

## An Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample Excavation at Farnley Haugh, Corbridge, Northumberland



**ARS Ltd Report No. 2016/147**

**OASIS ID - archaeol5-264269**

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ARS Ltd Report 2016/147  
October 2016

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## **Executive Summary**

*Project Name: An Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample Excavation and Watching Brief at Farnley Haugh, Corbridge, Northumberland.*

*Site Code: FA16*

*Planning Authority: Northumberland County Council*

*Geology: Devensian Till*

*NGR: NY 99906 63184*

*Date of Fieldwork: September 2016*

*Date of Report: September 2016*

*In September 2016 Archaeological Research Services Ltd (ARS Ltd) was commissioned by Construction Marine Ltd, on behalf of Network Rail, to undertake an archaeological strip, map and sample at Farnley Haugh, Corbridge, Northumberland. The archaeological works, undertaken by Philippa Cockburn Project Officer at ARS Ltd, were carried out as part of emergency stabilisation required due to a landslip on land northwest of West Lodge, Corbridge. In January 2016 stabilisation required coring to assess ground stability, the excavation of an access ramp, and a 30 degree batter to the perimeter of the landslip to assist in consolidating the unstable ground within the Farnley Grange Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1009156). Historic England confirmed that the watching brief could be undertaken under Class 5 Consent: Works Urgently Necessary for Safety and Health as set out in the Ancient Monuments (Class Consents) Order 1994 (DCMS 1994).*

*Subsequently, in September 2016, an area, some 1059m<sup>2</sup>, was excavated along the edge of the previously excavated landslip area. A sequence comprising redeposited material overlying topsoil, subsoil and the geological natural clay was excavated. A ditch associated with the modern hedge field boundary formed the only observed features, no archaeological features were encountered during the watching brief. The natural deposits at the western extent of the stripped area had been heavily disturbed by a number of large trees that had once lined the edge of the railway embankment but that had been removed prior to the previous phase of work therefore leaving a number of large tree throws.*

*Additional works in September 2016 included the excavation of a drainage trench, which was also monitored as part of an archaeological watching brief. This trench ran northwest to southeast for a length of 175m. It was 1.8m wide and 1.15m deep. The sequence in this trench also consisted of redeposited material overlying topsoil, subsoil and the natural orange clay. No archaeological finds or features were encountered in this trench.*

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 In September 2016 Archaeological Research Services Ltd was commissioned by Construction Marine Ltd on behalf of Network Rail to undertake an archaeological strip, map and sample carried out as part of emergency stabilisation works caused by a landslip on land at Farnley Grange, West Lodge, Corbridge that had occurred in January 2016. Initial stabilisation in January had required coring to assess ground stability, the excavation of an access ramp, and a sloping 30 degree incline around the perimeter of the landslip to assist in consolidating the unstable ground. In addition to groundworks, a geophysical survey was also carried out to ascertain the subsequent damage to surviving archaeological features and deposits.

1.2 The groundworks and survey took place within the boundary of Farnley Grange Scheduled Ancient Monument (NHLE 1009156). Historic England confirmed that the watching brief could be conducted under Class 5 Consent: Works Urgently Necessary for Safety and Health as set out in the Ancient Monuments (Class Consents) Order 1994 (DCMS 1994).

1.3 Subsequent to the initial foul pipe repair and landslip consolidation works Historic England also granted Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC S00140736) for the formation of an embankment and associated drainage ditch in the area bordering the landslip. The embankment and drainage ditch were considered essential to the future stability of the slope where the earlier landslip occurred. Prior to the formation of the embankment and ditch an archaeological strip map and sample excavation, undertaken by Philippa Cockburn, Project Officer at ARS Ltd, was carried out in order to identify and record the nature, extent and significance of any archaeological remains present within the boundary of the embankment and drainage ditch area as authorised in the Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC S00140736).

1.4 Monitoring was also undertaken during the excavation of a pipeline trench which lay beyond the limit of the Scheduled Monument area. The trench was excavated in the eastern field from west to east for a length of c.175m.

## **2 SITE LOCATION AND GEOLOGY**

2.1 The archaeological site is located on the south side of the River Tyne, 1.5km to the south-east of Corbridge town centre, and is situated at NGR NY 99880, 63171 (Figure 1). The site of the monitoring works is partially located within the boundary of the three temporary camps at Farnley Grange Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1009156).

2.2 The underlying bedrock geology of the site is comprised of mudstone, sandstone and limestone of the Stainmore Formation, formed during the Carboniferous Period when the local environment was previously dominated by swamps, estuaries and deltas. This is overlain by superficial glaciofluvial deposits of Devensian till formed during the Quaternary Period (British Geological Survey 2016).

2.3 The soils of the mitigation area are classified as belonging to the NERCWYS Soil Association (542), which are stagnogleyic brown earths (SSEW 1983). These soils form as till from Palaeozoic and Mesozoic sandstone and shale and are characterised as *'deep, fine, loamy soils with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal*

waterlogging. Associated with similar slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged soils' (CU 2016).

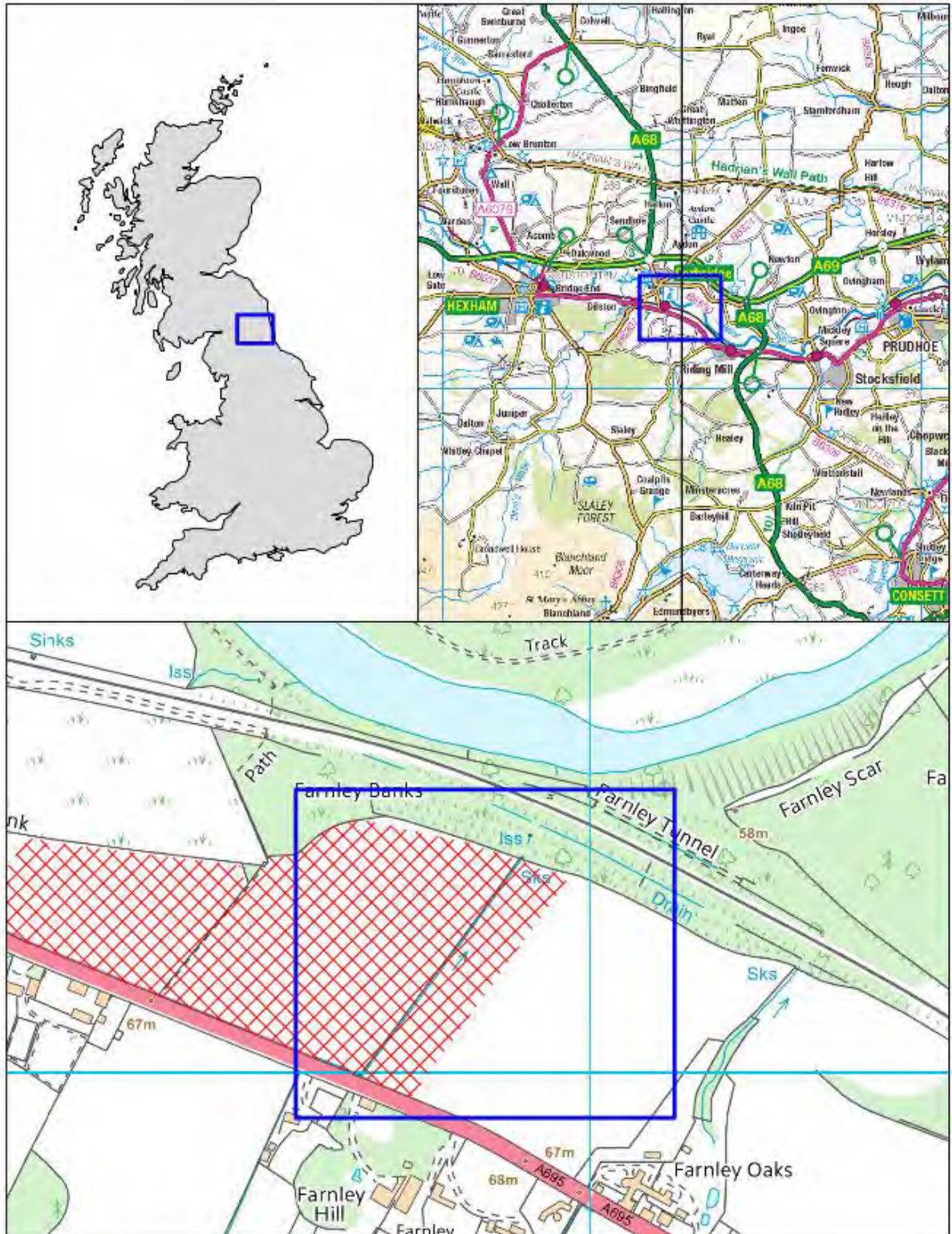


Figure 1. Site location Ordnance Survey data copyright OS, reproduced by permission, Licence no. 100045420. The Scheduled Monument is represented by the red hatched area.

