HLSM11

HUNTINGTON LANE SURFACE MINE, SHROPSHIRE

Evaluation and Watching Brief

for UK Coal Mining Ltd

B/10/0920

August 2012

HEADLAND ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

REGISTERED ORGANISATION IfA

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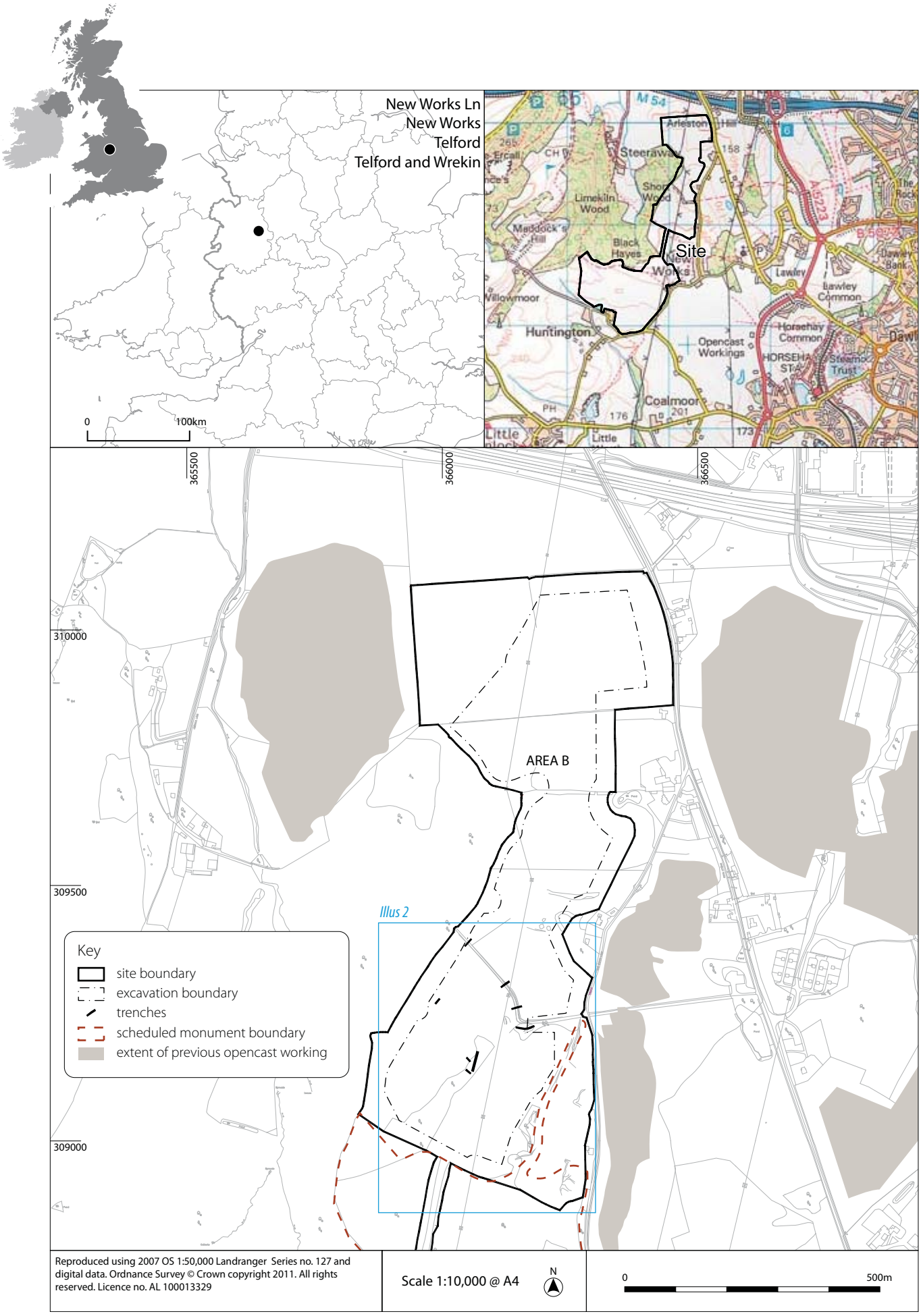


Illus 1

Site location

HUNTINGTON LANE SURFACE MINE, SHROPSHIRE

Evaluation and Watching Brief

Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd undertook a programme of archaeological evaluation and a watching brief on the site of an old open cast coal mine site on land to the west of New Works Lane, Telford. This work formed part of a programme of archaeological fieldwork in connection with planning permission.

