied. The purpose of the planning system is stated as being to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development, which means that this has three overarching objectives economic, social and environmental the latter objective being (*inter alia*) to contribute to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment (paragraphs 7 and 8).
- 3.6 Chapter 16 on *Conserving and enhancing the historic environment* states that heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource and should be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance (paragraph 184).

- 3.7 In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage asset affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. Where a development site may include heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation (paragraph 189).
- 3.8 Local planning authorities should identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal (including any affect upon setting) and take this into account to avoid or minimise any conflict between the conservation of the heritage asset and any aspect of the proposal (paragraph 190). Where there is evidence of deliberate neglect of, or damage to, a heritage asset the deteriorated state should not be taken into account in any decision (paragraph 191). In determining applications, local planning authorities should take account of a) the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets; b) the positive contribution that conservation of heritage assets can make to sustainable communities including their economic vitality; and c) the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness (paragraph 192).
- 3.9 When considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset's conservation (paragraph 193). Any harm to, or loss of, the significance of a designated heritage asset (from its alteration or destruction, or from development within its setting) should require clear and convincing justification. Substantial harm to or loss of: grade II listed buildings, or grade II registered parks or gardens, should be exceptional; assets of the highest significance, notably scheduled monuments, protected wreck sites, registered battlefields, grade I and II* listed buildings, grade I and II* registered parks and gardens, and World Heritage Sites, should be wholly exceptional (paragraph 194).
- 3.10 Where a proposed development will lead to substantial harm to (or total loss of significance of) a designated heritage asset, local planning authorities should refuse consent, unless it can be demonstrated that the substantial harm or total loss is necessary to achieve substantial public benefits that outweigh that harm or loss, or specified exceptions apply (paragraph 195). Where development will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated asset, this harm should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal (paragraph 196).
- 3.11 The effect of an application on the significance of a non-designated heritage asset should be taken into account when determining the application. A balanced judgement will be required having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset (paragraph 197).
- 3.12 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 (paragraph 199).

National Planning Policy for Waste (2014)

- 3.13 This document sets out detailed waste planning policies, and should be read in conjunction with the National Planning Policy Framework, Waste Management Plan for England and National Policy Statements for Waste Water and Hazardous Waste. All local planning authorities should have regard to its policies when discharging their responsibilities where appropriate to waste management.
- 3.14 Appendix B of the document lists a number of Locational Criteria which waste planning authorities should consider when determining planning applications, bearing in mind the envisaged waste management facility in terms of type and scale, and include (*inter alia*)
 - 'e. conserving the historic environment Considerations will include the potential effects on the significance of heritage assets, whether designated or nor, including any contribution made by their setting.'

Shropshire Local Development Framework: Adopted Core Strategy (2011)

- 3.15 Policy CS6 of the Core Strategy on Sustainable Design and Development Principles ensures that all development (*inter alia*) 'protects, restores, conserves and enhances the natural, built and historic environment'.
- 3.16 Policy CS17 on the Environment states that development will identify, protect, enhance and expand Shropshire's environmental assets, which will be achieved by ensuring (*inter alia*) that all development 'protects and enhances the diversity, high quality and local character of Shropshire's natural, built and historic environment, and does not adversely affect the visual, ecological, geological, heritage or recreational values of these assets, their immediate surroundings or their connecting corridors'.

Shropshire Council Site Allocations and Management of Development (SAMDev) Adopted Plan (2015)

- 3.17 Policy MD13 of the SAMDev on the Historic Environment states that in accordance with Policies CS6 and CS17 and through applying the guidance in the Historic Environment SPD, Shropshire's heritage assets will be protected, conserved, sympathetically enhanced and restored by:
 - 1. Ensuring that wherever possible, proposals avoid harm or loss of significance to designated or non-designated heritage assets, including their settings.
 - Ensuring that proposals which are likely to affect the significance of a designated or non-designated heritage asset, including its setting, are accompanied by a Heritage Assessment, including a qualitative visual assessment where appropriate.
 - 3. Ensuring that proposals which are likely to have an adverse effect upon the significance of a non-designated heritage asset, including its setting, will only be permitted if it can be clearly demonstrated that the public benefits of the proposal outweigh the adverse effect. In making this assessment, the degree

of harm or loss of significance to the asset including its setting, the importance of the asset and any potential beneficial use will be taken into account. Where such proposals are permitted, measures to mitigate and record the loss of significance to the asset including its setting and to advance understanding in a manner proportionate to the asset's importance and the level of impact, will be required.

- 4. Encouraging development which gives positive benefits to heritage assets as identified within Place Plans. Support will be given in particular, to proposals which appropriately conserve, manage or enhance the significance of a heritage asset including its setting, especially where these improve the condition of those assets which are recognised as being at risk or in poor condition.
- 3.18 Policy MD14 on Waste Management Facilities states that (further to Policy CS19) the development of waste transfer, recycling and recovery facilities will be supported where applicants can demonstrate that potential adverse impacts upon the local community and Shropshire's natural and historic environment can be satisfactorily controlled.

Planning practice guidance

3.19 In addition to Government guidance, adopted local planning policy and the consultation draft of the *Shropshire Council Historic Environment Supplementary Planning Document* (2016), further supporting planning practice or professional guidance is considered relevant to the preparation of the cultural heritage assessment, and specifically the following documents:

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2017) Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment

Historic England (2016) Preserving Archaeological Remains: Decision-taking for Sites under Development

Historic England (2017) Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning: Note 2 – Managing Significance in Decision-Taking in the Historic Environment

Historic England (2017) *Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning:* Note 3 – The Setting of Heritage Assets

4.0 METHODOLOGY AND INFORMATION SOURCES

- 4.1 The principal aims of the archaeological and heritage assessment are:
 - to identify all known heritage assets (buildings, sites, finds, places, areas and landscapes of archaeological, historical, architectural and artistic interest) and their significance which lie within, or adjacent to, the study areas (and specifically evidence for historic quarrying and associated activities or structures such as lime kilns within the planning application boundary)

- to identify any areas with the potential to contain previously unrecorded heritage assets of archaeological interest
- to assess the effects of the proposed development and ancillary works in terms of its physical (direct) impact upon heritage assets within the application boundary and the visual (indirect) impact upon the setting and significance of designated heritage assets in the vicinity
- where features are found to be affected, an assessment of the significance and degree of effect (both beneficial and adverse) along with the likely short term and long term effects of the development
- identification of those features which should be retained and/or enhanced because of their intrinsic importance
- identification of those features or areas which require further evaluation in order to fully establish either the significance of the heritage asset and/or the likely effect of the development
- identification of potential mitigation measures that could be built into the development proposals in order to avoid, reduce or remedy any potential adverse effects identified
- assessment of the degree of conflict or compliance with local plan policies relevant to the historic environment and national planning guidance
- 4.2 In accordance with the scope of works agreed with the Shropshire Historic Environment Team the collection of data concentrates upon the area within the planning application boundary together with a study area extending to 500m from the quarry. More general research is however undertaken or specific reference made to heritage assets outwith this study area in order to establish the significance of those recorded and place them within their local, regional and national context.
- 4.3 There are no World Heritage Sites, Conservation Areas, Registered Historic Parks and Gardens or Registered Battlefields within the study area and these heritage assets are not therefore further addressed as part of the study.
- 4.4 The following organisations were consulted for the assessment:
 - Shropshire Historic Environment Team
 - Historic England Archives
 - Shropshire Archives
 - Shrewsbury and Much Wenlock libraries (local studies)
 - Farley Quarry (Mr J Cannon)
- 4.5 The following data sources were utilised for the assessment:
 - Shropshire Historic Environment Record (SHER)
 - National Record of the Historic Environment (NRHE)
 - National Heritage List of England (NHLE)
 - published and unpublished historical and archaeological studies

- cartographic sources (tithe and historic Ordnance Survey maps)
- vertical and oblique aerial photographs
- Google Earth
- lidar data
- Scheduled Monument descriptions
- Listed Building schedules
- 4.6 A site walkover survey of those parts of the quarry located within the planning application boundary was made over two days in April 2019, both before and after research of the Historic Environment Record and archive sources. This was undertaken to establish the extent and survival of any features or structures associated with former quarrying and associated activities (such as lime kilns) utilising historic mapping, and note the location, nature, extent and condition of any recorded and unrecorded heritage assets. Sketch plots of visible structures or earthwork features were made and photographs, notes and measurements taken of extant features, buildings or other structures.
- 4.7 Designated heritage assets (including the scheduled moated site at Whitwell to the west of the quarry and the listed farmhouse, barn, stable range and cart shed at Bradley Farm to the east) were visited (or the nearest publicly accessible location) in April 2019 in order to establish intervisibility with the development area and potential effects upon their settings and significance.

Prediction methodology

- 4.8 The impact assessment is based upon a staged methodology consisting of:
 - **Step 1**: Identification of heritage assets that could be directly or indirectly affected by the development proposals.
 - **Step 2**: Establishing the sensitivity (or significance) of the heritage assets within the study area(s) in accordance with Table A.

Table A: Definitions of sensitivity for heritage assets

Sensitivity	Level of importance	Examples of heritage assets
Very high	International	An internationally important site eg World Heritage Site.
High	National	Nationally designated heritage asset eg Scheduled Monument, Listed Building, Conservation Area, Registered Historic Park and Garden, Registered Battlefield, and unscheduled archaeological site or unlisted building worthy of such designation.
Medium	County	Archaeological site or unlisted building considered to be of county importance.
Low	Local	Unscheduled archaeological site and unlisted building considered to be of local importance. Site with a local value or interest for educational or cultural appreciation. Site that is so badly damaged that too little remains to justify inclusion at a higher grade.

Step 3: Assessment of the magnitude of any direct and indirect adverse effects of the development upon the heritage assets identified and their significance in accordance with Table B. Any beneficial effects are identified utilising the same nomenclature for degrees of magnitude.

Table B: Magnitude of effects

Magnitude	Scale of change
Extreme	Complete destruction of the archaeological, architectural, historic and/or artistic interest of the heritage asset or total loss of contribution of setting to significance of heritage asset.
Very substantial adverse	Almost complete destruction of the archaeological, architectural, historic and/or artistic interest of the heritage asset or change to its setting that would very substantially alter the significance of the heritage asset.
Substantial adverse	Considerable destruction of or damage to the archaeological, architectural, historic and/or artistic interest of the heritage asset or change to its setting that would substantially alter the significance of the heritage asset.
Moderate adverse	Partial destruction of or damage to the archaeological, architectural, historic and/or artistic interest of the heritage asset or change to its setting that would moderately alter the significance of the heritage asset.
Slight adverse	Limited destruction of or damage to the archaeological, architectural, historic and/or artistic interest of the heritage asset or change to its setting that would slightly alter the significance of the heritage asset.
Negligible adverse	Very limited destruction of or damage to the archaeological, architectural, historic and/or artistic interest of the heritage asset or change to its setting that would negligibly alter the significance of the heritage asset.
No change	No material change to the archaeological, architectural, historic and/or artistic interest of the heritage asset or alteration to its setting.

Step 4: Identification of measures to minimise harm and maximise enhancement.

Step 5: Establishing the significance of the residual effect upon heritage assets in accordance with Table C.

Table C: Significance of effects

	Magnitud	e of effects				
Sensitivity	Extreme	Very substantial	Substantial	Moderate	Slight	Negligible
Very high	Very severe	Severe	Severe/ major	Major	Major/ moderate	Moderate
High	Severe	Severe/ major	Major	Major/ moderate	Moderate	Moderate/ minor
Medium	Severe/ major	Major	Major/ moderate	Moderate	Moderate/ minor	Minor
Low	Major	Major/ moderate	Moderate	Moderate/ minor	Minor	Minor/ neutral

Key:	Significant		Not	
	_		significant	

- 4.9 In accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations the predicted effects state whether these are: positive or negative (beneficial or adverse); direct or indirect; cumulative; short-term, medium-term or long-term; and permanent or temporary.
- 4.10 The prediction and assessment of indirect effects upon the setting (and significance) of designated heritage assets is based upon the criteria contained in the current Historic England (2017a) guidance. The assessment reflects the contribution that setting makes to the significance of the asset.
- 4.11 The assessment of residual effects upon the significance of a heritage asset set out in the National Planning Policy Framework is based upon 'substantial harm' or 'less than substantial harm'. While not necessarily leading to 'total loss of significance', for the purposes of the assessment study any effect identified as either very severe adverse, severe adverse or severe/major adverse would be considered to constitute 'substantial harm'.