### **3 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

#### **3.1 Prehistoric**

3.1.1 Evidence of early prehistoric activity within the vicinity of Corbridge consists of Mesolithic flint findspots at Shorden Brae (HER N9038), Gallowhill (HER N8672) and Castron Field (HER N8683) (Wymer and Bonsall 1978; Waddington 2004, 69-70 and 72). A hoard of Bronze Age metal objects (HER N10055), consisting of dagger fragments, two spearblades and a flanged axe were also discovered 400m north-east of the site during construction of the Newcastle - Carlisle railway line in 1835. Additional later prehistoric activity close to Corbridge is restricted to a fortified Iron Age settlement, located at Shildon Hill, 5km north-east of Corbridge town centre (HER 9011) (Jobey, 1964). No prehistoric activity has been recorded within the site boundary.

#### **3.2 Romano-British**

3.2.1 A Roman fort was established at Corbridge (NHLE 100098), approximately 1.9km north-west of the site, during the late first century AD. The fort was established on the line of the Stanegate Roman road. When Hadrian's Wall was built to the north of the Stanegate, running between the Tyne-Solway gap during AD 122 to 128, some of the Stanegate forts became redundant as they were now situated within the hinterland of the newly established frontier. Corbridge, however, maintained its overall strategic importance due to its location guarding Dere Street, the main supply route from York to Newstead in Scotland, as well as the important crossing of the Tyne. An extra-mural settlement was enclosed within the defences and a significant civilian *vicus* grew up around the military site. By the mid-second century AD Corbridge was a defended market town and later expanded to occupy an area of approximately 13ha-17ha by the third and fourth centuries (Finlayson and Hardie 2010).

3.2.2 The site is partly located inside the boundaries of Farnley Grange Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1009156). The area of the Scheduled Monument includes the whole of one Roman temporary camp (Camp 3) and the northern sections of two adjacent camps (Camps 1 and 2). Temporary camps were used by the Roman military when on campaign or training manoeuvres. The camps often display a rectangular shape in plan and were bounded by a single ditch and bank. The camps at Farnley Grange, however, are no longer visible as upstanding earthworks as they lie in a heavily ploughed agricultural landscape, but their location and respective dimensions have been recorded as buried features by aerial photographic analysis where they have shown as cropmarks. Camp 1, the most westerly of the group, measures approximately 75m across, is orientated on a broadly north – south axis and has one possible entrance at the north-east corner. Camp 2 is similarly aligned on a north-south axis and measures 100m across. A possible entrance to Camp 2 is visible at the northern extent of the fortification. Both Camp 1 and Camp 2 are truncated by the route of the A695 trunk road, but broadly respect the orientation of Dere Street Roman Road, the principal Roman road between York and Scotland. Camp 3, the largest of the camps, is orientated on an east-north-east – west-south-west orientation and does not respect the alignment of Dere Street Roman Road (St Joseph 1951). This variation in orientation could indicate that Camp 3 pre-dated both the construction of Dere Street Roman road and the other two temporary camps located inside the scheduled area.



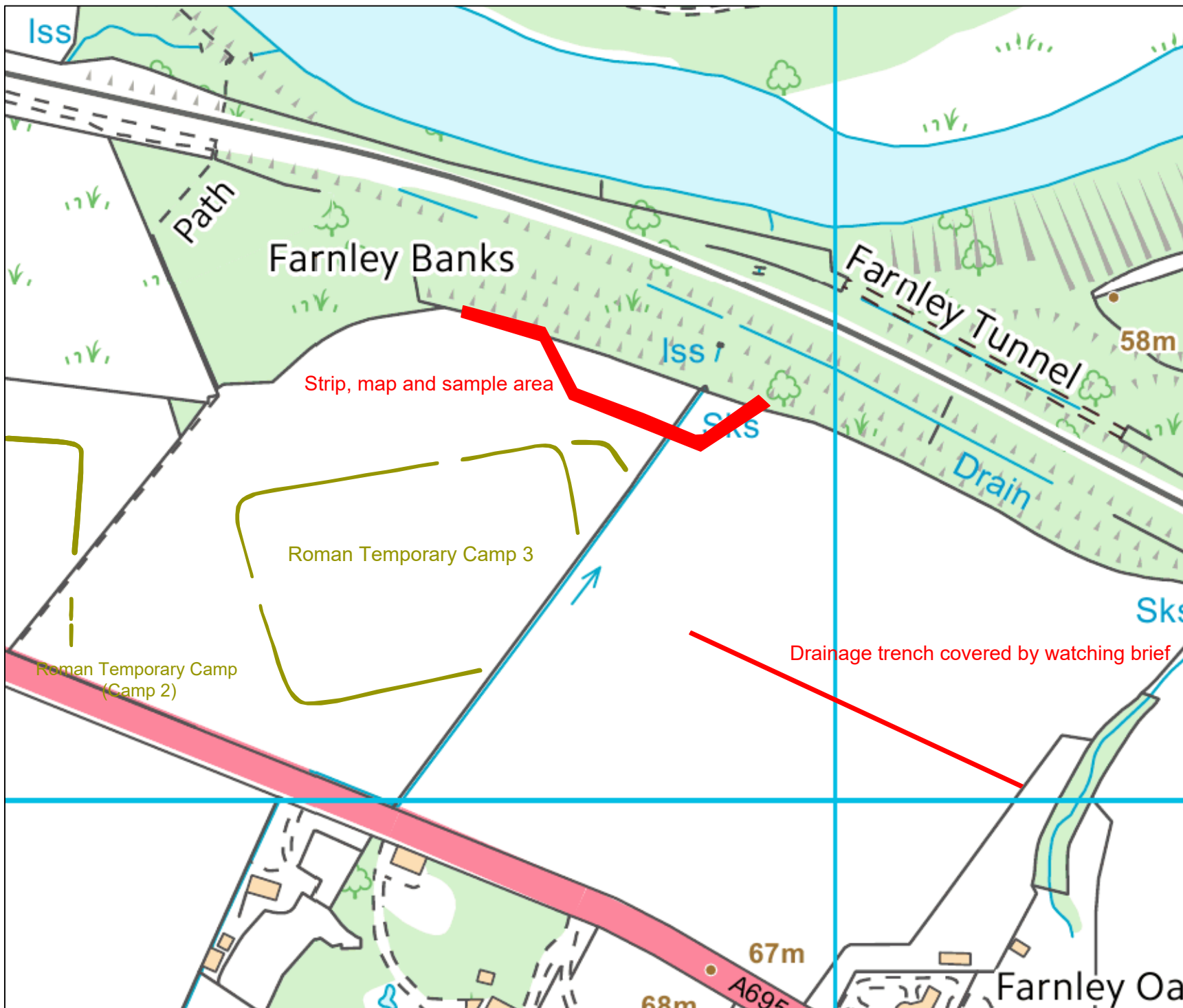


Figure 2:

A plan of the Farnley Haugh site showing the location and extent of the strip, map and sample area and the location of the drainage trench.

Scale = 1:2500 at A4

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### **3.3 Medieval**

3.3.1 A deserted medieval settlement (HER N9040) has been recorded 300m southeast of the site in the grounds of Farnley House. However, no evidence of medieval activity has been recorded inside the boundaries of the site.

### **3.4 Post-Medieval to Present**

3.4.1 The land 300m south-east of the site is occupied by Farnley Farm (HER N15470), a complex of farm buildings (HER N15470 – 15473) originally constructed in the eighteenth century then remodelled and extended during the nineteenth century (Historic England 2016). Farnley Farmhouse and all associated outbuildings have been designated Grade II listed status.

