

**Throwley Hall Farm, Waterhouses,
Staffordshire**

Archaeological Earthwork Survey



General view of Throwley Old Hall

ARS Ltd Report 2012/96
November 2012
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Archaeological Research Services Ltd

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In November 2012 Archaeological Research Services Ltd undertook an archaeological earthwork survey in the field immediately to the east of a large cow shed at Throwley Hall Farm, Waterhouses, Staffordshire. The archaeological earthwork survey established that approximate half of the field surveyed is currently disturbed with demolition and waste material that has been deposited over the topsoil. The field has been vacant at least since the late 19th century as indicated by cartographic records. Nevertheless, a series of earthworks were recorded towards the eastern side of the site. These are mostly irregular and present difficulty in fully understanding their character and nature. However, a northwest-southeast linear earthwork was identified in the north-east corner of the site which, based on its fairly regular form, may be associated with a former field boundary composed of a wall and/or a hedgerow.

The south-eastern area comprises very irregular earthworks with shallow banks and lynchets as well as deeper ditches and gullies. The slopes of the ditches are also considerably asymmetrical varying from very shallow to rather pronounced sides. These deep and irregular ditches might have been the result of later episodes of quarrying for construction of stone field walls.

It is apparent that the field has been largely used to dump waste material in recent times. It might have also been used to extract stones for construction of boundary walls. The area of the proposed lagoon is mainly disturbed with only about a quarter of its size having been surveyed. The disturbance, created by dumped waste, obscures the majority of the correct topography of the area where the proposed lagoon will be located. Therefore, the Senior Conservation Archaeologist of PDNPA might suggest further evaluation as specified in the initial brief.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This document reports the result of an archaeological earthwork survey undertaken by Alvaro Mora-Ottomano and Richard Walker of Archaeological Research Services Ltd on 14th November 2012 at Throwley Hall Farm, Waterhouses, Staffordshire (centred at NGR: SK 1106 5261, Figs 1 and 2).

1.2 A planning application (NP/SM/0712/0722) for the construction of a slurry lagoon has been approved by the Peak District National Park Authority (PDNPA). There is reason to believe that archaeological remains exist on the site but their extent and state of preservation is unclear. The PDNPA has advised that the archaeological implications of the proposal cannot be adequately assessed on the basis of the available information. It has been recommended therefore that an archaeological field evaluation should be carried out. This recommendation is in line with government guidance as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG 2012).

1.3 The site of the proposed development area corresponds to earthworks which are considered to represent the remains of the medieval village of Throwley. The proposed development site lies to the north of Throwley Hall, the ruins of an early 16th century manor house, which is thought to be located on the site of an earlier hall. Its formal gardens still survive as terraces to the south-east of the ruins. The hall and gardens are a Scheduled Monument (1006114).

1.4 The objective of the archaeological earthwork survey was to gather sufficient information to establish presence/absence, character and extent of the earthwork remains within the area of proposed development. This survey included the entire field where the lagoon is proposed to be located. Further details of the objectives and methodology are included in the brief (Appendix I).

1.5 The results of earthwork survey will inform whether or not it will be necessary for further extensive archaeological investigation to be undertaken. Decisions on the necessity for this work to be undertaken, and the methods and sampling strategies to be used, should be made in consultation with the Senior Conservation Archaeologist of PDNPA.

1.6 The archaeological earthwork survey has been carried out under the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (DCLG 2012), and a brief issued by Sarah Whitely, Senior Conservation Archaeologist of PDNPA (Appendix I).

1.7 The NPPF sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. It sets out the Government's requirements for the planning system only to the extent that it is relevant, proportionate and necessary to do so. The purpose of the NPPF is to contribute to the achievement of *sustainable development*, which includes "...contributing to, protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment..." (DCLG 2012, 30). The Planning for the Historic Environment: Historic Environment Planning Practice Guide (PPS5) now superseded by the NPPF, is still the only detailed extant Historic Environment guidance) and is a much more in-depth document than the policy statement itself. This practice guide "supports the implementation of national policy, but does not constitute a statement of Government policy" (DCLG/DCMS/EH 2010, 6). This document has been presented by English Heritage as a 'live' document and is therefore intended to be subject to future changes as techniques and practice develop.