Six evaluation trenches were excavated across three previously identified features relating to mining activity within the site application area. Two further test trenches were excavated during the watching brief in order to investigate surface disturbances identified during the works. The evidence from the evaluation and watching brief suggests that one of the features, a trackway post-date the 19th century. Two of the trenches revealed evidence for the back filling of large pits or mine shafts and another identified a feature that may relate to a small structure. There was no indication of earlier archaeological activity found on the site although this may have been disturbed by 19th and 20th century mining and subsequent subsidence.

1. INTRODUCTION

Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd undertook a programme of archaeological evaluation and monitoring in relation to a mitigation design agreed by Amec to address conditions on planning application granted by the Telford & Wrekin Council (as Mineral Planning authority; application ref: B/10/0920). The work was undertaken on behalf of UK Coal Mining Ltd prior to extraction of coal using open cast techniques. The aim of the archaeological work was to investigate and date the historic mining landscape through the existing remains and to monitor the ground works in order to identify further mining activity. This work was intended to give a better understanding of mining techniques employed and to establish any links to the Coalbrookdale iron industry. An earthwork survey to create a record of the landscape and identify any features was also proposed however this was not realised as the majority of the land at the south of the application site had been stripped prior to commencing the evaluation.

The application area (Site B) is historic mining landscape within the parish of Wellington, in the South Bradford Hundred. It is bounded to the north by agricultural land. To the west the site is bounded by Short Wood and by New Works scheduled monument to the south. The eastern boundary is formed by New Works Lane. The site is undulates and slopes from south to north. It lies at approximately 200m above sea level.

The geology of the site consists of Middle and Lower Coal Measures Group, overlying gravel and cobble glacial till (locally known as *hoggin*) (British Geological Survey 4th Edition 1997). The solid geology is recorded as mudstones, sandstones, workable coals and ironstones. Ground cover in the area consisted of an overgrown pasture, made ground (old mining backfill) and topsoil.

2. PLANNING AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

Planning permission has been granted to use the land as an open cast coal mine. Due to the presence of historic mining earthworks within the application site, a condition was placed on the planning consent. In line with Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment (Policy HE6-HE12) further information on the nature, extent and significance of the heritage asset (or potential asset), was required prior to the submission of a reserved matters application in mitigation of the effects of the proposal on the historic environment.

Archaeological works (Lancaster University Archaeological Unit 1994) were carried out in the area as part of the Dawley 2 EIA in order to help define the nature and character of the visible historic remains. A total of 58 sites were identified within the site and surrounding landscape.

Eight of the identified sites lay within the scope of the current archaeological works (Illus 2). The table below summarises these sites.

Site	Type	SMR no.	Description
6	Mine shafts	–	A line of several isolated subcircular patches located on the base of a shallow linear depression.
7	Tramway	04503	A trackway running west for approx 130m from New Works Lane before heading northwest into Short Wood. A small trackway may branch southwest near Site 46. Possible evidence of cobbled trackway and Tramway. Route of limestone supply in 1822?
10	Mine shafts, spoil heaps	04503	Spoil deposits and shallow depressions.
46	Mound, spoil heap	–	Associated with adjacent drift work as part of Shortwood no. 3 mine which closed in 1956. Situated south of Tramway 07. No field evident for nearby adit shown on colliery map.
47	Mound	–	Associated with adjacent drift work as part of Shortwood no. 3 mine which closed in 1956. Situated S of Tramway 07.
51	Area of open cast mine	–	Open cast mine shown on BCO geological map. No surface evidence. Pasture land worked in 1943.
52	Subsidence	–	Linear alignment of shallow depression extending 110m S-W from Tramway extension.
53	Hollows	–	Two hollows identified by aerial photography, not seen in dense gorse cover. Maybe related to mine shafts.

Table 1

Sites within the scope of the current archaeological works

None of the sites above were subject to archaeological investigation during the previous work however the work did involved limited excavations and trial trenching of a number of identified features and a Tramway within the site.

These excavations revealed a number of surface disturbances and spoil pits and deposition layers that indicated the presence of mining activities which may be related to outcropping, prospecting pits, shafts, related spoil, Tramways and subsidence or hollows confirming the presence of mining. However it concluded that the area was heavily affected by subsidence therefore it was not possible to give clear dates to the mining activities although it was suggested the activity is likely related to the 19th and early 20th century and may obscure earlier mining activities.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aim of the project was preserve by record any features of archaeological or historic significance affected by the ground works.