3.4.2 The site is also bordered to the north by the Newcastle – Carlisle railway line which was constructed in 1834 but has since been bypassed by a modern railway extension. The east and west portals of a railway tunnel (HER N15475 and N15476) associated with the original nineteenth century line are located c.100m north of the site. The tunnel portals are protected and have been granted Grade II listed status.

3.4.3 No evidence for post-medieval activity has been identified inside the site boundary.

## **4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

### **4.1 Regional Research Aims and Objectives**

4.1.1 Research topics identified in *The North-East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment* (NERRF) (2006) for Roman military presence includes placing any and all work on Hadrian's Wall and the associated military infrastructure in an international context. The world importance of the Wall is highlighted by its status as a World Heritage Site, and moves to integrate this research on other important Roman limes structures further emphasise this dimension of the region's Roman heritage (Petts *et al*, 2006, 148).

### **4.2 Hadrian's Wall Research Framework Aims and Objectives**

4.2.1 Research topics identified in *Frontiers of Knowledge: A Research Framework for Hadrian's Wall, Part of the Frontiers of the Roman Empire World Heritage Site* (Volume II Agenda and Strategy) (2009) for camps along Hadrian's Wall include further investigation into camps, particularly their interiors, as there has been only occasional and restricted investigations carried out in the past. Careful exploration of camp interiors has the potential to reveal indications of the size and type of unit, as well as the length of stay or degree of later reuse (Symonds *et al*, 2009, 11).

### **4.3 Archaeological Monitoring Aims and Objectives**

4.3.1 The principal aim of the archaeological works was to ensure that any potential archaeological remains present within the drain trench (Figure 2) and within the boundary of the embankment and drainage ditch and bund area (the remediation groundworks authorised by the Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC S00140736) were not destroyed without first being recorded and interpreted.

4.3.2 The objective of the archaeological monitoring was to identify and record the nature, extent and significance of any archaeological remains present within the

boundary of the embankment and drainage ditch area as authorised by Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC S00140736).

## **5 METHODOLOGY**

5.1 The strip, map and sample involved the monitoring of a topsoil strip across an area c.177m x 7m which encompassed c. 0.1059ha. The excavation of a drainage trench was also monitored, this measured c.175m x 1.8m x 1.15m and was excavated east of the Scheduled area. Excavations were undertaken under archaeological conditions in accordance with guidance from Karen Derham, Assistant County Archaeologist, Northumberland County Council a detailed method statement is contained in Appendix III.

5.2 The topsoil and subsoil within the area defined by the Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC S00140736) was removed by mechanical excavator with a toothless ditching bucket, in successive level spits under continuous archaeological supervision. Both the footprint of the soil bund and drainage ditch was stripped and access to the stripped areas was controlled to prevent impacts to any archaeological features cut into the natural substrate.

## **6 RESULTS**

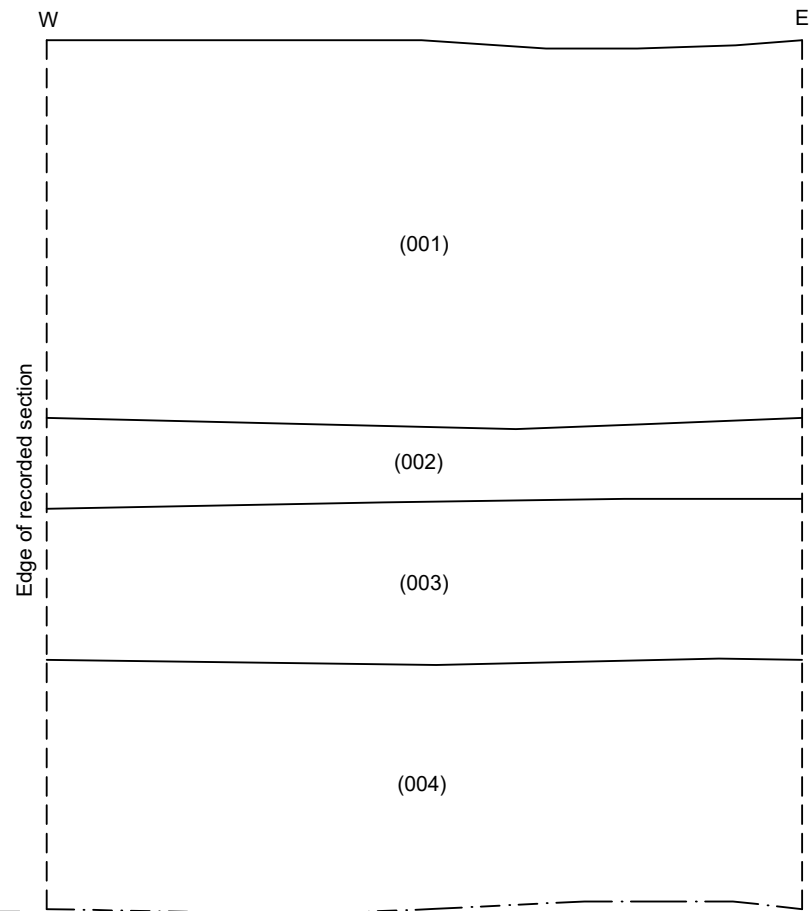
### **6.1 *Strip, Map and Sample Area***

(see Appendix I and Figures 2 and 3)

6.1.1 The sequence within the stripped area characteristically comprised made ground, (001), redeposited from the landslip area over the relict land surface topsoil, (002). In turn the buried topsoil (002) overlay (003) which in turn overlay the geological natural.

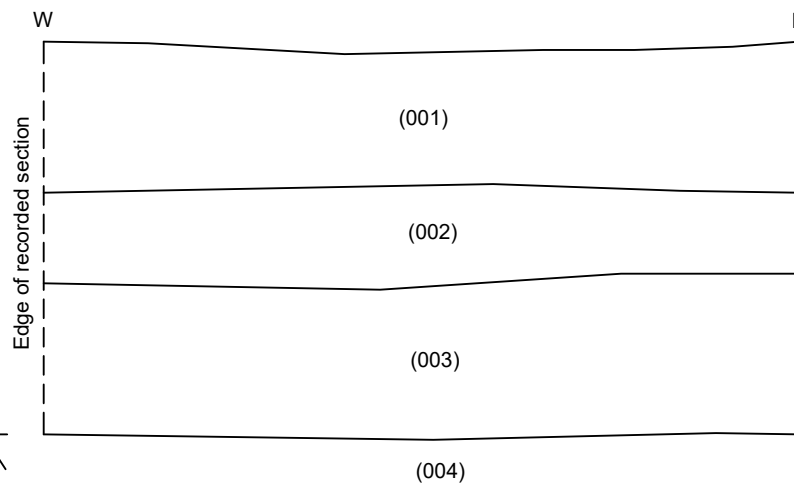
6.1.2 A considerable degree of ground disturbance was recorded towards the western extent of the stripped area. This had been caused by a number of large trees and their root boles which had been removed under archaeological supervision prior to the initial phase of groundworks.

Representative section of deposits seen within drainage trench



56.424m aOD

Representative section of deposits seen within strip, map and sample area



53.052m aOD

Figure 3:

Representative sections of deposits across the site at Farnley Haugh.

Scale = 1:10 at A4

Key:



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6.1.3 A single feature was encountered during the strip, map and sample, this comprising a ditch associated with the field boundary and hedge, F006, (Figure 8). This boundary separates the eastern field from the western field.

6.1.4 The footprint of the access ramp, which had been excavated under archaeological supervision during the first phase of groundworks, was also identified.



Figure 4. Looking northeast along the eastern extent of the strip showing the footprint of the previously excavated access ramp.

## **6.2 Drainage ditch**

6.2.1 The sequence observed in the strip for the drainage ditch (Figure 9 and Figure 10) consisted of a layer of made ground, (001), also extracted from the landslip area and redeposited to protect buried archaeological features within the Scheduled Monument area from vehicles.

6.2.2 Levelling up (001) overlay the relict land surface (002) which in turn overlay subsoil, (003) and which overlay geological natural clay (004). In places, especially towards the eastern extent of the trench, the natural clay graded in to sandstone bedrock. There were no archaeological finds or features encountered within the drainage trench.