5.0 BASELINE INFORMATION ON HERITAGE ASSETS

- In accordance with the agreed scope of works, data was collected for all heritage assets located within 500m of the proposed development boundary, including designated heritage assets. These are listed in **Table 1** below and indicated on **Figure 4**. The sites are listed in numerical order on the basis of their Shropshire Historic Environment Record (SHER) number, followed by any additional sites recorded on the National Record of the Historic Environment (NRHE) or other sites (prefixed with an S) that were identified as part of the study from sources such as historic mapping or during the site walkover survey. Listed Buildings are numbered on the basis of the National Heritage List for England (NHLE). Those heritage assets located within the development boundary are emboldened. Not all features depicted on historic map sources within the quarry area are identified by a specific site number; the principal former or surviving structures and features have been numbered, with less-significant features within the area or immediately adjacent discussed in the text with reference to the map sources.
- 5.2 A central grid reference, suggested classification and date are provided for each heritage asset. With the exception of finds or assets that are no longer extant the heritage assets are graded as being of high (national), medium (regional) and low (local) significance (importance) as defined in Table A above based upon their designation, professional judgement and the criteria that are set out in Annex 1 of the guidance on identifying, protecting, conserving and investigating nationally important archaeological sites (DCMS 2010). The Listed Buildings are graded by their designation.

Table 1: Heritage assets within 500m of the application boundary

SHER	NRHE Other	Grid reference	Classification	Period	Grade
Heritage	e assets o	f archaeological	interest		
303	72094	SJ 6238 0199	Spindle whorl	Unknown	_

SHER	NRHE Other	Grid reference	Classification	Period	Grade
304	72095 32327	SJ 6237 0186	Moated site	Medieval	High
305	_	SJ 6235 0180	Mill pond	Unknown	Medium
7307	_	SJ 6259 0079	Quarry (Shadwell) Lime kilns	19th–20th century	Low Medium
7308	_	SJ 6336 0181	Quarry (Bradley) Lime kilns	18th–20th century	Low Medium
7309	_	SJ 6270 0150	Quarry (Farley) Lime kilns	18th–20th century	Low Medium
7310	1408436	SJ 6235 0182	Watermill	Post-medieval	Low
8061	1370098	SJ 6367 0246	Railway	1862–1962	Low
15676	_	SJ 6302 0077	Watermill (Downs)	Post-medieval	Low
15677	_	SJ 6334 0208	Watermill (Farley)	Post-medieval	Low
22220	_	SJ 6328 0213	Farmstead (Mill House)	Post-medieval	Low
22221	_	SJ 6339 0136	Farmstead (Bradley Farm)	Post-medieval	High
22923	_	SJ 6266 0152	Farmstead (Gleedon Hill)	Post-medieval	Low
29365	_	SJ 6301 0171	Quarries and tips	19th century	_
29366	_	SJ 6304 0124	Quarry	19th century	Low
29085	_	SJ 6298 0069	Mill race	Post-medieval	Low
30949	_	SJ 6355 0132	Brick works	Post-medieval	Low
33301	_	SJ 6326 0189	Railway station (Farley Halt)	1934–1962	Low
42114	_	SJ 6370 0086	Farmstead (Downs Farm)	Post-medieval	Low Medium
	S1		Road	Medieval Post-medieval	Low
_	S2	SJ 6278 0158	Rail road (plateway)	Early 19th century	Low
_	S3	SJ 6295 0151	Spoil heap	19th century	Low
_	S4	SJ 6274 0173	Lime kiln	19th century	-
_	S5	SJ 6280 0132	Quarries	19th century	Low
_	S6	SJ 6301 0155	Lime kilns	19th century	Low Medium

SHER	NRHE Other	Grid reference	Classification	Period	Grade
7309	S7	SJ 6256 0128	Quarry (Tomlins Hills) Limekilns	18th–19th century	Low Medium
Listed E	Buildings				
297	1367528	SJ 6250 0082	The Old Windmill	18th century	II
20308	1422983	SJ 6337 0138	Bradley Farmhouse	Early 17th century	II
20309	1380357	SJ 6340 0139	Stable and cart shed	Early 18th century	II
20310	1389310	SJ 6339 0137	Barn	1783	II
20311	1380358	SJ 6340 0135	Stable range	18th century	II

- 5.3 Although the majority of the heritage assets within the study area are graded of medium or low sensitivity, there is one Scheduled Monument and five Listed Buildings within or close to 500m of the development area. The former is the scheduled moated site at Whitwell to the west, while the latter comprise the Old Windmill at Much Wenlock to the south and the complex of buildings at Bradley Farm to the east. However, although individual sites or heritage assets may be graded as of low sensitivity, it is accepted that groups of such sites (such as those collectively associated with the Much Wenlock limestone industry) may have a greater significance within a local context.
- 5.4 Sites within the assessment study area are summarised below in chronological order, concentrating upon those within the immediate vicinity of the development. The principal description of a heritage asset within the study area is referenced by an emboldened SHER number or other reference. Selected heritage assets outwith the study area are also referenced in order to place the assets discussed within their wider context.

Prehistoric

5.5 No settlement or occupation sites of prehistoric date are recorded within the study area. Finds of both Neolithic and Bronze Age date suggest possible occupation and long-distance contact during this period, mostly recorded within the wider vicinity of the proposed development and centred upon Much Wenlock (Baugh 1998, 399). The only such find mapped within the study area is that of a perforated stone axe hammer of Bronze Age date (NRHE 72137) that is believed to have been found near Much Wenlock in the 19th century although the exact provenance is not recorded. A spindle whorl found to the north of Whitwell (SHER 303) is of unknown date.

Roman

No sites or finds of Roman date are recorded within the study area, although a number of such sites are recorded within the vicinity, principally to the south within Much Wenlock, that attest to occupation of the area during this period. These include a building with an apsidal end beneath the site of Wenlock Priory (SHER 5001) as well as burials of 3rd–6th century date to the south of Barrow

Street (SHER 3768). On the basis of the recovery of a Romano-British sculpture of a Celtic deity from the Priory and the number of later holy wells it has been suggested that there may have been a pagan water cult that was centred on Much Wenlock (*ibid*, 400). Land associated with the Roman villa at Yarchester (SHER 302) may have extended north-eastwards as far as Wigwig to the west of the development area (*ibid*, 399).

Medieval

- 5.7 Continuity of settlement into the Anglo-Saxon period at Much Wenlock has been suggested, with some of the burials recorded to the south of Barrow Street dated as late as the 6th century. Around 680 Merewalth of Mercia established a double monastery in the town and installed his daughter Milburga as abbess in 687. The priory was re-established after the Norman Conquest by Roger of Montgomery (SHER 307).
- 5.8 At the time of the Domesday Survey in 1086 the many bordars or smallholders recorded within the manor of Wenlock suggest that the town was a reasonably large settlement (*ibid*, 404; Thorn, 252 c). Farley is recorded separately within the survey, and contained one hide that paid tax, with one plough, three slaves and three smallholders in lordship with two more ploughs possible (Thorn 255 d). The name is derived from the Old English *fearn* and *leah* meaning 'woodland clearing growing with ferns' (Gelling 2001, 256; Mills 2003, 185). Farley is associated historically and later administratively as a township with the other adjacent small rural settlements at Wyke and Bradley, though at least some of Farley was in Much Wenlock manor in the later medieval period (Baugh 1998, 417). The existing A4169 road immediately to the east of Farley Quarry is likely to be on or close to the route of an early thoroughfare (**\$1**) that ran northwards from Much Wenlock along the valley and crossed the Severn over the bridge at Buildwas.
- There is no archaeological evidence for medieval settlement recorded at Farley, although the later post-medieval mill (SHER 15677) is most probably on the site of a medieval mill recorded as Birdbach in documentary sources dating to 1272 and 1321 (Baugh 1998, 432; Gelling 2001, 256). The later mill is located on the Farley Brook some 460m to the north of the proposed development. Another medieval mill site is recorded some 590m to the south at Downsmill (SHER 15676) to the north of Much Wenlock and associated with the possible earthwork remains of a mill race (SHER 29085). Earthwork remains recorded to the east of Bradley Farm, 410m or more to the east, have been suggested as the remains of a possible shrunken medieval settlement, although an archaeological evaluation only identified features that were associated with post-medieval brick-making activity (SHER 30949; CPAT 2015).
- 5.10 A small medieval moated site (**SHER 304**) is recorded on the lower ground at Whitwell some 480m to the west of Farley Quarry. The now-dry moat defines a slightly elevated square island some 17m across. The arms of the moat are between 8m and 12m wide and an external bank some 8m wide is evident along the western arm of the moat. The earthwork remains are scheduled (**SM 32327**). The site is associated with ridge and furrow cultivation to both the north and west. In the post-medieval period the moat was used as a pond to supply the watermill (**SHER 7310**) at Whitwell.

5.11 The limestone of the Wenlock Edge and adjacent areas lies near to the surface and as a consequence was the principal source of building stone during the medieval period, and was used in the construction of Much Wenlock Priory and the nearby churches. At this time the sources of stone appear to have been the quarry at Standhill immediately to the north of the town, as well as a cluster of quarries immediately to the west near the Bank (Baugh 1998, 426). The stone was also used as a source of building lime from at least the late 14th century, though the earliest kilns recorded are two at Wyke in 1523 (*ibid*; Williams 2014, 17). There is no documentary or other evidence during the medieval period for either limestone extraction or lime burning at Gleedon Hill within the area of the proposed development at Farley Quarry.

Post-medieval and modern

5.12 Those sites or structures of post-medieval and modern date within the planning application boundary and the immediate vicinity are mostly associated with either limestone extraction or lime burning. By the early 17th century Much Wenlock was 'famous' for limestone, and quarries and lime kilns were located all over the Edge. Self-employed lime 'carriers' (perhaps producers as well as distributors) are recorded in the 16th and 17th centuries, and several lime burners flourished in the earlier 18th century (Baugh 1998, 426). From the early 18th century Wenlock stone was bought for iron smelting, and as the local iron industry expanded quarries between the town and the Severn were acquired by ironmasters operating within the southern part of the coalfield to the north-east. The Wenlock to Buildwas road (S1) – which was turnpiked in 1756 – led to a wharf downstream of the bridge at Buildwas whence supplies were carried down river to the ironworks (*ibid*, 427). It was against this background that the quarries and lime kilns recorded at Farley Quarry and within the vicinity were both established and expanded.

Gleedon Hill (Farley) Quarry

- 5.13 Extraction at Gleedon Quarry (**SHER 7309**), later known as Farley Quarry after the Second World War, is recorded from the early 18th century. However, due to the number of quarriers and range of quarrying agreements in this vicinity during the 18th century it is possible that a number of separate people and enterprises were working Gleedon, and even the north part of Tomlin's (later Tomlinson's) Hills, in the same period (Williams 2014, 116). Although these areas therefore at times constituted an interlinked area of quarrying (and both form part of SHER 7309), those areas that relate to Tomlinson's Hill outwith the planning application boundary are discussed separately (as S7 in paragraph 5.22 below).
- 5.14 The earliest evidence of quarrying at Gleedon Hill is documented in 1728 when Thomas Owen was a 'lymeman' at Glidton. The value of both his 'lyme and lyme tooles' in his estate at the time of his death that year suggest that he was making a poor living (op. cit). There are indications that by 1767 the Coalbrookdale Company may have been quarrying at Gleedon. In 1777 the ironmaster Richard Reynolds bought Farley Farm. In 1780 William Ferriday and his partners at Lightmoor took a 21-year lease of stone near Gleedon Hill (Baugh 1998, 427). It was also in 1780 that Sir Watkins Williams Wynn leased part of Gleedon Hill to Abraham and Samuel Darby, Richard Reynolds and Joseph Rathbone, all of the Coalbrookdale Company, for the procurement of lime, limestone and ballstone.