The primary objectives of the project were:

- to date the principal mining remains
- understand mining techniques and changes over time
- find evidence of links to the Coalbrookdale iron industry
- to produce and deposit a satisfactory archive and disseminate the results of the work *via* grey-literature reporting and publication as appropriate.

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1 Evaluation

The total area of the site available for investigation was approximately 160,000m^2.

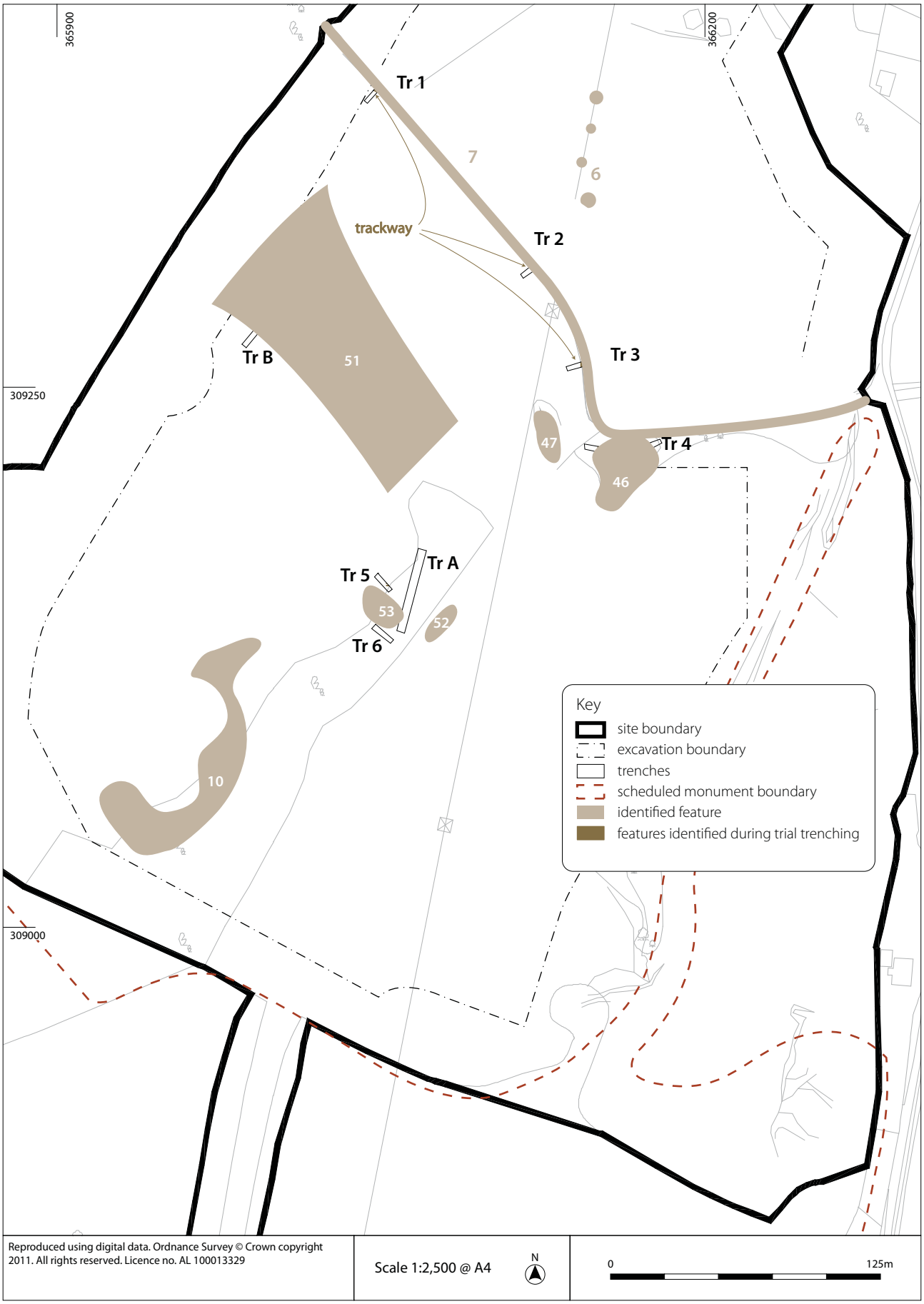
The agreed strategy was to excavate six trenches across three sites (see table below) identified in the mitigation strategy (Atkinson 2009).