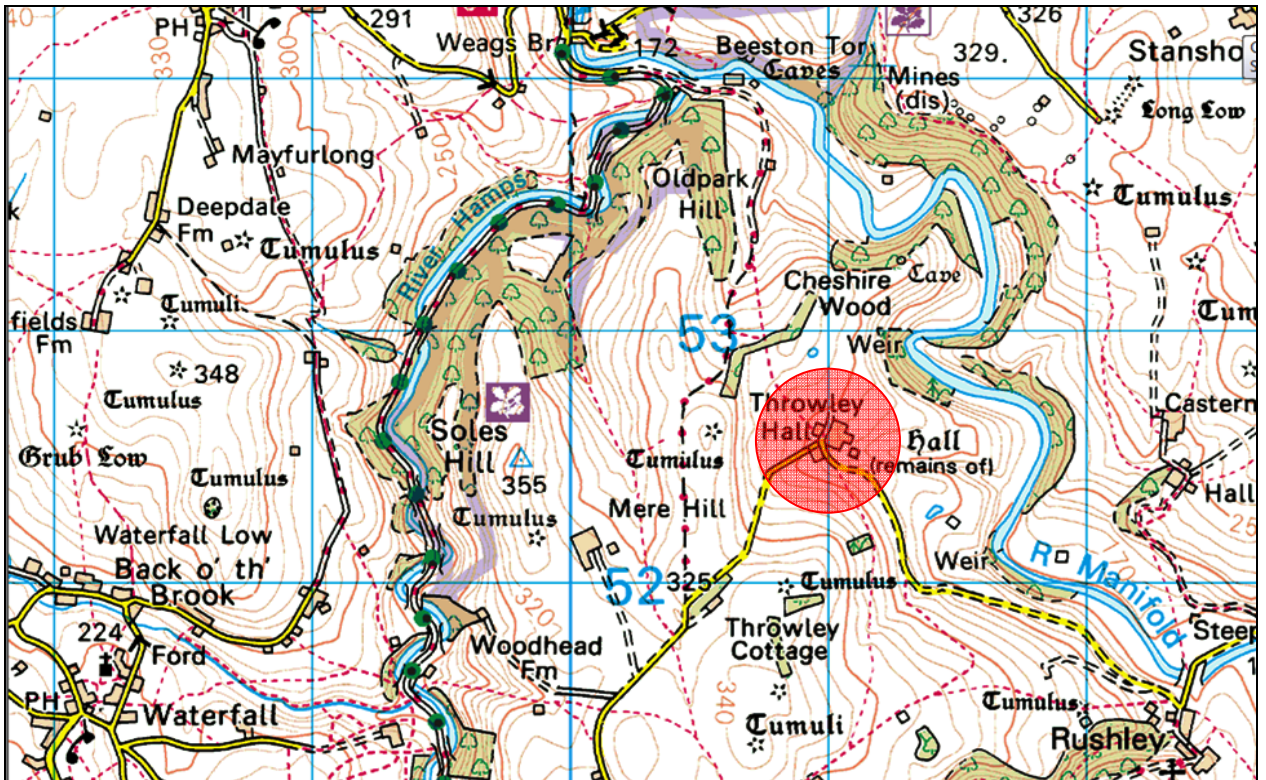


Figure 1: General site location
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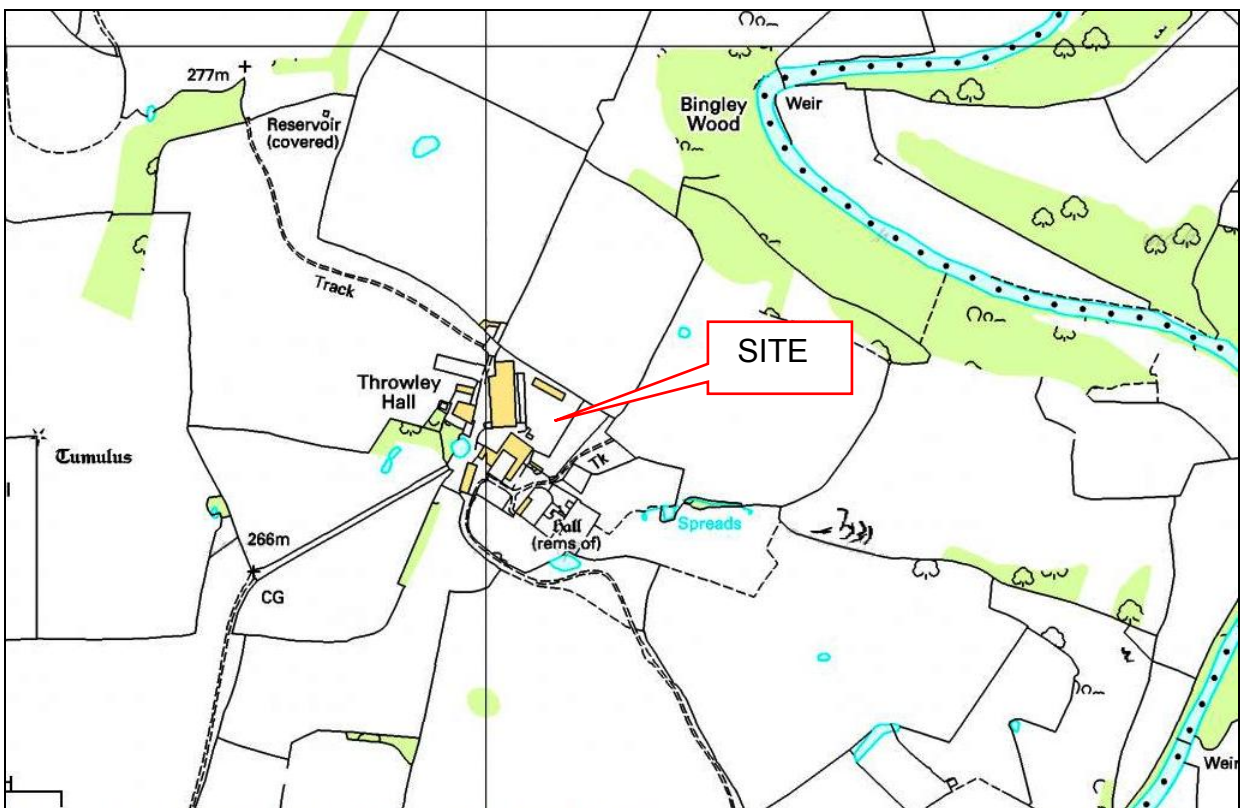


Figure 2: Location of Throwley Hall Farm
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2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 The archaeological landscape survey was undertaken to Level 3 standard as defined in *Understanding the Archaeology of Landscapes: A guide to good recording practices* (Ainsworth *et al* 2007). This involves a detailed and metrically accurate survey to analyse the form, stratigraphy and condition of the earthworks and to provide a full interpretation of the individual features and overall development of the monument.

2.2 Field survey was undertaken using a Total Station Theodolite and tape measurement, supplemented by detailed site descriptive text with additional photography. The total station used was a Leica TCR 307 accurate to 7^{seconds} for angular measurements and this is well within the tolerances required to produce outputs at 1:1000 accuracy, as required for the survey.

2.3 The survey recorded hard detail, such as wall lines and rock outcrops, together with soft detail such as banks, ditches, erosion scars and animal burrows. The initial survey control points were metrically accurate to the following tolerances:

Key Points (survey markers, other features as necessary)

Planometric Co-ordinates $\pm 0.01\text{m}$

Levels $\pm 0.01\text{m}$

Other Detail on Hard Surfaces (fence lines and other permanent features)

Planometric Co-ordinates $\pm 0.030\text{m}$

Levels $\pm 0.010\text{m}$

Details on Soft Surfaces (topography of natural features and historic environment remains, condition information)

Planometric Co-ordinates $\pm 0.050\text{m}$

Levels $\pm 0.050\text{m}$

2.4 Topographic detail was recorded as hachure lines using the control points as a backdrop and annotating site plans produced from the metric survey in the field, using additional taped measurements as required.

2.5 Data files relating to measured survey will be provided as both a print out and in an electronic format, both for the recipients of this report, and also as part of the final project archive. Copies of the final report will be deposited with the Peak District National Park Cultural Heritage team, and the final archive will also include an online OASIS form.