The company was still in possession of the northern part of Gleedon Hill in 1797, but after the turn of the century the Madeley Wood Company had become the quarrymaster, with most of the limestone being destined for the company's furnaces at Ketley, Lightmoor and Horsehay (Williams 2014, 117).

5.15 Soon after 1824 a gravity tramway (or plateway) (**\$2**) was constructed from the quarries at Tomlinson's Hill and southern part of Gleedon Hill in order to transport the limestone northwards to the Severn at Buildwas, with horses probably hauling the empty waggons back to the quarry. An indenture that is dated the 26th June 1824 (SA 1681/184/1) for the lease of 'limerocks at Glyddon Hill' from William Moseley to both Joseph Reynolds and William Anstice, ironmasters of the Madeley Wood Company, allows for the:

'lease of limerocks or quarries of limestone called or known by the name of Glyddon Hill now known or which may be found out and discovered in or under the same hill...

...to dig and search for limestone with any instruments or engine...

...also full and free liberty to make Rail roads and all other such roads or other roads ways or passages ...necessary or convenient for carrying on the said works'

- 5.16 When the plateway was constructed is not documented, but is shown on the Greenwood's map of Shropshire of 1827 and also on the Ordnance Survey map of 1833 (Figure 5) on which it is labelled as 'Rail Road', as well as a Shropshire railway map of 1836 (Savage and Smith 1965). The plateway appears to have been in use for only some two decades as it is not mapped on the Much Wenlock tithe map of 1847 (Figure 6), although part of its former route may be that of a probable track which is depicted along the western edge of Field 276. Despite the limitations of scale, the route of the rail road as transcribed from the 1833 Ordnance Survey map indicates that it was mostly on the lower ground along the western edge of Gleedon Hill, with a spur around the southern edge, both routes immediately outwith the boundary of the proposed development area (Figure 4). The route continued to the south-west across the road to Homer into the guarry at Tomlinson's Hill (see paragraph 5.22 below) where it terminated and where a further spur is depicted. No obvious remains of the former plateway now survive, with any evidence for the spur located to the south of the existing Farley Quarry seemingly being removed by later quarrying within this area (Figure 7).
- 5.17 Thomas and William Botfield, the ironmasters of Old Park, Dawley, bought parts of Gleedon in 1810, 1826 and 1839. Also in the 1830s Levi and Charles Tranter had quarrying interests somewhere on Gleedon Hill, but like William James in 1838 they may either have been quarrying for the Botfields or renting part of their quarry (Williams 2014, 117).
- 5.18 Given the interests in quarrying on Gleedon Hill attested from these documentary sources, the extent of the quarries mapped on both the 1833 Ordnance Survey map and the 1847 Much Wenlock tithe map within the existing extent of Farley Quarry appear relatively limited. On the former, quarries are only shown on the northern and southern edges of the hill (the latter extending into the proposed development area), while on the tithe map the only small area of quarrying within

the application boundary is shown on the eastern edge within Field 1509 (near to the present entrance into Farley Quarry) which is listed in the apportionment as 'Smalley Coppice and lime quarry', owned by Joseph Reynolds and held by himself. No quarrying is indicated along the southern edge of the proposed development area, Field 276 being listed as 'Cliedon Hill and parts of Yeld' that is pasture owned by William Borfield and held by Enoch Nickless. Indeed, all of the northern and southern parts within the application boundary are held by Joseph Reynolds and William Borfield respectively, with the land being a mixture of pasture and arable, with some woodland on the eastern edge. Given the lack of evidence for quarrying mapped, it is probable that some of the documented references to Gleedon Hill do in fact refer to Tomlinson's Hill located to the southwest where both extensive quarrying and lime kilns are mapped by this date (see paragraph 5.22 below).

- 5.19 The Madeley Wood Company continued operations at Gleedon Hill until 1849 when the company sold its limestone interests to James Foster, an ironmaster who had iron foundries around Boseley, though there is no record of him ever quarrying at Gleedon. Indeed from this date there are few references to quarrying at Gleedon Hill other than at Trapsrock on the northern edge, and the guarry was never linked to the railway between Much Wenlock and Buildwas opened in 1862 (see paragraph 5.26 below). However, cartographic sources suggest that most of the guarrying and associated lime burning undertaken at Gleedon Hill was during the latter half of the 19th century, as more extensive workings and associated features are shown on the 1882 Ordnance Survey map of the area (Figure 7), although by this date working appears to have ceased within most areas. An area of guarry workings (SHER 29365) is depicted towards the northern edge of the application boundary, as well as an area of workings and associated spoil heaps in the central part of the area; the former has been removed by later quarrying, although one of the spoil heaps (S3; Plate 5) mapped within the central area remains extant but possibly subsequently modified. At this time the northern part of the proposed development area is labelled as 'Old Quarries' suggesting that working had already ceased by this date, whilst a limekiln (\$4) mapped towards the south-western edge of the area is labelled as 'Old Limekiln'. While providing evidence for former lime burning within the quarry, any surviving remains of this structure have been removed by later quarrying. An area of 'Quarries' (S5) is however mapped at the southern edge of Gleedon Hill which may suggest that extraction is still being undertaken within this area towards the end of the 19th century. The northern part of this area of quarries within the application boundary has been removed by later extraction, although grassed over earthworks (Plate 6) immediately to the south attest to the presence of spoil heaps associated with the former quarries (and within the area of the spur of the former plateway S2). On the 1902 Ordnance Survey map (Figure 8) this area of quarries is mapped as 'Old Quarries' and there do not appear to be any active areas of extraction by this date which suggests that the quarry had closed by 1902 (Baugh 1998, 427; Williams 2014, 118). As with other quarries within the area, this was a reflection of the decline of Shropshire's iron industry during the late 19th century which, together with the lack of a direct rail access to the eastern part of the coalfield, curtailed the demand for Wenlock limestone (Baugh 1998, 427).
- 5.20 A pair of lime kilns (**S6**) is located towards the eastern edge of the proposed development area adjacent to the existing site access (**Figure 3**). These are not mapped on any of the historic cartographic sources researched, but the principal

kiln is evident on lidar images (Plate 2) whilst the structural remains of both are evident although partially obscured by modern spoil heaps (Plates 7 and 8). Both kilns face northwards and the easternmost survives largely intact. This principal kiln is built into the natural slope to the south (which has been cut back to the east and partially beneath the kiln) and survives to an approximate height of 4m or more, with a width of some 7.7m and depth at the top (on the east face) of some 3.9m. The kiln is constructed of stone although the arch of the draw-hole (some 2.4m wide and 2.4m or more high) is of brick above a height of about 1.5m (and to a depth of some 1.9m), that approximates with a change in construction in the stonework on the front face of the kiln which suggests that the lower part of the structure may be of an earlier phase. In addition, the draw-hole is not central to the front face of the kiln which extends some 3.5m to the east and 1.8m to the west. The upper level of the kiln pot is visible, but partially collapsed and infilled. damaged by tree growth and covered by vegetation. The western kiln is largely obscured by a modern spoil heap that extends north-westwards from both the north and west faces of the structure. It adjoins, but is set back some 1.9m to the south of, the eastern kiln. The front face is in excess of 3.2m wide, and only the upper 0.6m of the arch of the draw-hole is visible, with the remainder being infilled, and which extends to within 0.8m of the top of the structure. While the date of the kilns is unknown, their location close to the guarry mapped on the 1847 tithe map as well as the areas of later quarrying to the west mapped in 1882 (but by then disused) would suggest that the kilns were constructed and used in the mid- to late 19th century.

5.21 The quarry was briefly re-opened again between 1937–38 close to the existing entrance for the extraction of building stone and hardcore, which resulted in minimal change to the areas of former extraction previously mapped (Figures 9 and 10) and established trees are visible within the disused quarry area on aerial photographs of 1946. In 1948 an IDO planning permission was granted covering 19.6ha for the 'continuance and extension of the workings at Gleedon and Farley Quarries (Limestone)'. The quarry, now more familiarly known as Farley Quarry, was again re-opened by Lime Applications Ltd for the production of ground lime for soil fertiliser and also limestone for burning into calcium oxide, the latter undertaken at Shadwell Quarry as there were no longer any usable kilns at Farley Quarry. In 1953 Adam Lythcoe Ltd acquired the assets to the guarry. The principal product continued to be ground lime with production in the early 1960s being some 55,000 tons. However, production reduced dramatically due to the substantial reduction in the lime subsidy paid to farmers in 1965 and quarrying again ceased (Williams 2104, 118-19). In 1968 the guarry was re-opened by Campbell and Jemson Ltd, now principally for the production of roadstone and hardcore, with upwards of 5,000 tons a week being sold in the early 1970s. From aerial photographs of both 1962 and 1970, and cartographic evidence of 1972 (Figure 11) the extent of extraction had increased markedly by this date, primarily within the northern and western part of the quarry (including within the proposed development area) as well as areas further south which appear mostly to have been used for the storage of spoil. Subsequent to a further planning permission in 1973 guarrying ceased in 1983, principally as a result of the poor quality of the limestone still available, even for hardcore. Between 1986-88 the quarry was once more active under the Huxley Brothers, but this was short-lived and the processing plant was dismantled and removed, during which a former kiln was exposed (ibid, 121), which might be that (S6) recorded near the eastern entrance to the quarry. An abandoned kiln photographed at Farley Quarry in 1960 (ibid, 121) is not this kiln, and is therefore presumed to have subsequently either been removed (if it was S4 towards the south-western edge the proposed development area) or buried by spoil. During 1991–92 small-scale quarrying was undertaken by Donavan using a mobile crushing plant.

Other heritage assets within the vicinity

- 5.22 The earliest documented quarry within the study area is that at Tomlins Hills (\$7) to the south-west of the proposed development area (included as part of SHER 7309). Lime burning is recorded at Nutgrove Hill as early as 1714, though the later name probably originates from when William Tomlins of Homer acquired 'a parcel of limerocks' in Nutgrove Furlong in 1745. The quarry continued to expand and by 1827 a tramway (or plateway) had been laid to it from the Severn at Buildwas (and which was routed along the western side of Gleedon Hill Quarry; see paragraph 5.16 above) and two circular lime kilns are depicted within the quarry on Greenwoods' map of that date (Figure 5). Lime burning is recorded at Tomlinson's Hills until the late 19th century, when the quarry was finally closed (Williams 2014, 113–14). Extensive disused workings are shown on the 1882 Ordnance Survey map together with some lime kilns (Figure 7), although the latter had been abandoned by 1902 (Figure 8). Remains of a lime kiln towards the north-eastern edge of the quarry are visible within the existing woodland.
- 5.23 The earliest records for Bradley Quarry (SHER 7308), located to the north-east of the proposed development area, date back to 1717 when Richard Reynolds of Coalbrookdale built a forge on the site of a paper mill in the vicinity of the quarry. However, quarrying seems to have expanded from 1777 when Richard Reynolds of the Madeley Wood Company bought the lease at Bradley to procure limestone. The quarry subsequently continued to expand, with an increase in the production of fluxing stone after the adjacent railway was opened in 1865 (see paragraph 5.26 below). From the late 19th century the emphasis was on the production of lime, especially cement, and a substantial lime and cement works is mapped in 1902 (Figure 8). The quarry declined after the First World War and finally closed in 1932 (Williams 2014, 123–26).
- 5.24 Shadwell Quarry (**SHER 7307**), to the south of the proposed development area, probably has a long history but the first recorded quarrier with an interest in limestone in the vicinity was in 1833. Although leases on the quarry are recorded from 1849 it was subsequent to the South Wales and Cannock Chase Coal and Coke Company becoming the operator in the early 1860s that the quarry came into prominence, with rail sidings laid to the Wenlock to Buildwas line in 1862 (see paragraph 5.26 below). A large kiln back was constructed in 1889 and the company continued to operate the quarry until 1910. After the Second World War Lime Applications Ltd acquired Shadwell for burning lime (some of which was transported from Farley Quarry). From the early 1950s a number of different companies have operated the quarry, principally for hardcore and aggregate, which both expanded and increased in depth during this period until its closure in 1996 (Williams 2014, 107–10).
- 5.25 A small quarry (**SHER 29366**) is mapped some 210m to the south-east of Farley Quarry in 1882 (**Figure 7**). An 'Old Limekiln' is also shown on the northern edge, and the area appears infilled with water, suggesting that the quarry was disused by this date.