These trenches were positioned appropriately across the features in order to achieve the objectives (Illus 2). Trenches were excavated using a 24 tonne mechanical excavator equipped with a 2m wide toothless ditching bucket, under constant archaeological supervision. Topsoil and modern overburden was removed and excavation ceased at either undisturbed geological deposits or when archaeological features/deposits were identified. These were then further investigated by hand excavation. Each trench was cleaned by hand where necessary to assist the identification and interpretation of any exposed archaeological features. The

Site	No. of trenches	Objectives
7 – Former Tramway	Three trenches each 20m long across the width of the feature	Secure evidence for dating, method of construction and use
21 – New Works Lane, old hedge	Two trenches each 10m long across the width of the feature	Establish date of feature and whether it pre-dates mining activity
46 – Shortwood Spoil Heap	One 30m long trench across the full width of the feature	Establish whether spoil heap obscures other mining related remains

Table 2

Mitigation strategy (Atkinson 2009)



Illus 2

Site location showing trenches

Illus 3
Trench 2 – section of Tramway

Illus 4
Trench 4

Illus 5
Trench 5 – possible mine related activity, feature [502]

nature of archaeological features was assessed by limited sample excavation sufficient to establish their character and date.

Six archaeological evaluation trenches were excavated in total during the evaluation phase. The proposed trenches at Site 21 were not excavated as the site was no longer within the contractor's excavation boundary and the site would not be impacted upon. It was agreed with Simon Atkinson (Consultant) and Hugh Hannaford (County Archaeologist) that trenches would be excaved instead through two potential features identified in the approximate location of Sites 52 and 53.

In consultation with the archaeological consultant two further evaluation trenches, A and B, were excavated during the watching brief. These were also situated within the location of Sites 52, 53 and Site 51 respectively.

4.2 Watching brief

The watching brief consisted of an archaeologist monitoring soil removal and reduction of area at the south of the site which may have impacted on former mine shafts and spoil heap (Site 10).

For all trenches a general photographic record was maintained during the course of the fieldwork and included general shots of the site and of individual features within trenches.

The recording was in accordance with IfA standards and the Headland Archaeology Ltd site recording manual. All contexts were given unique numbers. Colour slide, black and white and digital photographs were taken. An overall site plan was recorded and related to the National Grid. Trench record sheets were completed and features recorded digitally using a Trimble RTK6, or by hand at 1:100 where present. Sample sections were hand-drawn at a scale of 1:10. All recording was undertaken on pro forma record cards.

5. RESULTS

5.1 Excavation

The undisturbed geological horizon [101, 208, 307, 404, 504, 606] was noted in all trenches. This comprised light yellowish brown to brown sandy clay with abundant, poorly sorted, sub-rounded sandstone pebbles averaging between 10mm–60mm, with infrequent manganese inclusions.

5.1.1 Site 7 Tramway

The three trenches revealed the same general pattern of deposition across the extent of the trackway. The trackway was laid upon geological deposits.

At the N-W of the trackway Trench 1 was excavated to sterile geological deposits either side of the exposed trackway. This revealed only the top of the trackway which revealed a coarse mixed stone deposit [103] with subsoil and topsoil above this. No other archaeological features were present in this trench.

Trench 2 was positioned across the centre of the trackway revealing that it was made up of a number of distinct layers. The earliest was [207] a thin coal deposit. This was overlain by a compact deposit of mixed soils and ceramic material [205, and 212]. Above this was a thin orange brown layer of crushed material [206] approx. 0.15m in depth and what appeared to be redeposited topsoil [212[. This was overlain by another coal deposit [204] and in turn by a white limestone layer [203] and a stony layer [202] that was made up of crushed stones and coal and was approx. 0.5m deep. The latest trackway layer was another coarse coal deposit [201]. Above this was the topsoil (Illus 3).

A semi circular feature [211] made up of a mix of clays and coal ran into the north east section No other archaeological features were present.

Trench 3 was positioned at the east of the trackway. This revealed the same deposits as those witnessed in Trench 2. No other archaeological features.

5.1.2 Site 46 Shortwood Spoil Heap

A single 35m trench was excavated through the spoil heap. It was approximately 3.3m deep (Illus 4).

There were two features, [402] and [403], which ran across the width of the trench. These were located in the east and west of the trench respectively. They contained a grey clay deposit with coal flecks, CBM and some root disturbance. Above these features was the old topsoil overlain by approximately 2m of coal spoil.

The features were not investigated due to the instability of the trench.

5.1.3 Sites 52 & 53

Trench 5 was targeted on surface disturbances. This trench revealed a sterile geological deposit cut by feature [502] which appears to be a cut for the base of a possible mining related structure or evidence for tram tracks later removed and overlain by coal deposits (Illus 5). This possible structure could be related to activity at Sites 52 and 53.