3 RESULTS

3.1 The survey examined all extant earthworks within the field where the construction of a slurry lagoon is proposed. All features described in the following section are illustrated on plan (Figs 3 and 4). The field is mostly vacant although there is a polytunnel structure (currently used to store hay bales) along the northern boundary wall. This field appears to have been vacant at least since the late 19th century as indicated by the first edition of the Ordnance Survey map (Fig. 5).

3.2 The site is located within the northern side of Throwley Hall Farm complex and approximately 100 metres north-west of the early 16th century Throwley Old Hall (Fig. 6). The proposed lagoon will measure 30 by 30 metres extending from the eastern wall of a cow shed towards the east. The field is trapezoidal in shape and slopes gradually towards the east. It varies in height from *c.* 242.30 metres above Ordnance Survey (western side) to 237 metres (eastern side). The southern half portion of the field is currently disturbed with demolition and waste material deposited throughout the topsoil. Nevertheless, towards the eastern side of the field there are a series of earthworks which are discussed below and broadly characterised by feature type.

3.3 A northwest-southeast linear earthwork was identified adjacent to the south-eastern end of the polytunnel and it extends towards the eastern boundary wall (Fig. 7). This is the most regular feature amongst the surveyed earthworks whose ridge measures *c.* 4 metres in width (Fig. 8) although the slopes vary from approximately 300mm (northern slopes) to 1 metre (southern slopes). It is possible that this earthwork may be associated with a former field boundary composed of a wall and/or a hedgerow.

3.4 The south-eastern area comprises very irregular earthworks with shallow banks and lynchets as well as deeper ditches/gullies. The slopes of the ditches are also considerably asymmetrical varying from very shallow to rather pronounced sides (Fig. 9). These deep and irregular ditches might have been the result of later episodes of quarrying for construction of stone field walls. It is also feasible that stone extraction is responsible for creating the irregularities between the slopes of the northwest-southeast linear earthwork.

3.5 Two additional small disturbed areas are located towards the centre of the field. The eastern area is another demolition deposit (Fig. 10), whereas the western area is a small and superficial scar which appears to have been produced by the bucket of a mechanical digger and/or bulldozer (Fig. 11).

3.6 The main disturbed area is mostly located beyond a northwest-southeast wired fence (Fig. 12) although it also extends beyond the fence towards the northwestern side (Fig. 13). There are large limestone boulders amongst the waste dumped within the disturbed area (Fig. 14). These were closely inspected in order to identify whether they have been worked or used for construction purpose. None of the boulders reveal sign of having been part of any former masonry structure.



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Site Code: THF'12
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Figure 3: Plan of the site showing the surveyed area and proposed lagoon