- 5.26 The expansion of the quarries at Bradley and Shadwell was linked to the opening of the Much Wenlock and Severn Junction Railway (SHER 8061) in 1862. This ran off the Severn Valley Railway, also opened in 1862 and run by the West Midlands Railway, and enabled the much more efficient transportation of the limestone to the coalfields. The station at Farley Halt (SHER 33301) to the northeast of the proposed development area was opened in 1934. Both the railway line and station closed in 1962.
- 5.27 Despite the extensive evidence for quarrying within the study area, most of it remained rural in character, as is reflected in the Historic Landscape Character map (Figure 12) with much of the area made up of both rectilinear and irregular fields or reorganised piecemeal enclosure, with later woodland on the site of the former quarry at Tomlinson's Hill and around the edges of Gleedon Hill. A number of farmsteads are recorded within the immediate vicinity of Farley Quarry, including Gleedon Hill Farm (SHER 22923) some 90m to the west, Mill House Farm (SHER 22220) some 460m to the north, Bradley Farm (SHER 22221) some 310m to the east, and Downs Farm (SHER 42114) some 960m to the south-east. Some of the farm buildings at both Bradley and Downs date back to the 17th century, while the farmsteads at both Gleedon Hill and Mill House are of 19th century date. Most of the buildings at Bradley Farm are listed and are described in further detail below (paragraphs 5.31–5.35).
- 5.28 The other building within the study area that is listed is the former windmill (**SHER 297**) located north of Much Wenlock and south of Shadwell Quarry. This circular stone tower mill is of four storeys and largely derelict, but is currently undergoing restoration.

Designated heritage assets

- 5.29 Designated heritage assets within the study area include the scheduled moated site at Whitwell (SHER 307; SM 32327; NRHE 72095) to the west and the listed windmill (SHER 297; NHLE 1367528) to the south of Shadwell Quarry. However, site inspection has established that there would be no intervisibility between the these heritage assets and the proposed development as a result of intervening topography, or screening from woodland and vegetation. No potential adverse effects upon either the setting or the significance of these designated heritage assets are therefore predicted and no detailed assessment has been undertaken as a consequence (see Appendix).
- 5.30 The assessment accordingly addresses the group of listed buildings at Bradley Farm some 310m or more to the east from which there would be intervisibility from some of the buildings and therefore a potential effect upon their setting and significance. The baseline data on these heritage assets is described below.

1380357: Stable and cart shed range east of Bradley Farmhouse (grade II)

1380358: Stable range south-east of Bradley Farmhouse (grade II)

1389310: Barn immediately south-east of Bradley Farmhouse (grade II)

1422983: Bradley Farmhouse (grade II)

5.31 This group of designated heritage assets consists of four Listed Buildings that constitute part of the complex of farmstead buildings at Bradley Farm (**Plate 9**).

The farmhouse itself (NHLE 1422983) is located on the western edge of the farmstead and faces to the south-west. It dates to the early 17th century but has been remodelled and extended up until the mid-19th century. It is timber framed, rebuilt in stone rubble with a red brick gable end and a clay plain tile roof. There are two large stone projecting and one internal chimney stacks to the rear with brick shafts. The exterior consists of two storeys and an attic with an almost symmetrical three bay west front. The building has a three room plan with a direct entry to the centre room and a parlour to the left and kitchen to the right.

- 5.32 The barn and stables (NHLE 1389310) located immediately to the south-east of the farmhouse forms the northern side of a range of buildings. It is constructed of red brick with gable ends and a clay plain tile roof. It is of a long rectangular plan of six bays, with the five bay barn to the east with opposing cart entrances to a central threshing bay and stables in the sixth bay with a loft above. The interior has a king-post roof; one of the tie-beams has the date 1783 carved on it.
- 5.33 The stable range (NHLE 1380358) to the south of the barn has a stone range that dates to the late 17th or early 18th century and a later 18th century main range of red brick with gabled ends and a clay plain tile roof. The exterior is of two storeys with a loft above the stables. The main brick range has a queen-post roof.
- 5.34 The stables and cart shed range (NHLE 1380357) are located to the east of the farmhouse. The long rectangular range has stables at the south end with a lofts above that dates to the early 18th century, extended to the north in the mid-late 19th century by the addition of a three bay cart shed (**Plate 10**). The range is of stone rubble, extended partly in red brick, with a plain tile roof and gabled ends. The interior of the cart shed has a king-post roof.
- 5.35 Bradley Farm is situated at a slightly elevated location on the eastern side of the shallow valley of Farley Brook within a landscape context that is essentially rural in character. The ground continues to rise to the east of the farmstead. A minor road passes immediately to the south of the farmstead, and a public footpath (The Shropshire Way) passes through the complex of buildings in a north to south direction. The west side of the farmstead, and in particular the farmhouse, is largely screened in views from this direction by existing trees. The principal importance of all the buildings is in their architectural and historical significance, and their group value as part of an integrated farmstead, although this value is enhanced by the rural character of their surroundings with which the farmstead is inextricably linked and therefore contributes to its significance. This setting has however been altered, and in particular by the recent construction of the large riding school building immediately to the east of the farmstead, and is accordingly considered to be of medium sensitivity.

6.0 ASSESSMENT OF DEVELOPMENT EFFECTS

Direct (physical) effects

6.1 Potential direct physical effects upon both recorded and previously unrecorded heritage assets of archaeological interest could principally arise from any initial groundworks that would be undertaken in advance of the proposed recycling and

construction of the development platform. These are anticipated to be relatively limited, and in particular as the quarry will not be lined with a membrane as the fill materials would be inert construction, demolition and excavation wastes. The groundworks are accordingly expected to involve grading of the existing ground surface within the extent of the proposed processing area, and the removal of any vegetation within the area of the development platform so as to avoid the generation of any methane gas.

- 6.2 There are no recorded heritage assets that relate either to past quarrying or lime burning within the area of the proposed processing plant of any archaeological or historical interest upon which the initial groundworks could potentially have any impact. The only surviving feature of archaeological and historical interest within the proposed area of the development platform is the former spoil heap (S3) which dates at least in part to the latter part of the 19th century and is depicted on the 1882 Ordnance Survey map (**Figure 7** and **Plate 5**). While this feature would not be physically removed or substantially affected, it would be buried beneath the fill materials. This is considered to constitute a substantial impact upon a feature of low sensitivity, and therefore to be a moderate permanent adverse effect. This would however lead to less than substantial harm.
- 6.3 No other features or structures of archaeological or historical interest within the application boundary are predicted to be affected by the development proposals. This is primarily as a result of the preservation *in situ* of the surviving structural remains of the pair of lime kilns (S6) towards the eastern edge of the area as part of the development (see paragraphs 7.1–7.2 below). Indirect effects upon the setting and significance of the lime kilns is addressed below (paragraph 6.8).

Indirect (visual) effects

6.4 The potential indirect (visual) effects of the proposed development at Farley Quarry upon the setting and significance of the designated heritage assets from which the development is predicted to be visible are addressed below (together with the effects upon lime kilns S6). These are limited to some of the group of Listed Buildings at Bradley Farm. The baseline data for these assets is set out in paragraphs 5.31–5.35 above. The predicted effects upon the other designated heritage assets within the study area are summarised in the **Appendix**. The assessments are based upon both professional experience and current guidance (Historic England 2017a).

1380357: Stable and cart shed range east of Bradley Farmhouse (grade II)

1380358: Stable range south-east of Bradley Farmhouse (grade II)

1389310: Barn immediately south-east of Bradley Farmhouse (grade II)

1422983: Bradley Farmhouse (grade II)

6.5 Despite their relatively elevated location it is predicted that views of the proposed development from this group of Listed Buildings at Bradley Farm would be largely screened as a result of topography (the platform being constructed within the rim of the existing quarry), the extensive woodland around the quarry, intervening trees or other buildings within the farmstead. This would specifically be the case for both the stable range south-east of Bradley Farmhouse (NHLE 1380358) and the barn immediately south-east of Bradley Farmhouse (NHLE 1389310).

- 6.6 As a result of the surrounding trees any view from Bradley Farmhouse (NHLE 1422983) towards the guarry is predicted to be limited to that from the attic window in the north-western gable end of the house (Plate 9) and that this view would be restricted or filtered in the summer months. Any view of the proposed development would be almost totally screened by topography and the existing woodland that surrounds the guarry, with visibility restricted to the gap within this woodland where the existing (and proposed) access road enters the quarry on the eastern side, and which represents a very limited proportion of the view. It is not predicted that the proposed development would be visible from the front of the house (which faces to the south-west) nor from other locations within the building. Given the intervening distance to the quarry, the levels of the proposed platform and the surrounding trees, it is not predicted that either noise or odour would have any material affects. The significance of the farmhouse relates to both its exterior and interior architecture, together with its setting and group value with the other buildings within the farmstead. These values would not be affected during the operational phase (a period of eleven years) or permanently by the restricted views of the proposed development, and the effects upon the heritage significance of the farmhouse are therefore predicted to be neutral.
- 6.7 Views of the proposed development from the stable and cart shed range (NHLE 1380357) located to the east of Bradley Farmhouse are likewise predicted to be restricted to the gap in the existing woodland surrounding the guarry where the current (and proposed) access is located on the eastern side. This view would be filtered by trees to the west of the building. From the public footpath (the Shropshire Way) further to the east both the building and this limited view into the quarry are visible (Plate 10). Given the intervening distance, the levels of the proposed platform and the woodland surrounding the quarry neither noise nor odour would be predicted to have any material affects. The cart shed and adjoining stable is essentially a functional building whose significance relates to its exterior and interior architecture, together with its group value with the other buildings within the farmstead. Neither of these values would be affected during the operational phase (a period of eleven years) or permanently by the restricted views into the proposed development, and the effects upon the heritage value of the building are therefore predicted to be neutral.

Lime kilns (S6)

6.8 Although an existing soil mound is located immediately west of, and partially overlies, these lime kilns, given the proximity of the eastern edge of the proposed development platform this would substantially alter the landscape to the west (increasing the height by up to 10m) and therefore the nature of the existing quarry with which they are associated, though the area to the north (from where the kilns can be viewed and most readily appreciated) would remain relatively unchanged. While the existing setting of the kilns makes some contribution to their significance, their importance primarily relates to their archaeological and historical value as surviving elements of the Much Wenlock limestone industry. Neither of these values would be affected by the proposed development, and although their appreciation could be compromised in the medium term during the operational phase there would potentially be some enhancement to their existing setting upon the completion of the restoration proposals. The residual effects on the significance of the heritage value of the lime kilns are therefore predicted to be minor to moderate, which would lead to less than substantial harm.

Historic Landscape Character

6.9 The development proposals are located within an area that is categorised as an active stone quarry, but would extend throughout only the southern part of the area. As a result of topography and the surrounding woodland, which would be both retained and enhanced, the development would not be visible from those fields located to the east and west in particular (other than through the proposed entrance from the east). Any changes to the overall historic landscape character in the vicinity are therefore predicted to be limited to the immediate area within the quarry itself and to be of minor significance.