Figure 5. Looking west-north-west along the southern extent of the strip.



Figure 6. Looking northwest along the strip.



Figure 7. Looking west-north-west along the western extent of the strip.



Figure 8. Field boundary ditch F006. Scale = 1m. Looking south.



Figure 9. Excavation of the drainage trench.



Figure 10. Representative section of the deposits within the drainage trench.



## **7 DISCUSSION**

7.1 The strip, map and sample undertaken at Farnley Haugh was carried out under Scheduled Monument Consent while the watching brief which monitored the drainage trench was carried out under Class 5 Consent: Works Urgently Necessary for Safety and Health as set out in the Ancient Monuments (Class Consents) Order 1994 (DCMS 1994).

7.2 Archaeological monitoring and strip map and sample excavations attest a straightforward sequence of modern levelling up (by 0.5 metres), to create a protective buffer from damage by machine movements over any buried archaeological features. This overlies natural soil formation horizons of topsoil and subsoil which in turn overlie the natural clay.

7.3 In some places the area stripped covered ground which had already been stripped under archaeological conditions.

7.4 No evidence of the Roman marching camps was encountered during the phase of works carried out at Farnley Haugh and reported on here and these results support those of the Geophysical survey which, likewise, did not identify any features at risk within the proposed footprint of the strip, map and sample excavations.

7.5 The absence of archaeological features may, possibly, be attributable to the proximity of the stripped area to the railway embankment which may have resulted in erosion over time though no signs of this inferred erosion were noticed during archaeological monitoring.

## **8 PUBLICITY, CONFIDENTIALITY AND COPYRIGHT**

8.1 Any publicity will be handled by the client.

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

## **9 STATEMENT OF INDEMNITY**

9.1 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.

## **10 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

10.1 Archaeological Research Services Ltd would like to thank all those involved with this work, in particular Lee McFarlane of Historic England, Ray Galbraith of Construction Marine Ltd and Karen Derham Assistant County Archaeologist for Northumberland County Council.

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**Appendix I. Context Summary Table**

*An Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample Excavation at Farnley Haugh, Corbridge, Northumberland*

<b>Context</b>	<b>Type/Interpretation</b>	<b>Description / Processual Interpretation</b>	<b>Thickness/extent</b> (feature = length x width x depth)	<b>Height</b> (m aOD) at top of deposit	<b>Depth to top (BGL)</b>
001	Made ground	Medium textured grey/brown sandy clay	0.2m depth	53.572	0m
002	Relict topsoil	Medium textured dark grey/brown silty clay	0.12m depth	53.372	0.5m
003	Subsoil	Medium textured mid brown clayey silt	0.2m depth	53.252	0.7m
004	Natural geology	Coarse textured clay with gravels	Beyond ex.	53.052	1.2m
005	Buried haul road	Plastic sheeting and stone used for previous haul road	0.2m	57.104	0.44m
006	Fill of field boundary ditch	Medium textured dark brown silty clay	0.2m		0.65m
007	Cut of field boundary ditch	-	-		-

## **Appendix II: Written Scheme of Investigation**

# **Farnley Haugh, Corbridge**

## **Written Scheme of Investigation For Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample Excavation 2016**



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**on behalf of  
Construction Marine Ltd**

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## **1 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been prepared by Archaeological Research Services Ltd (ARS Ltd) on behalf of Construction Marine Ltd (CML). It provides a WSI for an archaeological strip, map and sample excavation during mitigation works at land to the northwest of Farnley Haugh, Corbridge NE45 5RP.

1.2 In January 2016, a landslip occurred within the field northwest of Farnley Grange, rupturing a 200m stretch of foul pipe and causing raw sewage to leak into the River Tyne. The landslip was situated within the boundary of Farnley Grange Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1009156) which includes the whole of one Roman temporary camp and the northern sections of two adjacent camps.

1.3 Historic England confirmed that emergency remediation works to both the ruptured foul pipe and the unstable area affected by the landslip could be conducted within the boundary of Farnley Grange Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1009156) under Class 5 Consent: Works Urgently Necessary for Safety and Health as set out in the Ancient Monuments (Class Consents) Order 1994 (DCMS 1994).

1.4 Archaeological Research Services monitored all of the emergency remediation groundworks which included the excavation of two test pits to gain access to the ruptured foul pipe and the excavation of a temporary connecting pipe trench south-west and south-east of the damaged section of foul pipe. In addition, an archaeological watching brief was conducted within a 26m exclusion zone bordering the landslip area, in order to allow for a partial regrade and consolidation of the unstable slope (Lotherington 2016 and Nicholson 2016).

1.5 Subsequent to the initial foul pipe repair and landslip consolidation works Historic England has also granted Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC S00140736) for the formation of an embankment and associated drainage ditch in the area bordering the landslip. The embankment and drainage ditch are considered essential to the future stability of the slope where the earlier landslip occurred.

1.4 This WSI confirms the nature of the archaeological works to be undertaken by Archaeological Research Services Ltd (ARS Ltd) at Farnley Haugh, Corbridge, in accordance with the Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC S00140736) granted by Historic England. All associated archaeological works will be conducted with guidance from Lee McFarlane, Historic England's Inspector of Ancient Monuments for the North-East.

## **2 BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Site Location and Geology**

2.1.1 The archaeological site is located on the south side of the River Tyne, 1.5km to the south-east of Corbridge town centre, and is situated at NGR NY 99880, 63171 (Figure 1). The site of the monitoring works is partially located within the boundary





of the three temporary camps at Farnley Grange Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1009156).

2.1.2 The underlying bedrock geology of the site is comprised of mudstone, sandstone and limestone of the Stainmore Formation, formed during the Carboniferous Period when the local environment was previously dominated by swamps, estuaries and deltas. This is overlain by superficial glaciofluvial deposits of Devensian sands and gravels (BGS 2016).

2.1.3 The soils of the mitigation area are classified as belonging to the NERCWYS Soil Association (542), which are stagnogleyic brown earths (SSEW 1983). These soils form as till from Palaeozoic and Mesozoic sandstone and shale and are characterised as '*deep, fine, loamy soils with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal waterlogging. Associated with similar slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged soils*' (CU 2016).

## **2.2 Archaeological and Historical**

2.2.1 The archaeology of Corbridge is dominated by two settlements: namely the Roman garrison town of *Corstopitum* and the later, Medieval, town of Corbridge just to the east. *Corstopitum* was located at the junction of the Stanegate and Dere Street Roman roads and was established after 85AD as a fort and later converted into a supply base for the Roman military frontiers along Hadrian's Wall and the Antonine Wall (NCC 2008).

2.2.2 The site of the emergency works is located 1.9km to the south-east of Corbridge Roman town (NHLE 1000098) and is partly located within the boundaries of three temporary camps at Farnley Grange, Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1009156). This monument includes the whole of one Roman temporary camp and the northern sections of two adjacent camps. None of the camps survive as upstanding earthworks but they are clearly visible on aerial photographs. Camp 1, the smallest and most westerly in the group, measures about 75m across and has a main north-south axis. The southern extent of the camp is obscured by the adjacent A695 and Farnley Grange. The central camp, 2, is about 100m across and also has a main north-south axis. The largest of the camps, 3, lies to the east of camps 1 and 2 and its full extent has been identified. It measures about 160m WSW to ENE by 120m, with its main axis lying east-west. Breaks in the enclosing defences visible on the aerial photographs are identified as gateways. The three camps lie very close to Dere Street, the principal Roman Road between York and Scotland (Historic England 2016).

## **2.3 Scheduled Monument Consent**

2.3.1 In England the current legislation safeguarding all designated Scheduled Monuments is the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. The 1979 Act means that it is a criminal offence to demolish, destroy, damage, remove, repair, alter or add to a Scheduled Monument unless prior consent has been obtained from the Secretary of State in the form of Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) (DCMS 2013). The purpose of the 1979 Act is to protect and preserve, where applicable, all designated Scheduled Monuments.