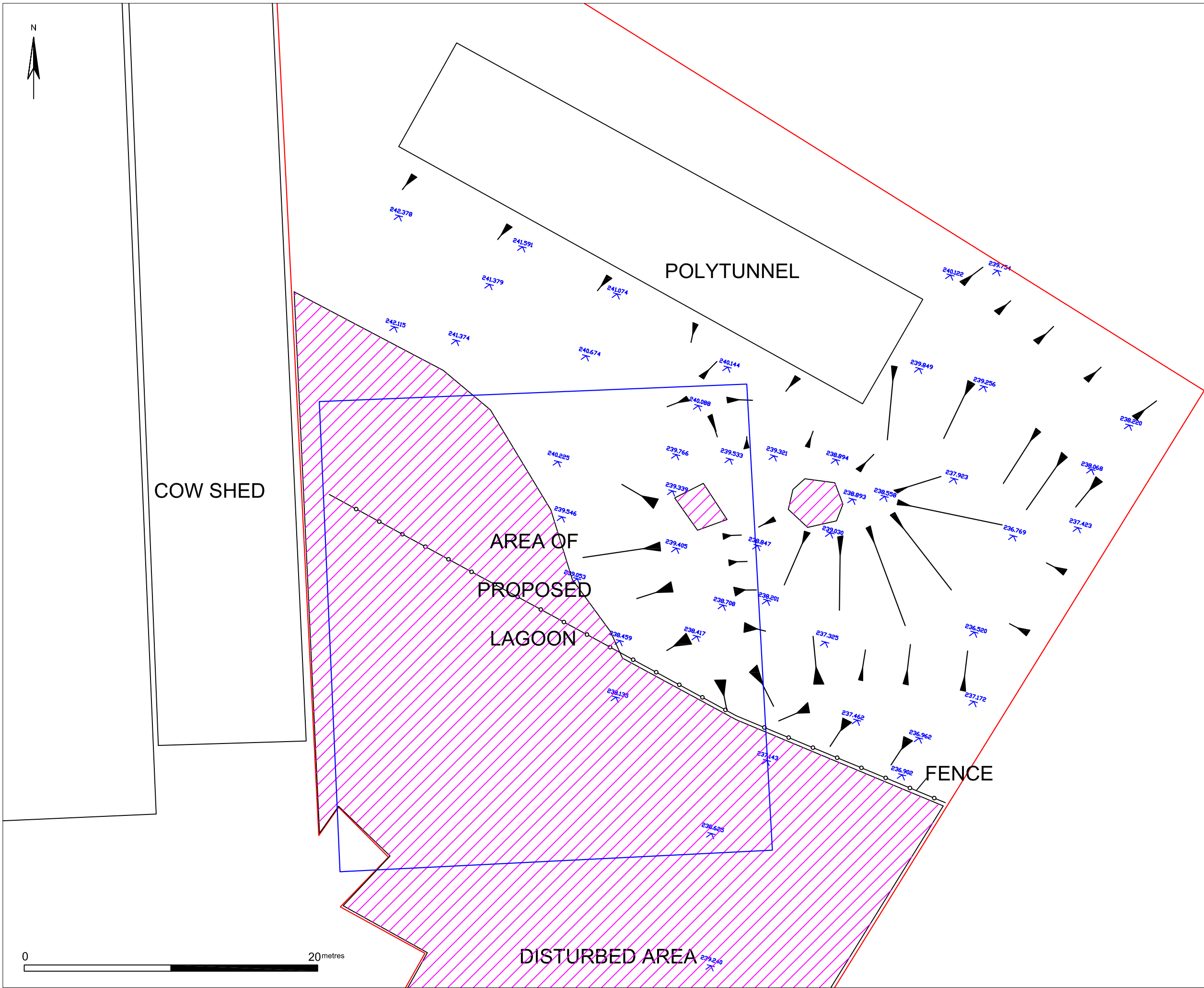
Key:

- Surveyed area
- Proposed lagoon
- Disturbed area

Notes:

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Figure 4: Surveyed plan of the site

Key:

- Surveyed area
- Proposed lagoon
- Disturbed area
- Archaeological slopes

Notes:

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Figure 5: 1880s Ordnance
 Survey map

Key:
 Surveyed area
 Proposed lagoon

Notes:

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Figure 6: The site in close proximity to Throwley Old Hall (viewed in the background)



Figure 7: View of a NW/SE linear earthwork to the eastern end of the site, looking north-east



Figure 8: Detail of the NW/SE linear earthwork, looking south-east



Figure 9: Irregular earthworks within the south-eastern area of the site



Figure 10: Recent deposition of building waste, looking south-west



Figure 11: Recent scar within the centre of the site, looking south-west



Figure 12: View of the large disturbed area within the southern side, looking south-west



Figure 13: The large disturbed area within the western side, looking south-west



Figure 14: Detail of large limestone boulders within the northern side of the large disturbed area, looking west

4 CONCLUSION

4.1 The archaeological earthwork survey established that approximately half of the field surveyed is currently disturbed with demolition and waste material that has been deposited over the topsoil. The field has been vacant at least since the late 19th century as indicated by cartographic records. Nevertheless, a series of earthworks were recorded towards the eastern side of the site. These are mostly irregular and present difficulty to fully understand their character and nature. However, a northwest-southeast linear earthwork was identified to the northeast corner of the site which, based on its fairly regular form, may be associated with a former field boundary composed of a wall and/or a hedgerow.

4.2 The south-eastern area comprises very irregular earthworks with shallow banks and lynchets as well as deeper ditches/gullies. The slopes of the ditches are also considerably asymmetrical varying from very shallow to rather pronounced sides. These deep and irregular ditches might have been the result of later episodes of quarrying for construction of stone field walls.