7.0 MITIGATION

- 7.1 Where feasible, and in accordance with planning policy and guidance, mitigation of the predicted effects of the proposed development upon those recorded heritage assets of archaeological and historical interest, and specifically those of more than local importance, would be based upon their preservation *in situ*. This relates in particular to the pair of lime kilns (S6) located adjacent to the access road into the proposed development towards the eastern edge of the application boundary.
- 7.2 In order to both preserve and enhance these structures the following mitigation is proposed:
 - 1. There is a 'stand-off area' of a minimum of 10m from the front of the kilns and 5m to the east within which no works relating to either the recycling or the construction of the development platform are undertaken, and that the kilns are fenced off from the proposed access road to the north in order to avoid inadvertent encroachment
 - 2. The eastern side of the proposed development platform would follow the alignment of the existing soil mound to the west of the kilns, although the landform to be agreed would reduce the angle of the slope, and any works adjacent to the western kiln (which the existing soil mound abuts) would be undertaken in a manner that respected its structural integrity
 - A detailed measured, photographic and structural survey of the remains of the lime kilns is undertaken to Level 3 standard in accordance with Historic England guidelines (2016; 2017b) in advance of the commencement of the proposed development
 - 4. Dependent upon the results of this survey that any necessary remedial consolidation works (including the removal of the existing trees and scrub) would be undertaken to the lime kilns in order to reduce any further deterioration and assure their continued structural integrity (and the survey supplemented as necessary).
- 7.3 As other features (and particularly spoil heap S3) within the quarry have been mapped historically at a scale of at least 1:2500, and a contour survey of the existing quarry has already been undertaken, no additional measured survey

- within the application boundaries is proposed. It is however recommended that a general photographic survey of the existing quarry is undertaken in advance of the commencement of the proposed development if granted consent. This would be carried out in accordance with Historic England guidance (2017b).
- 7.4 Should consent for the proposed development be granted then the details of this outline mitigation would be set out in a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) that would be prepared and submitted to the Shropshire Historic Environment Team for approval on behalf of the planning authority. This document would include the detailed methodology for undertaking the proposed surveys, the anticipated programme and the proposed format of the report, together with information relating to the deposition and curation of the survey archive.

8.0 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

- 8.1 There are no archaeological sites or finds indicating either activity or settlement of prehistoric, Roman or early medieval date within the vicinity of Farley Quarry with the possible exception of a Bronze Age stone axe hammer found near Much Wenlock and a spindle whorl of uncertain date found to the north of Whitwell. Evidence for activity and settlement during these periods is instead primarily focussed upon Much Wenlock itself, including that for a Roman building and burials, and the later foundation of the monastery in the 7th century that was reestablished as the existing priory after the Norman Conquest.
- 8.2 Evidence for medieval settlement within the vicinity includes the small scheduled moated site at Whitwell to the west, as well as the sites of the water mills on the Farley Brook at Farley to the north-west and Downsmill to the south. It was also during the medieval period that the limestone of the Wenlock Edge became established as the principal source of both building stone and lime within the area, although there is no documentary or any other evidence for either limestone extraction or lime burning at Gleedon Hill during this period.
- 8.3 The limestone industry expanded from the 17th century, and more particularly the 18th century when Wenlock stone was bought for iron smelting. Extraction at Gleedon Hill within the vicinity of the existing Farley Quarry is documented from the early 18th century, though initially probably at Tomlinson's Hill to the southwest. In 1767 the Coalbrookdale Company had interests in the area for the procurement of lime, limestone and ballstone. By the early 19th century the interests were largely those of the Madeley Wood Company, and after 1824 a 'rail road' or gravity tramway was constructed northwards from Tomlinson's Hill and the southern side of Gleedon Hill to transport the limestone to the River Severn at Buildwas, although this was no longer in existence by 1847. At this date guarrying is only evident on the northern and southern sides of Gleedon Hill, and extensive quarrying and lime burning mostly appears to date from the latter half of the 19th century. In 1882 an area of former quarry workings is mapped within the northern limits of the application boundary, together with further workings and associated spoil heaps within the central area, one of the spoil heaps remaining at least partially extant. A lime kiln mapped on the south-western edge of the area has been removed by later extraction. A pair of lime kilns that survive on the eastern edge of the area, one of them largely intact, probably date to the mid- to late 19th century and represent the principal surviving historic structures associated with

the former limestone industry within the application boundary. There was limited quarrying at Gleedon Hill after 1902 until Farley Quarry was granted consent in 1948, with extensive extraction during the 1960s and 1970s that established the existing boundaries of the quarry. The quarry has however been closed since 1988 other than some small-scale working in the early 1990s.

- 8.4 The quarrying at Gleedon Hill formed only one part of the much more extensive limestone industry in the vicinity of Much Wenlock and which, in the immediate vicinity, included the quarries at Bradley to the north-east, Tomlinson's Hill to the south-west and Shadwell to the south. In many other respects the area remained essentially rural, with fields in agricultural use along the lower ground to both the east and west around the farmsteads at Bradley and Gleedon Hill respectively. The buildings at Bradley Farm form a complex that dates from the 17th century but was remodelled and extended up until the mid 19th century (and more recently with the construction of an adjacent riding school). The farmhouse and three other buildings are listed.
- 8.5 The proposed recycling and construction of the development platform would have only a limited direct effect upon surviving structures or features within the quarry of archaeological or historical interest, and primarily upon a spoil heap at least partially of later 19th century date that would be buried beneath the fill materials. The pair of lime kilns that survive largely intact on the eastern edge of the application boundary would be recorded and then preserved *in situ* as part of the proposed development, with remedial consolidation works undertaken in order to ensure and enhance their structural integrity, although there would be a minor to moderate adverse effect upon their significance as a result of the changes to their setting. These predicted effects would however lead to less than substantial harm.
- 8.6 As the proposed development is essentially within the rim of the existing quarry, and therefore screened by topography and the woodland along the surrounding slopes, there would be no intervisibility with the scheduled moat at Whitwell to the west, while the listed windmill near Shadwell Quarry to the south is screened by intervening woodland. Only from the attic gable window of Bradley Farmhouse and from the nearby cart shed and stable (and adjacent footpath) are limited views of the proposed development predicted through the gap in the surrounding woodland at the entrance into the site. No effects on the architectural significance of these buildings, the group value of the farmstead or its setting are predicted. For the same reasons only minor effects are predicted upon Historic Landscape Character which would be limited to those within the quarry itself.
- 8.7 Mitigation of the predicted direct effects of the development, and specifically the preservation of the two surviving lime kilns, is built into the proposals in order to ensure the preservation of the structures *in situ*. Should the development be granted consent then it is proposed that this would be preceded by a detailed measured and photographic survey of the kilns, together with any necessary remedial consolidation works in order to ensure their continued survival. Previous and existing surveys of the spoil heap within the quarry would be supplemented by a photographic record. The details of the scale and scope of this proposed mitigation, including subsequent report preparation and archive deposition, would be set out in a Written Scheme of Investigation to be agreed with the Shropshire Historic Environment Team on behalf of the planning authority.

8.8 Subject to the implementation of this outline mitigation strategy it is considered that the predicted effects of the proposed development at Farley Quarry would lead to less than substantial harm to those heritage assets affected and would accord with both the National Planning Policy Framework and local plan policies.

Date: April 2020

Report: 63/1

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Illustrations: Archaeological Services Durham University

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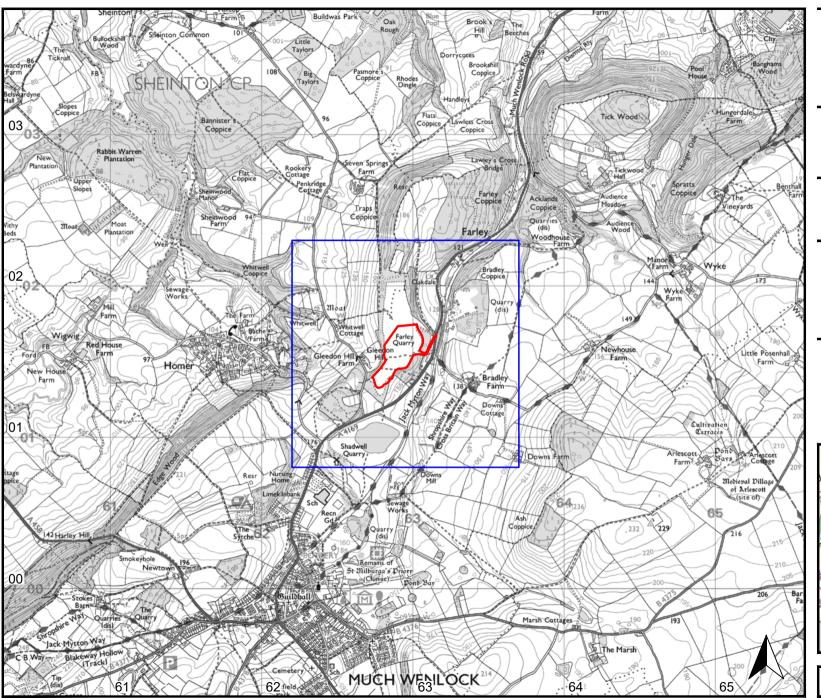
APPENDIX

DESIGNATED HERITAGE ASSETS WITHIN VICINITY OF DEVELOPMENT

The following table summarises the intervisibilty between the development area at Farley Quarry and designated heritage assets within the study area (as indicated on **Figure 4**) and any predicted adverse effects upon the significance of the heritage asset (or references to the main text for heritage assets discussed in greater detail).

Asset	Grid reference Classification	Classification	Grade	Distance	Grade Distance Comment
32327	SJ 6237 0185	Moated site at Whitwell	ı	480m	See paragraph 5.10 for description. Earthworks screened from views of the proposed development by hedges to the east and south-east and along the roadside, as well as the existing woodland around the quarry. No adverse effects predicted upon the archaeological significance of the heritage asset.
1367528	1367528 SJ 6250 0082	The Old Windmill to west of Shadwell Rock Quarry	=	560m	See paragraph 5.28 for description. Windmill screened from the views of proposed development by woodland immediately to the north and to the south of Shadwell Quarry. No adverse effects predicted upon the architectural and historical significance of the heritage asset.
1380357	1380357 SJ 6340 0139	Stable and cart shed range east of Bradley Farmhouse	=	340m	See paragraphs 5.32, 5.35 and 6.7. No adverse effects upon the architectural significance of the heritage asset predicted.
1380358	SJ 6340 0135	Stable range south-east of Bradley Farmhouse	=	360m	Building screened from views of the proposed development by the farmhouse (NHLE 1422983) and barn (NHLE 1389310) to the north-west and the existing woodland around the quarry. No adverse effects predicted upon the architectural significance of the heritage asset.
1389310	1389310 SJ 6339 0137	Barn immediately south-east of Bradley Farmhouse	=	340m	Building screened from views of the proposed development by the farmhouse (NHLE 1422983) and adjacent building to the north-west and the existing woodland around the quarry. No adverse effects predicted upon the architectural significance of the heritage asset.

Asset	Grid reference Classification	Classification	Grade D	istance	Grade Distance Comment
1422983	422983 SJ 6337 0138	Bradley Farmhouse	3)	110m	See paragraphs 5.31, 5.35 and 6.6. No adverse effects predicted upon the architectural significance of the heritage asset.