2.3.2 Subsequent to the initial Class Consent remediation works conducted at Farnley Grange Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1009156) in January 2016, further groundworks considered vital to the stability of the northern portion of the scheduled monument area are required. The slope bordering the landslip area at the northern extent of the monument has been regraded and partially consolidated however, further erosion to the slope may be caused by inadequate drainage and water management. Consequently, the formation of an embankment and drainage ditch bordering the western, eastern and southern extents of the landslip area have been considered vital for adequate water management and the prevention of further soil erosion. The creation of the embankment and associated drainage ditch is considered necessary for the prevention of further landslips in the affected area and assists in the continued preservation of Farnley Grange Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1009156).

2.3.3 Consequently, Historic England has granted Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC S00140736) for remediation groundworks associated with the formation of both an embankment and an associated drainage ditch at the northern boundary of Farnley Grange Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1009156). The archaeological groundworks are to include an archaeological strip, map and sample excavation within the boundaries of the afore-mentioned remediation groundworks authorised by the Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC S00140736) (Figure 2).

### **3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

#### **3.1 Regional Research Aims and Objectives**

3.1.1 Research topics identified in *The North-East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment* (NERRF) (2006) for Roman military presence includes placing any and all work on Hadrian's Wall and the associated military infrastructure in an international context. The world importance of the Wall is highlighted by its status as a World Heritage Site, and moves to integrate this research on other important Roman limes structures further emphasise this dimension of the region's Roman heritage (Petts *et al*, 2006, 148).

#### **3.2 Hadrian's Wall Research Framework Aims and Objectives**

3.2.1 Research topics identified in *Frontiers of Knowledge: A Research Framework for Hadrian's Wall, Part of the Frontiers of the Roman Empire World Heritage Site (Volume II Agenda and Strategy)* (2009) for camps along Hadrian's Wall include further investigation into camps, particularly their interiors as there has been only occasional and restricted investigations carried out in the past. Careful exploration of camp interiors has the potential to reveal indications of the size and type of unit, as well as the length of stay or degree of later reuse (Symonds *et al*, 2009, 11).

#### **3.3 Archaeological Monitoring Aims and Objectives**

3.3.1 The principal aim of the archaeological works is to ensure that any potential archaeological remains present within the drain trench (Figure 2) and within the boundary of the embankment and drainage ditch and bund area (the remediation



groundworks authorised by the Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC S00140736)) are not destroyed without first being recorded and interpreted.

3.3.2 The objective of the archaeological monitoring is to identify and record the nature, extent and significance of any archaeological remains present within the boundary of the embankment and drainage ditch area as authorised by Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC S00140736).

## **4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL MITIGATION WORKS**

### **4.1 Coverage**

4.1.2 The strip, map and sample area measures c.230m in length and is 5m wide encompassing approximately 0.115ha (Figure 3).

4.1.3 Monitoring will also be undertaken during the excavation of pipeline which largely lies outside the boundary of the scheduled monument and is depicted in green in Figure 3.

### **4.2 Methodology**

4.2.1 Prior to the commencement of groundworks, all contracting staff will be appraised about the Scheduled Monument, its boundaries, and what can and cannot be carried out on site.

4.2.2 The topsoil and subsoil within the area authorised for excavation by Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC S00140736) will be removed by a suitable mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, under continuous archaeological supervision, in successive level spits. Both the footprint of the soil bund and drainage ditch will be stripped and vehicular access to the stripped areas will be prohibited to restrict impact to any possible archaeological features cut into the natural substrate.

4.2.3 A drainage trench measuring c.400mm x c.600mm x c.600mm is to be excavated at the northern extent of the site, east of the Scheduled area (Figure 2). The drainage trench will be the subject of an intermittent archaeological watching brief and will be excavated under archaeological conditions in accordance with guidance from Karen Derham, Assistant County Archaeologist, Northumberland County Council.

4.2.4 No unauthorised sub-surface groundworks are to be conducted on site without prior agreement from the Inspector of Ancient Monuments North-East.

4.2.5 The excavation under archaeological supervision of the drainage trench and soil bund and drainage ditch will be carried out in accordance with the guidance laid out in ClfA's *Code of Conduct* (2014a) and *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* (2014b). The records will follow standard conventions set by the Museum of London Archaeological Service (MoLAS) (2002).

4.2.6 ARS Ltd will provide a suitably qualified archaeologist during ground works on the site to supervise the excavation. The on-site archaeologist will be fully apprised of the archaeological potential of the site. The archaeologist will be given the



opportunity to stop site work in order to investigate potential archaeological features and adequate time will be allowed for excavating and recording any such features.

4.2.7 All spoil removed during groundworks will be scanned visually to recover small finds. Any finds so recovered will be recorded and their location noted on a site plan at a relevant scale. All finds will be retained and recorded.

4.2.8 Where archaeological features and/or deposits are identified during the excavation, then said features will typically be sample excavated to understand their form, function, phasing and date and for artefact and ecofact recovery. Excavation should include 100% of all discrete features and 20% of all linear features. If significant archaeological features are identified, then the Inspector of Ancient Monuments North-East will be notified and a decision taken as to the best method of proceeding.

4.2.9 For sealed and stratigraphically secure deposits that have the potential to provide environmental evidence relating to diet and economy, dating evidence or landuse regime, a minimum of 40 litres of sample will be taken, or 100% of the sample if smaller.

4.2.10 In the case of waterlogged or anaerobic deposits a minimum sample size of 20L will be taken.

4.2.11 Should a sequence of superimposed deposits of note be present column sampling may be considered.

4.2.12 In all instances sampling strategies will be in accordance with guidelines issued by Historic England's *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice Methods, from sampling and recovery to post excavation* (Campbell et al. 2011).

4.2.13 Should other types of environmental deposits be encountered, appropriate specialist advice will be sought and an appropriate sampling strategy devised. Samples will be assessed by a suitable specialist with provision for further analysis as required. Advice from the Historic England Scientific Advisor will be taken as appropriate.

4.2.14 Should hearths, kilns or ovens be encountered during the watching brief, provision will be made to collect one archaeo-magnetic date to be calculated from each individual hearth surface (or in the case of domestic dwellings sites a minimum of one per building identified).

4.2.15 In such event samples will be collected from the site and processed by a suitably trained specialist for dating purposes and at point of discovery the Inspector of Ancient Monuments North-East will be contacted to discuss the appropriate response. The appropriate sampling strategy will also be discussed in advance of samples being taken with Historic England.

4.2.16 Any human remains discovered will initially be left *in-situ* and, if removal is deemed necessary, this will be undertaken in accordance with the relevant Ministry



of Justice regulations and in discussion with the Inspector of Ancient Monuments for the North-East.

4.2.17 Finds of "treasure" will be reported to the Coroner in accordance with the Treasure Act (1996) procedures. The Portable Antiquities Scheme Finds Liaison Officer will also be notified.

*Coroner*

Mr Eric Armstrong  
HM Coroner for South Northumberland  
Old Library  
The Business Centre  
54 Saville Street  
North Shields  
NE30 1NT  
Tel: 0191 643 6929/6930

*Finds Liaison Officer*

Ellie Cox  
Archaeology Section  
Durham County Council  
County Hall  
Durham  
DH1 5UQ  
Tel No: 03000 267 011

Email: [Ann.Battensby@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:Ann.Battensby@northumberland.gov.uk)

4.2.18 All plant will utilise the temporary haul road and compound when traversing the site. Any plant movement beyond the limits of the haul road should be limited as much as possible to prevent further impact to sub-surface heritage assets.

4.2.19 Contractors and plant operators will be notified that any observations of archaeological remains must be reported immediately to the archaeologist on site. Regular contact will be ensured between ARS Ltd and the site project manager to ensure that ARS Ltd is kept up to date with site works and given the chance to respond appropriately and in line with the requirements of the Inspector of Ancient Monuments North-East.

4.2.20 All site operations will be carried out in a safe manner in accordance with ARS Ltd's health and safety policy. A risk assessment will be prepared before commencement on site.

### **4.3 Recording**

4.3.1 The site will be accurately tied into the National Grid and located on a 1:2500 or 1:1250 map of the area. The site will be recorded using a single context planning system in accordance with ClfA guidance and the ARS Ltd field recording manual.