Trench 6 was also targeted on surface disturbance. This appeared to be a large backfilled feature with two cuts, [602] that was filled with coals which then appeared to be cut by [605] which was filled with heat affected stones and coal to a depth of approx. 2.2m (Illus 6). Activity related to Sites 52 and 53 was identified.

Test-trench A was also excavated in the location of Site 52 and 53 (Illus 2). On the surface these were not discernable as separate features as only as one large dark oblong spread measuring approximately 12m x 32m which contained surface patches of coal and burnt stone. The test trench revealed the presence of a number of layers deposited above the natural geology. The earliest of these were a yellow grey clay [705] and sandy layer [704] which are likely to be variations of the natural geology. Above these was a layer of burnt stones [702] which was overlain

◂ Illus 6

Trench 6 – large features [602] & [605] that may represent mining backfill

◂ Illus 7

Trench A – deposits [702] & [703] that may represent mining backfilll

◂ Illus 8

General view of site looking N

by a coal deposit [703] which was subsequently overlain to the north by a burnt stone layer [702]. All the deposits appeared to be sloping to the north which suggests the possibly of a large cut into the natural which was later backfilled by waste from mining activity (Illus 7). This feature could be related to [602] and [605] in Trench 6.

Test-trench B, located within the area noted as feature 51 did not reveal any archaeology as the area was previously stripped.

5.2 Watching brief

The stripped area was located at the S-SE extent of the site across the location of feature 10. The ground level was reduced by approx. 1.5m and no sign of this feature was evident.

A number of small areas that showed some surface disturbance were investigated but these did not reveal anything of significance.

6. DISCUSSION

The archaeological evaluation and watching brief undertaken at the site did not reveal any features predating the 19th century. The findings from this stage of work support those from the previous archaeological works. There is evidence of mining activity but its nature is unclear due to subsistence and loss of the features within the landscape.

The trackway, Site 7, was made up of layers during the 20th century when coal and lime were being transported between the late 19th and early 20th century. It was suggest that this Tramway/trackway may have originally been the route to supply limestone from Steeraway to Lawley Furnace which opened in 1822 but was later redirected when the furnace closed in 1870 (Lancaster University Archaeological Uni 1994, p.59). The archaeological evidence does indicate the presence of lime within the trackway and therefore would support this suggestion. There was no sign of tram tracks along the trackway in Trenches 1–3, although these were likely removed when coal extraction ceased. There was also no visual evidence of the cobbled surfaces or the branch extension of the trackway leading southwest that was mentioned in the Lancaster University report. Further monitoring and survey of the trackway was intended however prior to the watching brief it was noted that this area had been stripped without archaeological supervision.

The feature uncovered in Trench 5 could be a platform or a support base for a piece of mining equipment that may have been used for extraction near Site 52 and 53.

The features revealed in Trench 6 and Test-trench A were very similar in character and are likely the result of the deposition of waste from mining activities. These deposits were also similar to those found in previous excavations which suggest they may have been created as a result of the removal of coal from coal layers immediately below the surface.

The fieldwork has succeeded in establishing that there is a 19th century trackway related to the transportation of materials and that there is clear evidence of mining related activity within the application area but it is difficult to fully ascertain if it is linked to the Coalbrookdale iron industry. Unfortunately the majority of features identified by previous works were not identified in this stage of works as extensive topsoil stripping and ground clearance had been carried out prior to archaeological evaluation.

7. ARCHIVE

The archive is currently located at Headland Archaeology's premises (Unit 1, Premier Business Park, Faraday Road, Westfield Trading Estate, Hereford, HR4 9NZ) and will be deposited with Shropshire Museums within six months of report acceptance.

8. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Atkinson, S 2009 *Huntington Lane Surface Mine Site: Archaeology Written Scheme of Investigation,* Entec UK Ltd.

Lancaster University Archaeological Unit, 1994 'Proposed Dawley Road Opencast Coal Site, Shropshire', Archaeological Evaluation.