Farley Quarry

Recycling and construction of development platform

Figure 1

Location plan and study area

0 1km scale 1:25 000 @ A4

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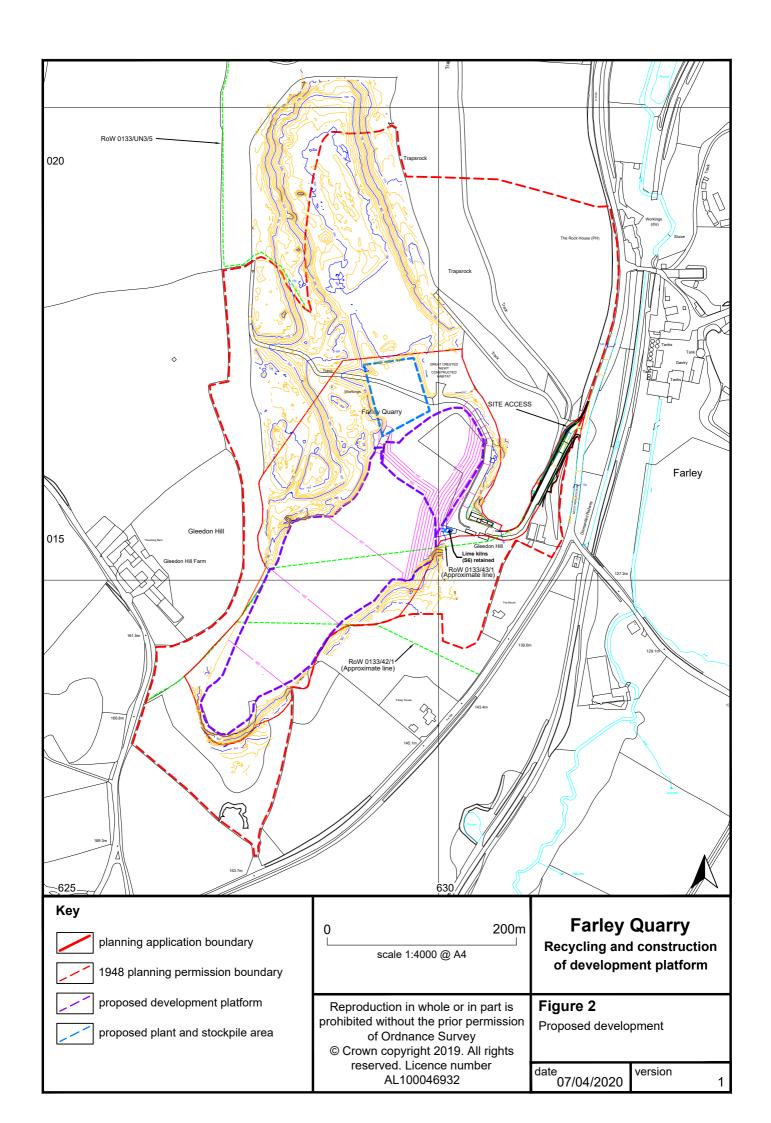
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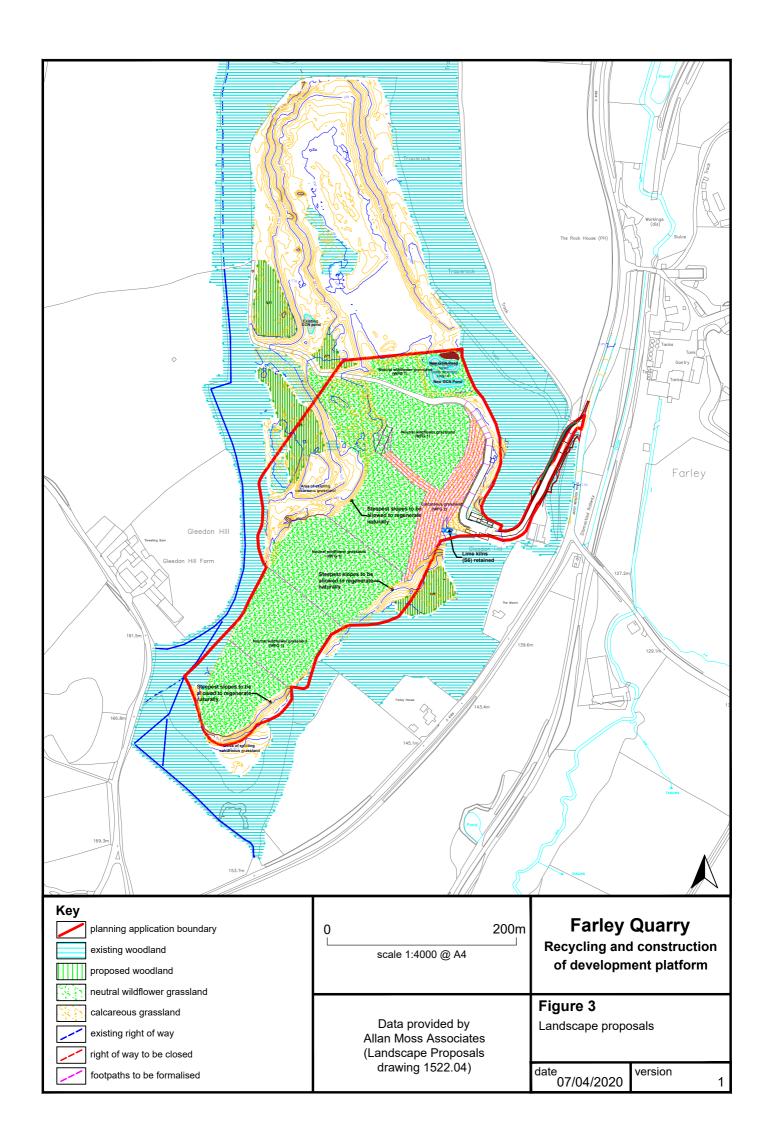


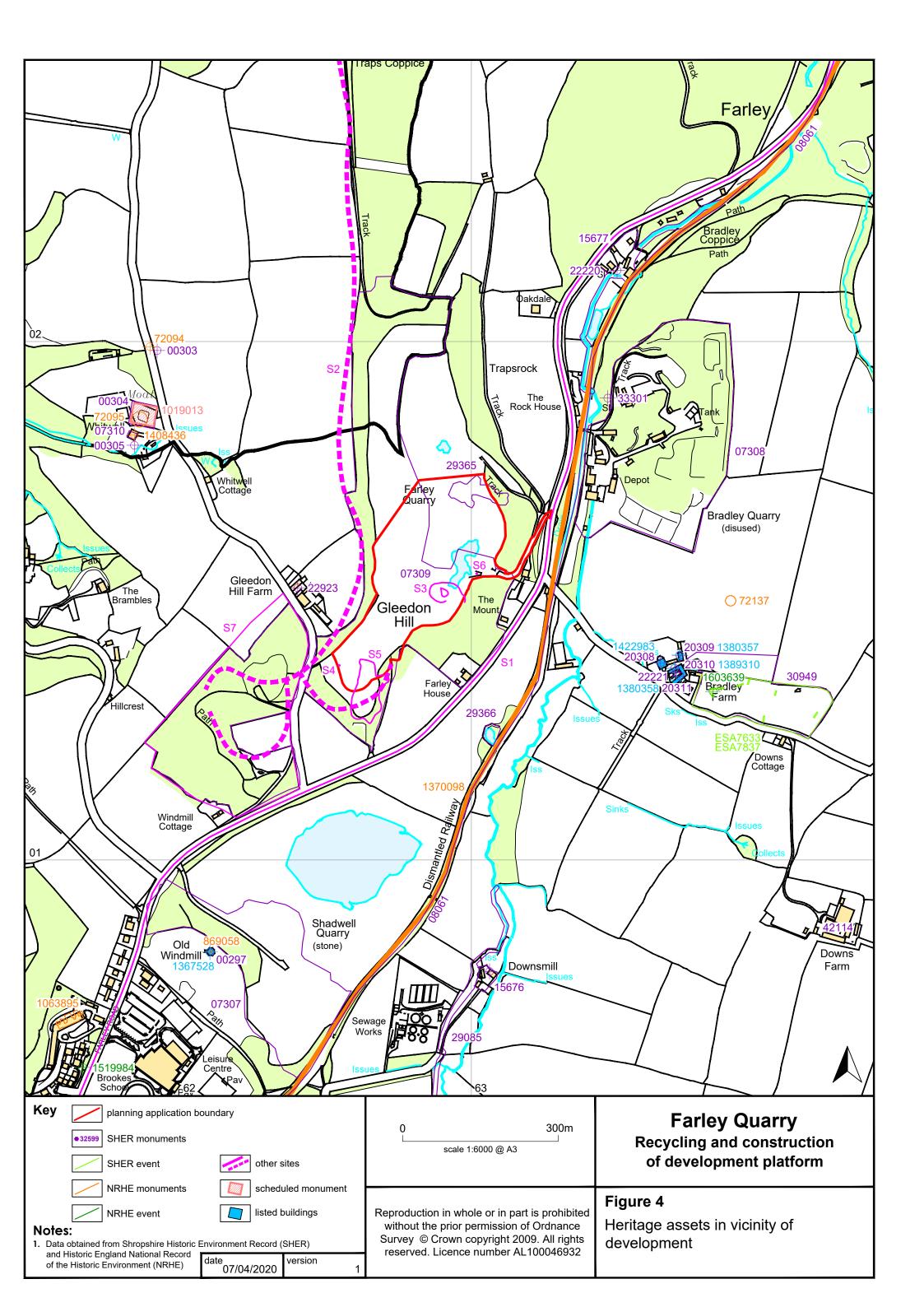
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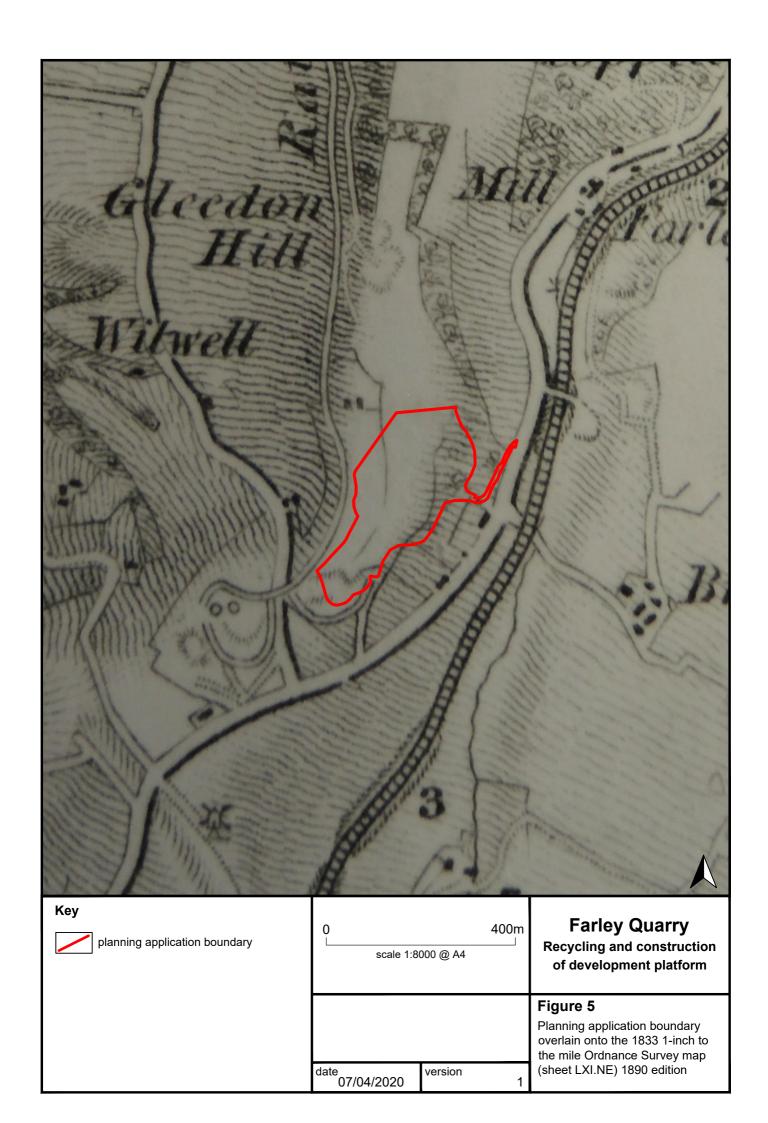