4.3 It is apparent that the field has been largely used to dump waste material in recent times. It might have also been used to extract stones for construction of boundary walls. The area of the proposed lagoon is mainly disturbed with only about a quarter of its size having been surveyed. The disturbance, created by dumped waste, obscures the majority of the correct topography of the area where the proposed lagoon will be located. Therefore, the Senior Conservation Archaeologist of PDNPA might suggest further evaluation as specified in the initial brief.

5 PUBLICITY, CONFIDENTIALITY AND COPYRIGHT

5.1 Any publicity will be handled by the client.

5.2 Archaeological Research Services Ltd will retain the copyright of all documentary and photographic material under the Copyright, Designs and Patent Act (1988).

6 STATEMENT OF INDEMNITY

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

7 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

7.1 ARS Ltd would like to thank all those involved with the archaeological project, especially, Philip Richardson for commissioning the project and providing access to the site and Sarah Whiteley of the Peak District National Park Authority for monitoring and providing assistance throughout the project.

8 REFERENCES

Ainsworth, S., Bowden, M., McOmish, D., and Pearson, T. 2007. *Understanding the Archaeology of Landscapes: A Guide to Good Recording Practice*. London, English Heritage.

Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG), Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and English Heritage (EH) 2010. *PPS 5 Planning for the Historic Environment: Historic Environment Planning Practice Guide*. London, English Heritage.

Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) 2012. *National Planning Policy Framework*. London, The Stationery Office.

APPENDIX I: SPECIFICATIONS AND OASIS FORM

BRIEF FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION

Proposal: Construction of a slurry lagoon

Planning application number: NP/SM/0712/0722

Location: Throwley Hall farm, Throwley, Staffordshire

Grid Reference: SK 1106 5261

Geology: Carboniferous Limestone (Hopstones limestone)

Area of proposal site: 0.1 ha

Land use and vegetation cover: ruderal

Summary

The above application has been approved by the Peak District National Park Authority.

There is reason to believe that archaeological remains exist on the site but their extent and state of preservation is unclear. The Peak District National Park Authority has advised that the archaeological implications of the proposal cannot be adequately assessed on the basis of the available information. It has been recommended therefore that an archaeological field evaluation should be carried out. This recommendation is in line with government guidance as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework 2012.

1.0 Archaeological background

The proposed development site lies to the north of Throwley Hall, the ruins of an early c17 manor house, which is thought to be located on the site of an earlier hall. Its formal gardens still survive as terraces to the south-east of the ruins. Earthworks associated with the medieval village of Throwley also still survive around the current farm. The hall and gardens are a Scheduled Monument (1006114).

2.0 Requirement for an evaluation

2.1 The proposed development would severely damage or destroy the archaeological earthworks present on the site. It has been recommended therefore that an archaeological evaluation should take place to obtain further information on the presence, complexity and extent of these remains.

2.2 The objectives of the evaluation should be to gather sufficient information to establish presence/absence, character and extent of the earthwork remains within the area of proposed development.

2.3 The evaluation should investigate the area(s) indicated on the accompanying plan.

3.0 Evaluation Techniques

The evaluation techniques chosen should be selected to cause the minimum amount of damage to areas of archaeological deposits and should comply with all health and safety regulations. It is envisaged that the following work would be required:

3.1 Within the area outlined in red on the attached plan an EDM survey will be undertaken and a hachured plot, interpreting the remains, will be produced. The survey will locate all visible features within the area in question. A hachure plot will be produced at an appropriate scale (1:200 or 1:500) depending on the extent and complexity of the remains. The survey will be located on an Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map of the area.

3.2 Stage 2: depending upon the results of stage 1 of fieldwork, trial excavation may prove necessary.

The results of stage 1 will inform whether or not it will be necessary for further more extensive archaeological investigation to be undertaken. Decisions on the necessity for this work to be undertaken, and the methods and sampling strategies to be used, should be made in consultation with the Senior Conservation Archaeologist.