2008 *IfA Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (revised October 2008).*

APPENCIDES

Appendix 1 Site registers

Appendix 1.1 Trench register

Trench no.	Features	Description	Length (m)	Depth (m)
1	Trackway [103–104]	This trench contained a trackway in the centre to maximum depth. The profile was sterile geological deposit, the trackway overlain by subsoil and topsoil. No archaeology pre dating 20th century.	20	0.6
2	Trackway [201–207, 212] Semi circular feature [211]	This trench contained a trackway in the centre of the trench to maximum depth. The profile was a geological deposit overlain by the trackway which was subsequently overlain by subsoil in places and then by a thin topsoil. No archaeology pre dating 20th century. A semi circular feature was note in the west section at the north of the trench.	20	0.45
3	Trackway [301–306]	This trench contained a trackway in the centre to 1.9m. The profile was sterile geological deposit, trackway overlain subsoil and topsoil.	20	2.2
4	Features [402 and 403]	Trench through feature [046]. There were two features running NE-SW in the sterile geological deposit which were cut (?) from the old topsoil above. Above this was the coal spoil.	35	3.6
5	[502]	This trench was a sterile geological deposit cut by feature 502- possible mining related and overlain by coal deposits.	10	1.2
6	Cut [602] and [605]	This appeared to be a large backfilled trench with two cuts filled with heated stones and coal. Possible a back filled shaft or pit.	10	2.2

Appendix 1.2 Context register

Context no.	Trench	Type of context
100	1	Topsoil. Mid greyish brown silty loam
101	1	Natural. Mid brownish yellow silty clay loam
102	1	Subsoil. Light greyish brown sandy clay
103	1	Coal deposit makeup of Tramway
104	1	Compact subsoil like layer. Related to Tramway construction
200	2	Topsoil
201	2	Black coal deposit related to Tramway
202	2	Stone layer related to Tramway
203	2	White grey ash like deposit related to Tramway
204	2	Dark coal rich deposit related to Tramway
205	2	Compacted greyish brown layer related to Tramway
206	2	Orange clay deposit related to Tramway
207	2	Thin crushed coal layer related to Tramway
208	2	Yellow clays – sterile geological deposit
209	2	Stone field drain
210	2	Stone field drain
211	2	Dark grey brown semi circular feature
212	2	Redeposited topsoil
213	2	Redeposited topsoil

Context no.	Trench	Type of context
300	3	Topsoil
301	3	Compact coal layer same as [201]
302	3	Stone layer related to Tramway same as [202]
303	3	Layer of mixed debris
304	3	Dark coal rich deposit related to Tramway same as [204]
305	3	White grey ash like deposit related to Tramway similar to [203]
306	3	Compacted greyish brown layer similar to [205]
307	3	Yellow/brown clays – sterile geological deposit
400	4	Coal and slag mixed layer, modern?
401	4	Modern mixed topsoil and bricks
402	4	Straight sided feature at east of trench possibly related to mining
403	4	Straight sided feature at west of trench possibly related to mining
500	5	Topsoil
501	5	Coal layer, redeposited
502	5	Feature possible mining related activity
600	6	Topsoil
601	6	Heat affected stones layer
602	6	Cut for deposit
603	6	Coal/slate fill of [602]
604	6	Mixed soils (modern)
605	6	Cut for [606]
606	6	Heat affected stones within cut [606]
700	A	Topsoil
701	A	Feature possibly mining related
702	A	Burnt stone
703	A	Coal rich deposit
704	A	Orange sandy clay - sterile geological deposit
705	A	Yellow/brown clays – sterile geological deposit

Appendix 1.3 Photographic register

Photo no.	B&W	Colour	Digital	Facing	Description
1	606/1	601/38	2001	SW	Exposed limestone layer [202)] in Trackway Trench 2
2	606/2	601/37	2002	SW	Brown deposit below white layer [203] Trench 2
3	606/3	601/36	2003	N	Trackway extent Trench 2
4	606/4	601/35	2004	S	Trackway extent Trench 2
5	606/5	601/34	2005	SW	Layer below compacted deposit [204]
6	606/6	601/33	2006	SW	Trench 1 general excavation
7	606/7	601/32	2007	SW	Trench 3 Trackway
8	606/8	601/31	2008	NE	Trench 3 Section