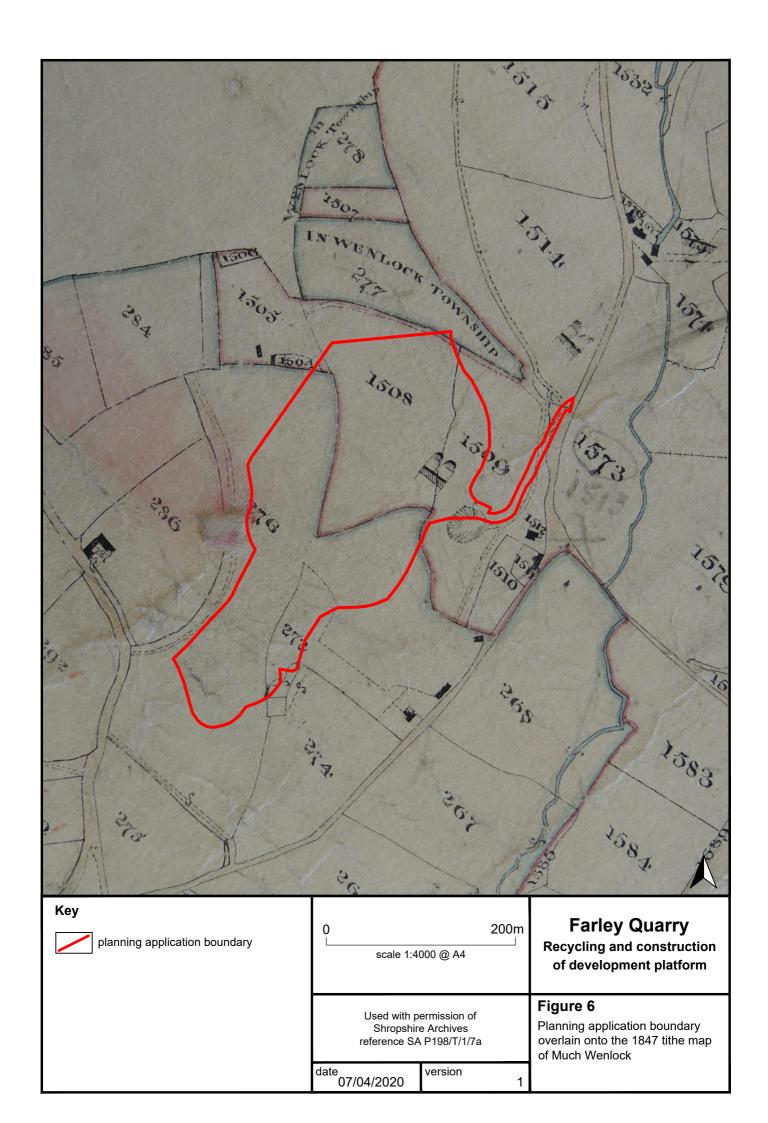
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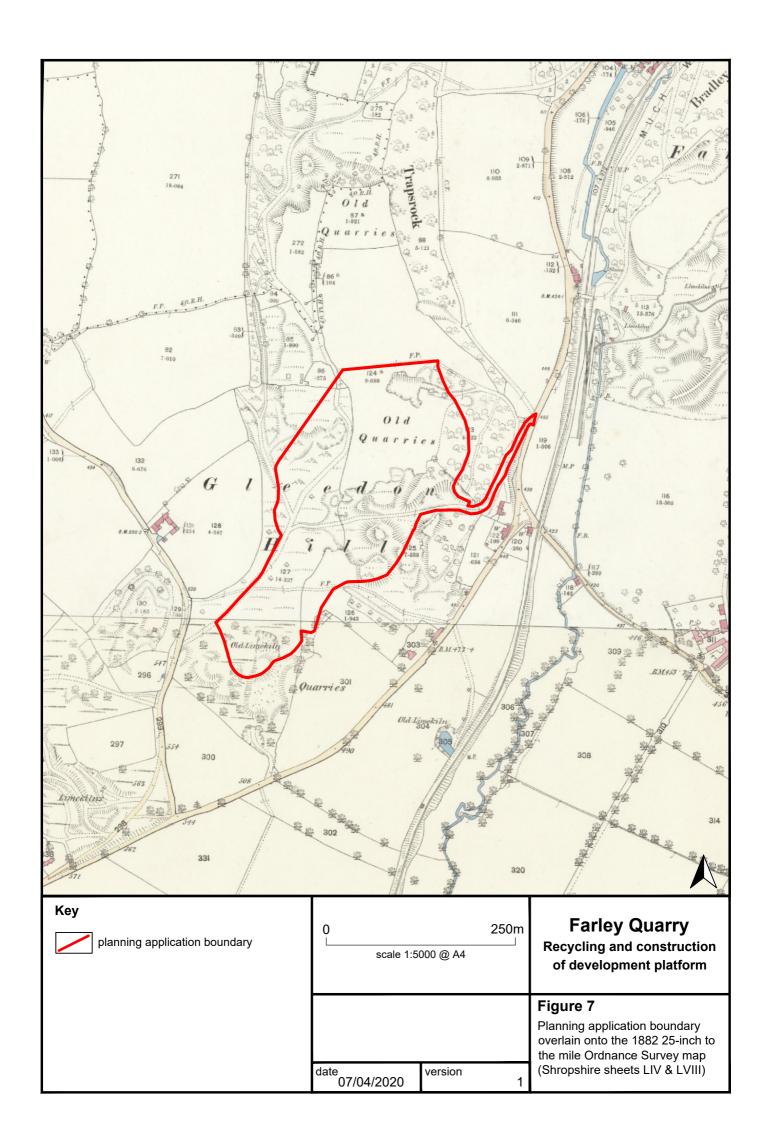