4.3.2 A full and proper record (written, graphic and photographic as appropriate) will be made for all work, using pro-forma record sheets and text descriptions appropriate to the work. A plan of the excavated areas will be maintained, features noted and section lines recorded. All drawings will be carried out at an appropriate scale and all contexts will be recorded using a single context recording system. Sample representative levels will be taken to record the maximum depth of excavation and /or natural should no archaeological features be uncovered.

4.3.3 The stratigraphy of the site will be recorded even where no archaeological deposits have been identified.

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



4.3.5 All archaeological deposits and features will be recorded to metres above Ordnance Datum (aOD).

4.3.6 Site photography will be in high resolution (7 megapixel or greater) colour DSLR photography. Photography will include general site shots, shots of the excavation area and shots of individual features and groups of features. All photographs will include a suitable photographic scale (where appropriate) and will be recorded on a photographic register with the subject and direction of each shot.

#### **4.4 Finds Processing and Storage**

4.4.1 All finds processing, conservation work and storage of finds will be carried out in accordance with the ClfA (2014c) *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* and the UKIC (1990) *Guidelines for the Preparation of Archives for Long-Term Storage*.

4.4.2 Artefact collection and discard policies will be appropriate for the defined purpose.

4.4.3 Bulk finds which are not discarded will be washed and, with the exception of animal bone, marked. Marking and labelling will be indelible and irremovable by abrasion. Bulk finds will be appropriately bagged, boxed and recorded. This process will be carried out no later than two months after the end of the excavation.

4.4.4 All small finds will be recorded as individual items and appropriately packaged (e.g. lithics in self-sealing plastic bags and ceramic in acid-free tissue paper). Vulnerable objects will be specially packaged and textile, painted glass and coins stored in appropriate specialist systems. This process will be carried out within two days of the small find being excavated.

4.4.5 Metal finds will be sampled, processed and analysed in line with *Centre for Archaeological Guidelines: Archaeometallurgy* (Historic England 2001) and *Guidelines on the X-radiography of archaeological metalwork* (Historic England 2006). Any waterlogged artefacts or ecofacts will be sampled, processed and analysed using *Waterlogged Wood* (Historic England 2010) and *Waterlogged Organic Artefacts. Guidance on their Recovery, Analysis and Conservation* (Historic England 2012).

4.4.6 During and after the excavation all objects will be stored in appropriate materials and storage conditions to ensure minimal deterioration and loss of information (including controlled storage, correct packaging, and regular monitoring, immediate selection for conservation of vulnerable material). All storage will have appropriate security provision.

4.4.7 The deposition and disposal of artefacts will be agreed with the legal owner and repository museum prior to the work taking place. All finds except treasure trove are the property of the landowner.

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

#### **4.5 Report**



4.5.1 Following completion of the archaeological monitoring, Archaeological Research Services Ltd will produce a report which will include:

- ◆ Non-technical executive summary
- ◆ Introductory statement
- ◆ Aims and purpose of the project
- ◆ Methodology
- ◆ A location plan showing all excavated areas and any archaeological features with respect to nearby fixed structures and roads
- ◆ Illustrations of all archaeological features with appropriately scaled hachured plans and sections
- ◆ An objective summary statement of results
- ◆ Conclusions
- ◆ Supporting data – tabulated or in appendices
- ◆ Index to archive and details of archive location
- ◆ References
- ◆ Statement of intent regarding publication
- ◆ Confirmation of archive transfer arrangements
- ◆ A copy of the WSI and OASIS form

4.5.2 Upon completion of the report, one digital copy of the report will be supplied to the Inspector of Ancient Monuments North-East for approval and sign off.

4.5.3 One bound copy of the final report with a digital copy of the report in PDF/A format on disk will be deposited with the Northumberland Historic Environment Record (HER). A copy of the report will be uploaded as part of the OASIS record (see below) for online access via the Archaeological Data Service.

4.5.4 At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> will be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms. All parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission to the HER. This will include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy will also be included within the archive).



## 5 MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS

5.1 Notice of the commencement of works will be given to the Inspector of Ancient Monuments North-East.

Lee McFarlane Inspector of Ancient Monuments North-East Historic England Bessie Surtees House 41-44 Sandhill Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE1 3JF	Karen Derham Assistant County Archaeologist Northumberland County Council County Hall Morpeth Northumberland NE61 2EF
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Office: 0191 269 1239  
Mobile: 07774 331422

Office: 01670 622655

5.2 ARS Ltd will liaise with the Inspector of Ancient Monuments North-East at regular intervals throughout the course of the work.

5.3 The client will afford reasonable access to the Inspector of Ancient Monuments North-East, or their representative, for the purposes of monitoring the works.

## 6 STAFFING

6.1 The Project Manager for the watching brief will be Reuben Thorpe MCIfA, Projects Manager at ARS Ltd. The Fieldwork Project Officer will be Rupert Lotherington PCIfA, Projects Officer at ARS Ltd.

6.2 Specialist analyses will be carried out by appropriately qualified specialists as detailed subject to availability.

♦ Flint and prehistoric pottery:	Dr Clive Waddington MCIfA
♦ Romano-British pottery:	Paul Bidwell or Ian Rowlandson
♦ Samian Ware:	Dr Gwladys Monteil
♦ Romano-British small finds:	Lindsay Allason-Jones
♦ Medieval and post-medieval pottery:	Dr Chris Cumberpatch or Dr Robin Holgate MCIfA
♦ Medieval and post-medieval glass, clay pipes and metalwork:	Mike Wood MCIfA
♦ Plant macrofossils and charcoals:	Elise McLellan
♦ Human and animal bone:	Milena Grzybowska
♦ Radiocarbon dating:	Prof Gordon Cook (SUERC)
♦ Finds conservation:	Vicky Garlick (Durham University)





## **7 ARCHIVE DEPOSITION**

### **7.1 Deposition Guidelines**

7.1.1 Should significant finds or stratigraphy be generated, then an accession number will be requested from the appropriate repository museum, and a digital, paper and artefactual archive will be prepared by ARS Ltd, consisting of all primary written documents, plans, sections, photographs and electronic data (in a format to be agreed by the repository museum and Museum Curator). The archive will be deposited in line with the ClfA (2013d) *Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*, Society of Museum Archaeologists (1993) *Selection, Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections. Guidelines for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland* and will be deposited within two months of the completion of the report. The Inspector of Ancient Monuments North-East will be notified in writing on completion of the fieldwork with projected dates for the completion of the report and deposition of the archive. The date for deposition of the archive will be confirmed in the report and the Inspector of Ancient Monuments North-East informed in writing on final deposition of the archive.

7.1.2 All artefacts and associated material will be cleaned, recorded, properly stored and deposited in the archive (see above).

7.1.3 A full set of annotated, illustrative pictures of the site, excavation, features, layers and selected artefacts will be supplied to the HER and deposited with the archive as digital images on a CD ROM that will be attached with the report.

## **8 GENERAL ITEMS**

### **8.1 Health and Safety**

8.1.1 All work will be carried out in accordance with The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974. Specific health and safety policies exist for all our workplaces and all staff employed will be made aware of the policy and any relevant issues. The particular risks involved with this project will be assessed, recorded and relevant mitigation measures put in place as part of a full risk assessment, which will be compiled in advance of fieldwork and will be read and signed by all on-site operatives. ARS Ltd retains Peninsula as its expert health and safety consultants.

### **8.2 Insurance Cover**

8.2.1 ARS Ltd has full insurance cover for employee liability public liability, professional indemnity and all-risks cover.

### **8.3 Changes to the Written Scheme of Investigation**

8.3.1 Changes to the approved methodology or programme of works will only be made with prior written approval of the Inspector of Ancient Monuments North-East.

### **8.4 Publication**



8.4.1 If significant archaeological remains are recorded, a summary of the project with, if appropriate, selected drawings, illustrations and photographs will be prepared for publication in online, journal or monograph form as appropriate. Additional popular articles will also be produced for local and/or national magazines as appropriate. The final form of the publication is to be agreed with the planning archaeologist and the client dependent on the results of the fieldwork.