4.0 Evaluation Proposal

4.1 A detailed evaluation proposal should be formulated by potential contractors and submitted to the Peak District National Park Conservation Archaeologist for approval. The proposal should include:

4.1.1 A description of the proposed methods of recording.

4.1.2 An explanation of the sampling strategies to be used.

4.1.3 A projected timetable for work on the site.

4.1.4 Details of the arrangements made for deposition of the finds and site archive (see section 8 below).

4.2 The work shall be carried out by appropriately qualified and experienced staff; details of staff numbers and their relative experience should be included, plus their responsibilities in carrying out the work. Staff C.V.s should be included (unless already supplied to Peak District National Park Cultural Heritage Team Manager in previous project specifications).

4.3 Contractors should be appropriately insured for nature of the work which is to be undertaken.

5.0 Site Monitoring

5.1 Reasonable prior notice (14 days) of the commencement of the evaluation is to be given to the Senior Conservation Archaeologist of the Peak District National Park Authority Cultural Heritage team.

5.2 With regard to site inspections, the contractor will liaise with the Senior Conservation Archaeologist in order that the site can be inspected when field work is near to completion, but before any trenches have been backfilled.

6.0 Report

6.1 A report shall be produced to include background information, a summary of the works carried out, and a description and interpretation of the findings. The report should also include:

6.1.1 A location plan showing all excavated areas with respect to nearby fixed structures and roads;

6.1.2. Illustrations of all archaeological features with appropriately scaled hachured plans and sections;

6.1.3. Specialist descriptions of artefacts or ecofacts;

6.1.4 An indication of potential archaeological deposits not disturbed by the present development.

6.1.5 Data files relating to measured survey should be provided as both a print out and in an electronic format to be agreed with the Staffordshire Historic Environment Record.

6.2 Copies of the final report are to be deposited with the Peak District National Park Cultural Heritage team and with the Staffordshire Historic Environment Record. Reports should be provided in both paper and electronic form.

6.3 The report should not give an opinion on whether preservation or further investigation is considered appropriate, but should provide an interpretation of results, placing them in a local and regional context.

6.4 The results of the work will be published in the appropriate issue of Archaeology and Conservation in Derbyshire (which covers the wider Peak District), and, if of regional or national significance, within an archaeological journal.

6.5 The Staffordshire Historic Environment Record supports the Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) project. The overall aim of the OASIS project is to provide an online index to the mass of archaeological grey literature that has been produced as a result of the advent of large-scale developer funded fieldwork. The archaeological contractor must therefore complete the online OASIS form at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/>. Contractors are advised to contact Staffordshire Historic Environment Record prior to completing the form. Once a report has become a public document by submission to or incorporation into the SMR, Staffordshire Historic Environment Record may place the information on a web-site. Please ensure that you and your client agree to this procedure in writing as part of the process of submitting the report to the case officer at Staffordshire Historic Environment Record.

7.0 Deposition of Archive and Finds

7.1 Upon completion of fieldwork samples shall be processed and all finds shall be cleaned, identified, assessed, spot-dated and properly stored. A field archive shall be compiled consisting of all primary written documents, plans, sections, photographs and electronic data (in a format to be agreed by the repository museum).

7.2 After agreement with the landowner, the field archive should be deposited with the Staffordshire Historic Environment Record.

8.0 Standards

8.1 The above activities will be undertaken in line with the Institute of Field Archaeologists *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (revised September 1999)

Sarah Whiteley
Senior Conservation Archaeologist

October 2012

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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OASIS ID: archaeol5-137728

Project details

Project name	Throwley Hall Farm, Waterhouses, Staffordshire
Short description of the project	analytical earthwork survey
Project dates	Start: 14-11-2012 End: 15-11-2012
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Type of project	Field evaluation
Monument type	FIELD Uncertain
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Measured Survey"
Development type	Estate management (i.e. maintenance of existing structures and landscape by capital works and on-going maintenance)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	Pre-application

Project location

Country	England
Site location	STAFFORDSHIRE STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS WATERHOUSES Throwley Hall Farm
Study area	100.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	SK 1106 5261 53 -1 53 04 13 N 001 50 05 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeological Research Services Ltd
Project brief originator	Peak District National Park Authority
Project design originator	Archaeological Research Services Ltd
Project director/manager	Mike Wood
Project supervisor	Alvaro Mora-Ottomano

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No
Digital Archive Exists? No
Paper Archive Exists? No

Project bibliography

1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
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