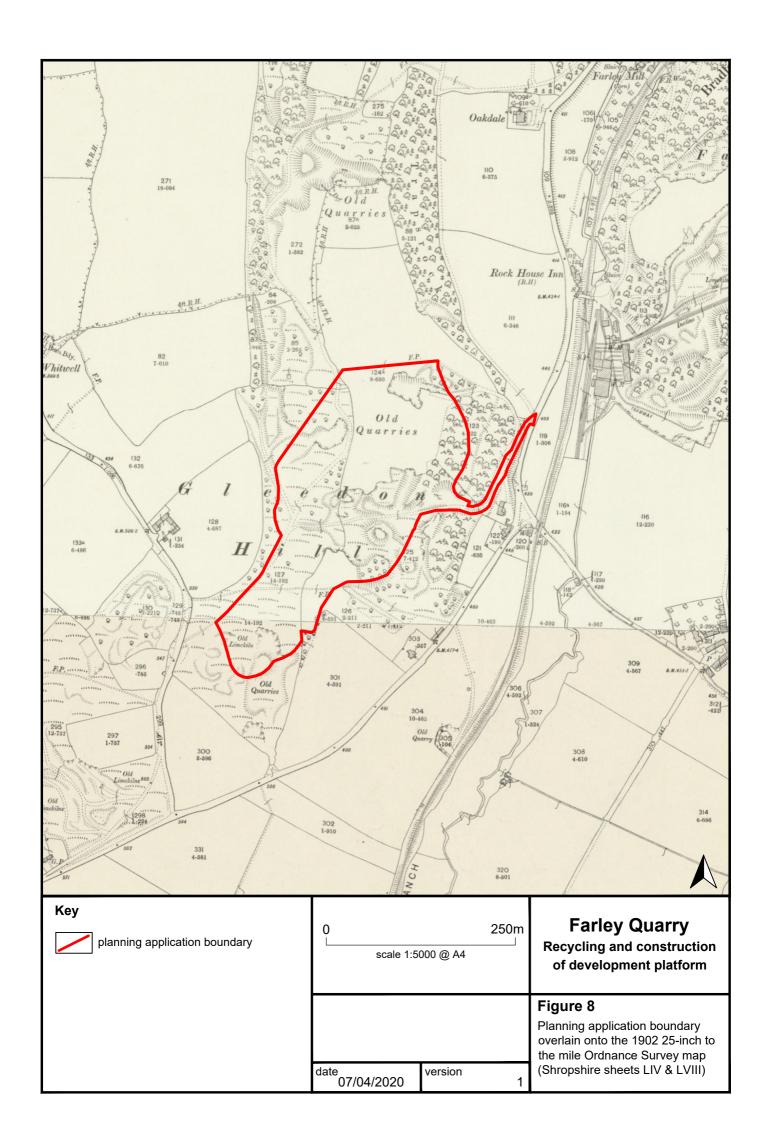


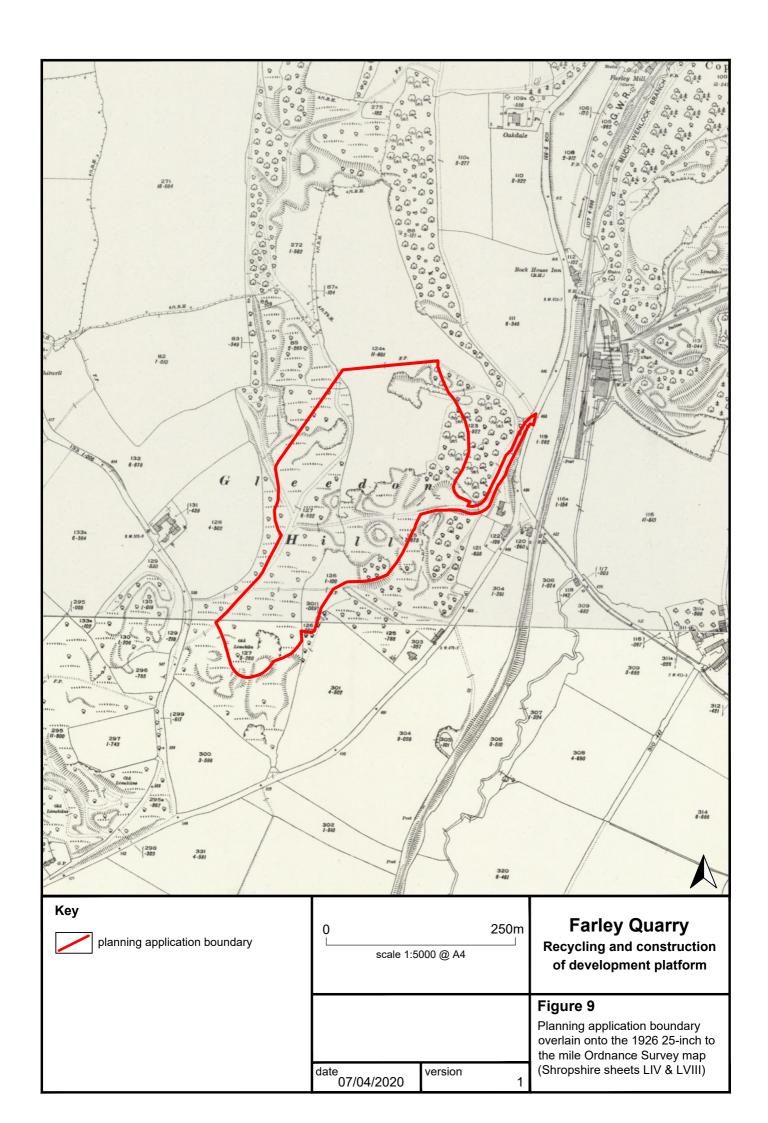


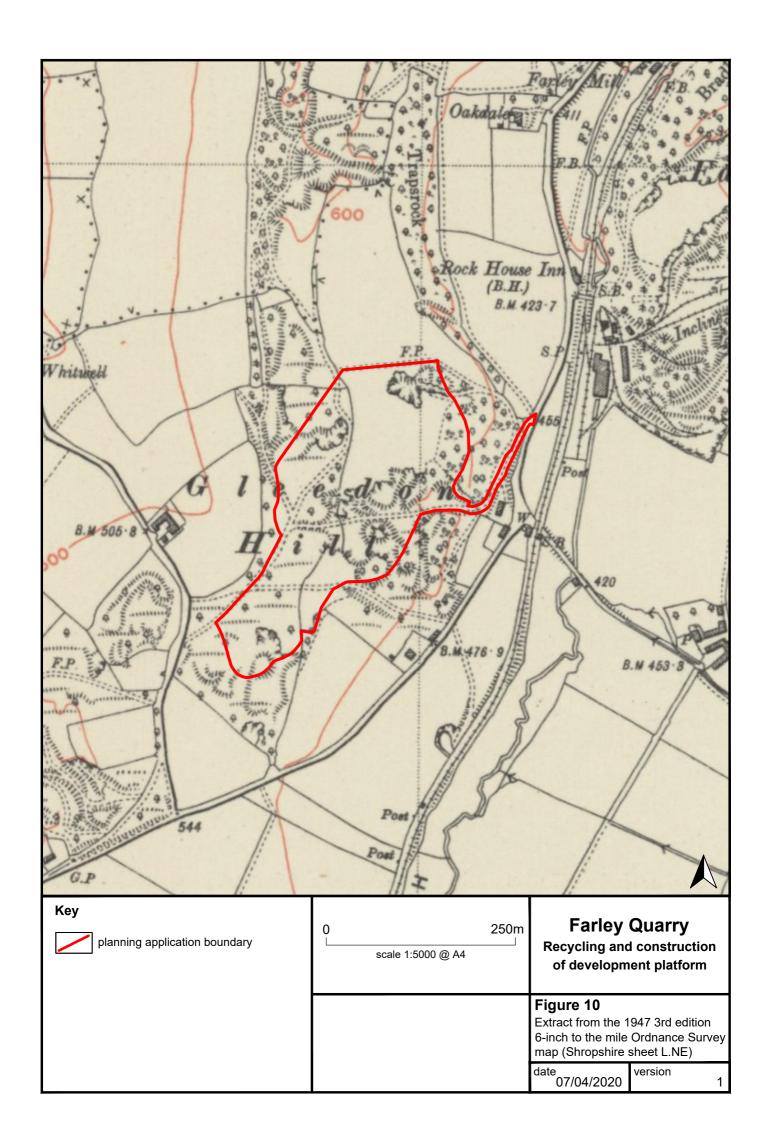


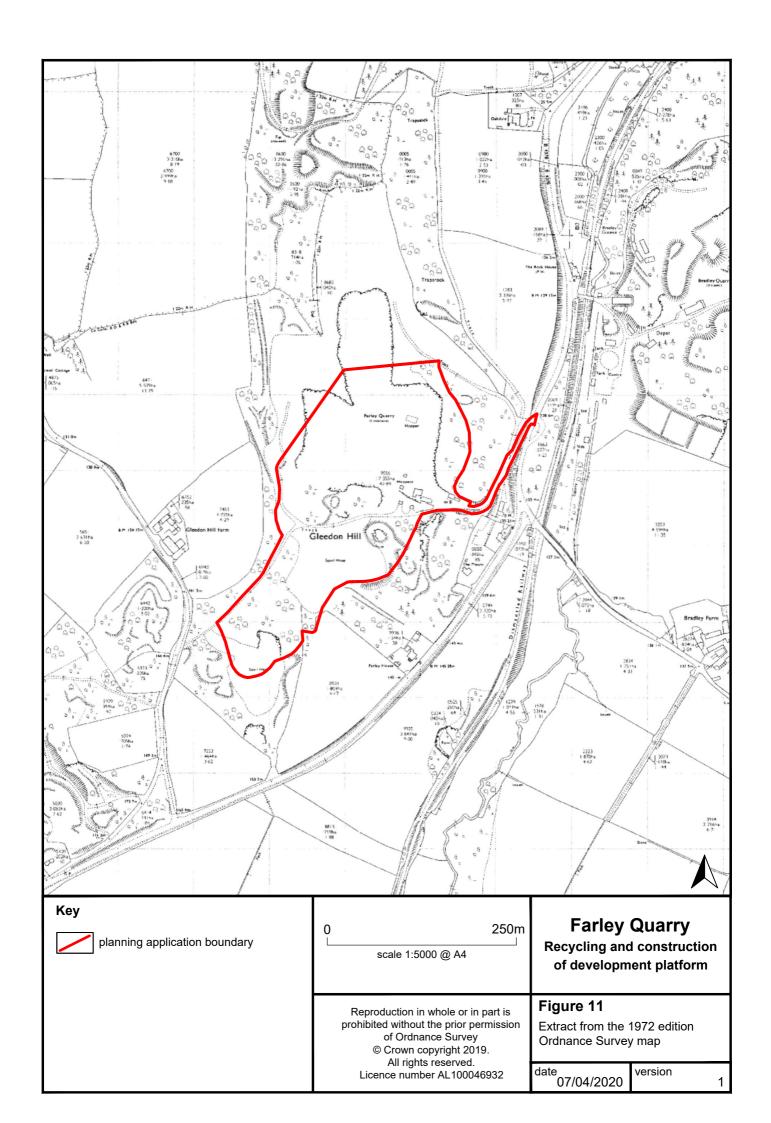


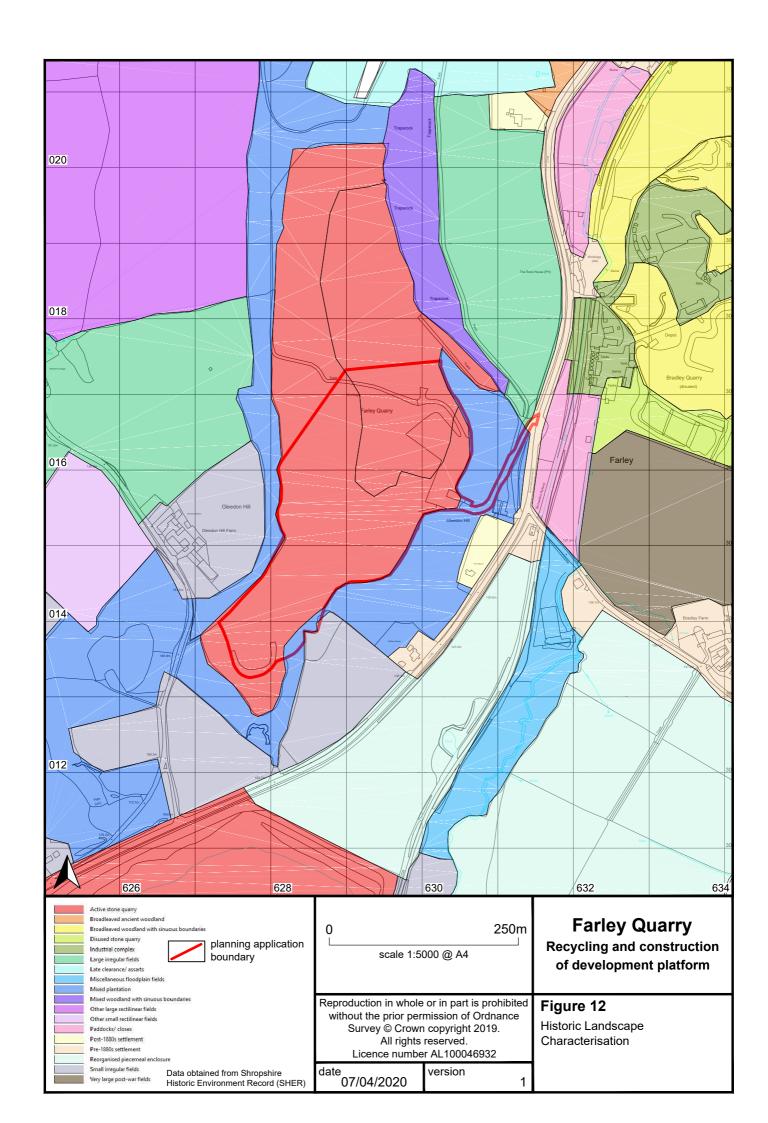


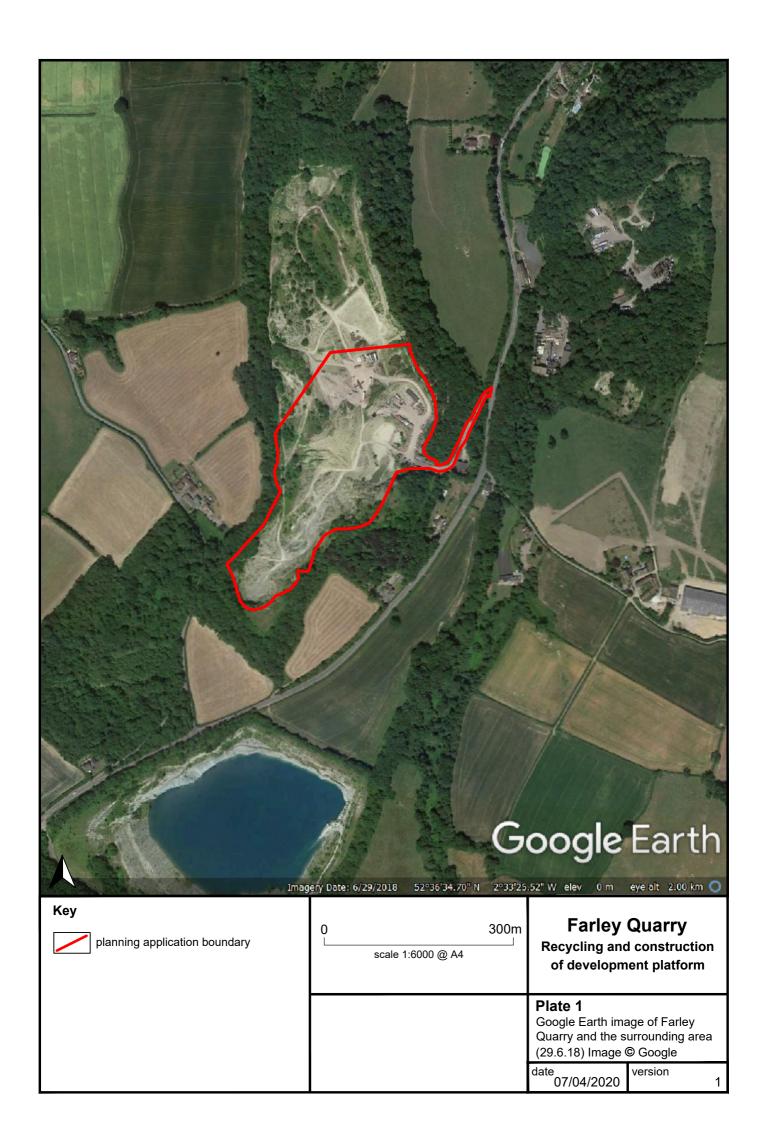














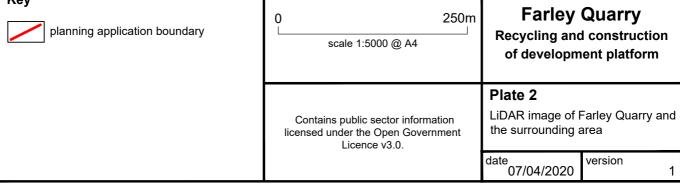




Plate 3: Proposed development area within Farley Quarry from the north (9 April 2019) with lime kilns (S6) to the left



Plate 4: Proposed development area within Farley Quarry from the south (9 April 2019)



Plate 5: Part of proposed development area within Farley Quarry from the east with spoil heap (S3) in the foreground (9 April 2019)



Plate 6: Earthworks of quarries and spoil heaps (S5) from the west (9 April 2019)

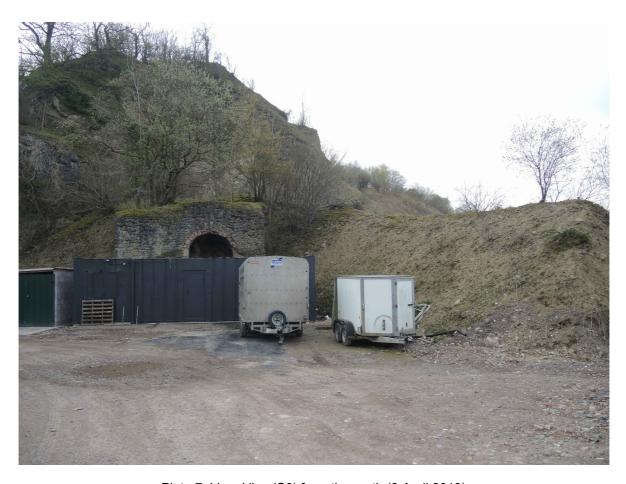


Plate 7: Lime kilns (S6) from the north (9 April 2019)



Plate 8: Lime kilns (S6) from the north-west (9 April 2019) 2m scale



Plate 9: Bradley Farm (SHER 22221) from road to the west (9 April 2019)



Plate 10: View to the west towards Farley Quarry from public footpath north of Bradley Farm (SHER 22221) with stable and cartshed range (NHLE 1380357) to the left (9 April 2019)