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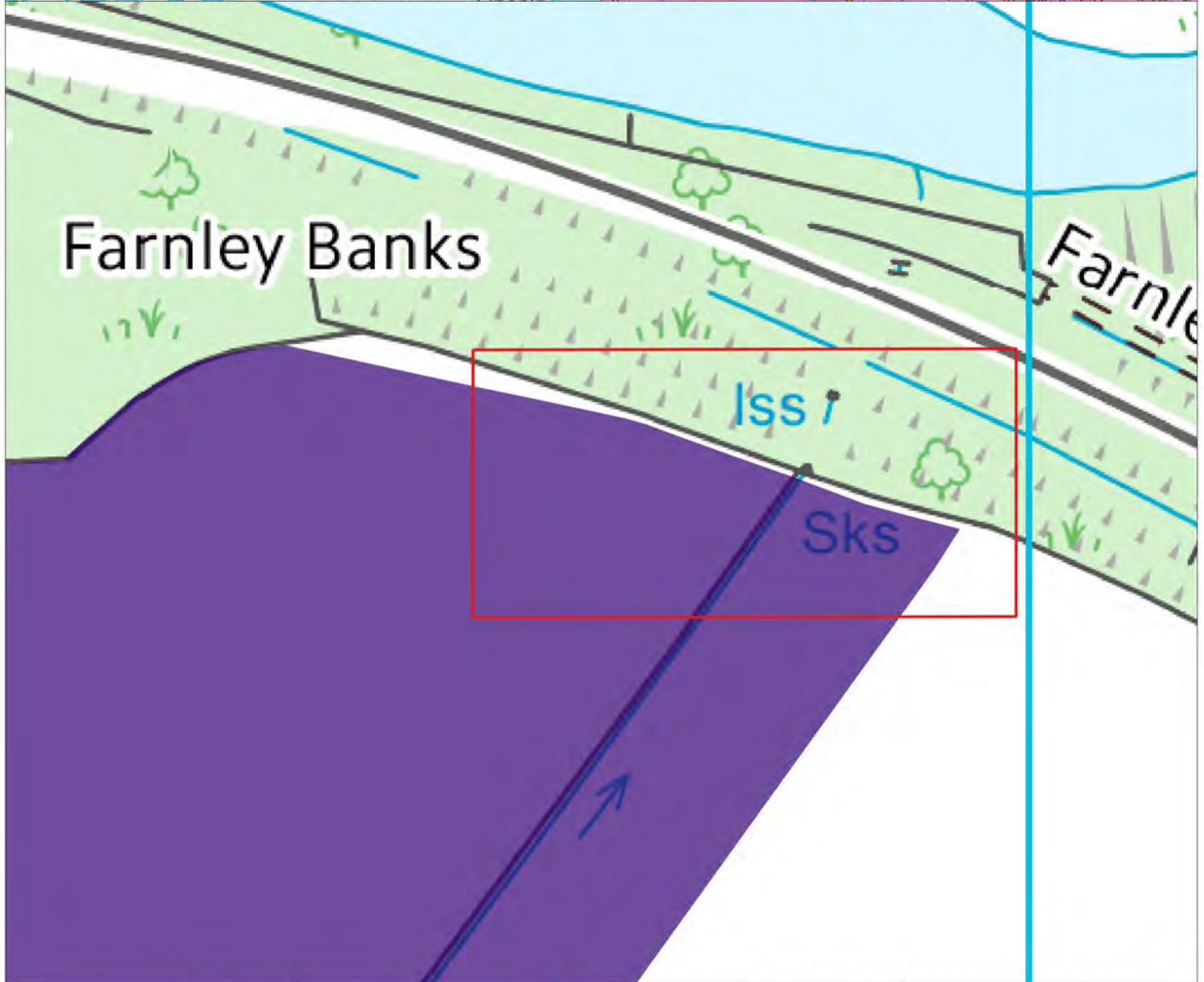
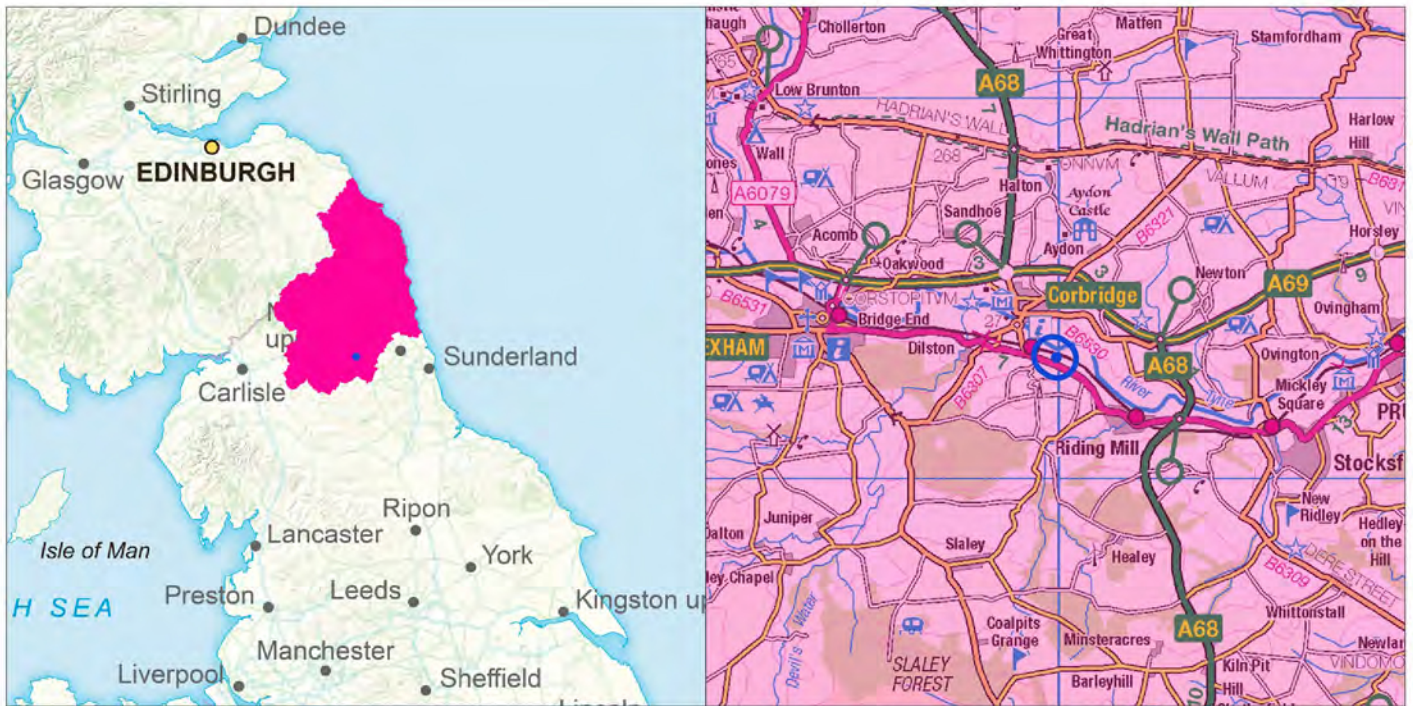
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## FIGURES





Site name: Farnley Haugh, Corbridge  
 Date: August 2016  
 Drawn by: MB  
 Scale: Varies