Photo no.	B&W	Colour	Digital	Facing	Description
9	606/9	601/30	2009	NW	Trench 1 Trackway
10	606/10	601/29	2010	NE	Trench 2 Trackway exposed
11	606/11	601/28	2011	SE	Section photos of trench 2 at 2m intervals from SW
12	606/12	601/27	2012	SE	Section photo of trench 2 at 2m intervals from SW to NE
13	606/13	601/26	2013	SE	Section photo of trench 2 at 2m intervals from SW to NE
14	606/14	601/25	2014	SE	Section photo of trench 2 at 2m intervals from SW to NE
15	606/15	601/24	2015	SE	Section photo of trench 2 at 2m intervals from SW to NE
16	606/16	601/23	2016	SE	Section photo of trench 2 at 2m intervals from SW to NE
17	606/17	601/22	2017	SE	Section photo of trench 2 at 2m intervals from SW to NE
18	606/18	601/21	2018	SE	Section photo of trench 2 at 2m intervals from SW to NE
19	606/19	601/20	2019	SE	Section photo of trench 2 at 2m intervals from SW to NE
20	606/20	601/19	2020	SE	Final shot at NE section of Trench 2.
21	606/21	601/18	2021	NE	Trench 2, exposed half section of trackway
22	606/22	601/17	2022	NW	Trench 5 plan
23	606/23	601/16	2023	NE	Trench 5 section
24	606/24	601/15	2024	NE	Trench 5, possible structure 502
25	606/25	601/14	2025	NW	Trench 6 Plan
26	606/26	601/13	2026	NE	Trench 6 section SE end
27	606/27	601/12	2027	NE	Trench 6 section NW end
28	606/28	601/11	2028	SE	Trench 6 plan
29	606/29	601/10	2029	SE	Trench 1 SW end of section
30	606/30	601/9	2030	SE	Trench 1 NE end of section
31	606/31	601/8	2031	E	Trench 3 Trackway section. SW end
32	606/32	601/7	2032	E	Trench 3 Trackway section
33	606/33	601/6	2033	E	Trench 3 Trackway section
34	606/34	601/5	2034	E	Trench 3 Trackway section NE end
35	606/35	601/4	2035	NE	Trench 3 Plan
36	606/36	601/3	2036	NE	Trench 4 Plan
37	–	601/2	2037	–	Film ID shot
38	–	601/1	–	–	Film ID shot
39	608/1	620/36	2038	NE	Trench 4 plan
40	608/2	620/35	2039	N	Trench 4 feature [403] in plan
41	608/3	620/34	2040	N	Trench 4 feature [402] in plan
42	608/4	620/33	2041	SW	Trench 4 plan
43	608/5	620/32	2042	NW	Trench 4 section
44	–		2043	NE	Trench 4 General
45	–	–	2044	NE	Trench 4 General
46	–	–	2045	–	General site shots
47	–	–	2046	–	General site shots
48	–	–	2047	–	General site shots

Photo no.	B&W	Colour	Digital	Facing	Description
49	–	–	2048	–	General site shots
50	–	–	2049	–	General site shots
51	–	–	2050	–	General site shots
52	–	–	2051	NE	General site shots
53	–	–	2052	SE	General site shots
54	–	–	2053	NE	Coal deposit
55	–	–	2054	NE	Features walking S-SE across site from Trench 4 approx. 50–60m from E of site boundary
56	–	–	2055	E	Features walking S
57	–	–	2056	E	Features walking S
58	–	–	2057	SE	Features walking S
59	–	–	2058	E	Features walking S
60	–	–	2059	E	Features walking S
61	–	–	2060	N	Features walking S
62	–	–	2061	N	Features walking S
63	–	–	2062	N	Features walking S
64	–	–	2063	W	Grassed area. Possible feature?
65	–	–	2064	W	Feature at west of site approx. 300m from S boundary
66	–	–	2065	N	Feature at south of site approx. 500m from S boundary centrally located
67	–	–	2066	NE	Trench 3 SW facing Trackway section
68	–	–	–	–	BLANK
69	–	–	001	S	General site shot
70	–	–	002	S	General site shot
71	–	–	003	S	General site shot
72	–	–	004	S	Test pit for coal seam depth
73	–	–	005	S	Test pit for coal seam depth
74	–	–	006	S	SW corner of site in the vicinity of feature [010]
75	–	–	007	N	SW corner of site in the vicinity of feature [010]
76	–	–	008	N	Area of former Tramway stripped
77	–	–	009	N	Exposed coal seam
78	–	–	010	W	SW corner in the vicinity of feature [100]. Deep excavation
79	–	–	011	S	B2 during excavation
80	–	–	012	S	Coal seam on SE of site
81	–	–	013	NW	3m deep section in area of feature [010]
82	–	–	014	N	2m deep section in area of feature [010]
83	–	–	015	NW	Working shot
84	–	–	016	S	Area with feature [010]
85	620/31	608/6	017	SE	Shot of southern area – extent of works
86	620/30	608/7	018	NNW	Shot of large dark feature [701]
86	620/29	608/8	019	E	White stone deposit associated with [701]

Photo no.	B&W	Colour	Digital	Facing	Description
88	620/28	608/9	020	W	View of [701]
89	–	–	021	S	Sloping landscape and feature [701]
90	–	–	022	W	Feature [701] Potential mining area
91	–	–	023	W	Feature [701] Potential mining area
92	–	–	024	W	Feature [701] Potential mining area
93	–	–	025	S	Excavation of strip B2
94	–	–	026	E	Excavation of strip B2
95	–	–	027	NW	Test trench B at feature [051] SE facing section
96	–	–	028	NW	Test trench B at feature [051] SE facing section
97	–	–	029	NW	Test trench B at feature [051]
98	–	–	030	NW	Test trench A at feature [052] and [053]
99	–	–	031	NW	Test trench A at feature [052] and [053]t
100	–	–	032	W	East facing section of test trench A, 2m intervals from N to S
101	–	–	033	W	East facing section of test trench A, 2m intervals from N to S
102	–	–	034	W	East facing section of test trench A, 2m intervals from N to S
103	–	–	035	W	East facing section of test trench A, 2m intervals from N to S
104	–	–	036	W	East facing section of test trench A, 2m intervals from N to S
105	–	–	037	W	East facing section of test trench A, 2m intervals from N to S
106	–	–	038	W	East facing section of test trench A, 2m intervals from N to S
107	–	–	039	W	East facing section of test trench A, 2m intervals from N to S
108	–	–	040	W	East facing section of test trench A, 3m intervals from N to S
109	–	–	041	W	East facing section of test trench A, 3m intervals from N to S
110	–	–	042	W	East facing section of test trench A, 3m intervals from N to S
111	–	–	043	W	East facing section of test trench A, 3m intervals from N to S
112	–	–	044	W	East facing section of test trench A, 3m intervals from N to S
113	–	–	045	W	East facing section of test trench A, 3m intervals from N to S
114	–	–	046	W	East facing section of test trench A, 3m intervals from N to S
115	–	–	047	W	East facing section of test trench A, 3m intervals from N to S
116	–	–	048	W	East facing section of test trench A, 3m intervals from N to S
117	620/27	608/10	049	S	Test Trench A
118	620/26	608/11	050	S	E facing section Test Trench A

Appendix 1.4 Drawing register

Drawing no.	Scale	Plan/Section	Description
01	1:20	Section	Tr 1, representative section
02	1:50	Section	Tr 2, Entire section Sheet 1 of 2
03	1:50	Section	Tr 2, Entire section Sheet 2 of 2
04	1:20	Section	Tr 3, Trackway Sheet 1 of 2
05	1:20	Section	Tr 3, Trackway sheet 2 of 2

Drawing no.	Scale	Plan/Section	Description
06	1:50	Section	Tr 4, representative section
07	1:50	Section	Tr 5, section with feature [502]
08	1:50	Plan	Tr 6, section
09	1:100	Section	Tr 2, plan
10	1:100	Section	Tr 1, plan

Appendix 2 Ground Monitoring at Huntington Lane Surface Mine, Shropshire 2012

An additional phase of monitoring was undertaken in 2012, during the course of overburden removal and coal extraction. The aim of this phase of the archaeological work was to monitor the ground stripping in advance of the open cast mining works, in order to identify any activity that was not identified in the previous survey of the extraction site.

Site work consisted of three phases of ground monitoring during the topsoil stripping of areas B24–B35 (Ref: Site Layout Plan, Figure 2.1 Entec), (20/06/2012, 24/04/2012, 29/03/2012).

Recovery of artefacts and feature identification was complicated by the general site conditions, being extremely wet prior to both the walkovers and turf removal, resulting in the site being heavily rutted and waterlogged.

Various unstratified artefacts were observed during the walkover, these included modern ceramics, and general building debris, such as red brick. These artefacts indicated that only comparatively modern activity had taken place within the monitored areas

As a point of interest, during the monitoring visits, an unusual set of features was observed on the west face of the main excavation area. The features consisted of both natural and manmade, the natural being a massive fault line resulting in a shift in the natural stratigraphy, consequently displacing the excavated coal seam. The other feature seen in the section relates to a ground feature [051] observed prior to the excavation of the current mine workings and can now been seen in section, the section contains the evidence of a massive cut forming part of a small open cast excavation or entrance into previous workings.

In conclusion, the monitoring of overburden removal produced no information in relation to unidentified archaeological features or structures relating to past mining activity within the area of the monitored ground works. This may have been a result of weather conditions and the scale of machines use for turf and topsoil removal.

Illus 9

Illustration showing the natural fault line and cut feature in the E facing section of the workings

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