**Figure 1:**  
**Site location**

- Approximate Site Location
- Scheduled Monument
- Northumberland

Archaeological Research Services Ltd

Angel House  
 Portland Square  
 Bakewell  
 Derbyshire  
 DE45 1HB

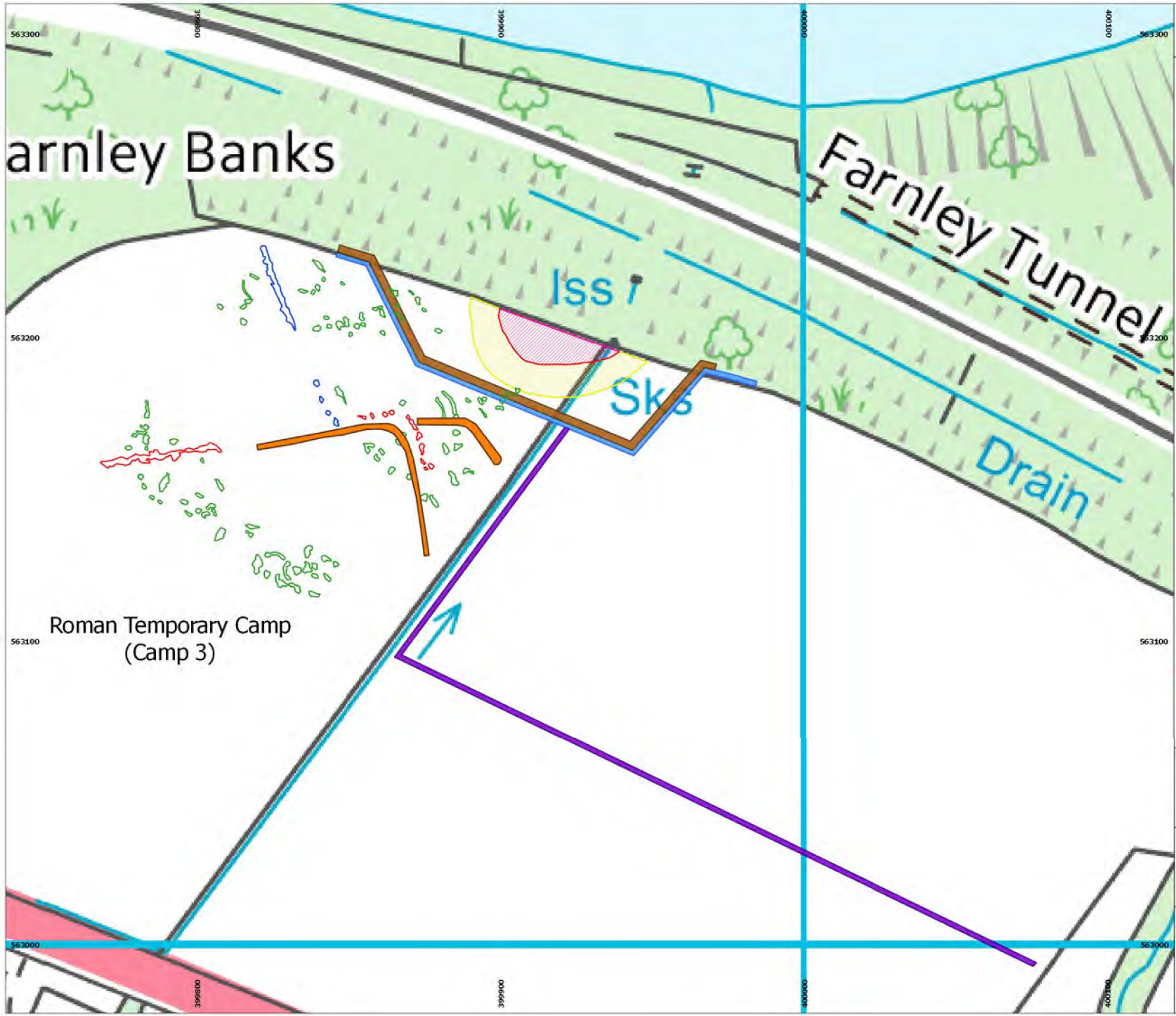


Tel: 01629 814540


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**Figure 2: Archaeological Works**


 Archaeological Features  
(based on Aerial Photography)


 10m Exclusion Zone


 Area of Landslip with 4m  
Exclusion Zone


**Geophysical Survey Results**


 Location of Discrete Anomaly

 Location of Positive Anomaly

 Location of Positive Anomaly  
(Confirmed Archaeology)

 Proposed Drainage Ditch

 Proposed Soil Bund

 Proposed Drain

0 10 20 30 40 50 m



Site name: Farnley Grange, West Lodge,  
Date: Corbridge  
Drawn by: August 2016  
Scale: MB  
1:1750 @ A3

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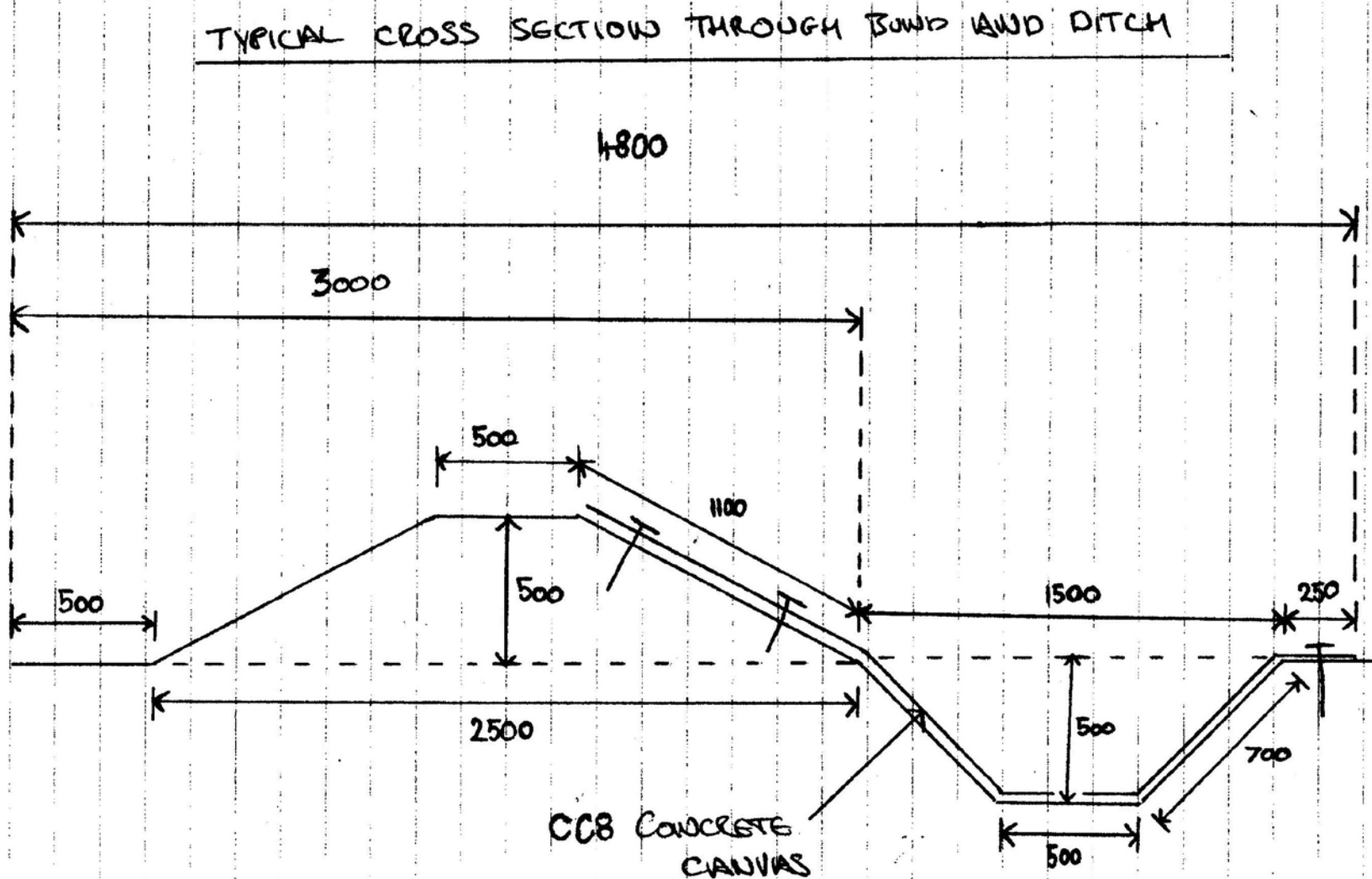
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DE45 1HB



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Figure 3: Cross Section through Bund and Ditch



### **Appendix III: Oasis Form**



# OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

[List of Projects](#) | [Manage Projects](#) | [Search Projects](#) | [New project](#) | [Change your details](#) | [HER coverage](#) | [Change country](#) | [Log out](#)

## Printable version

OASIS ID: archaeol5-264269

### Project details

Project name	An Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample at Farnley Haugh, Corbridge
Short description of the project	In September 2016 Archaeological Research Services Ltd was commissioned by Construction Marine Ltd on behalf of Network Rail to undertake an archaeological strip, map and sample at Farnley Haugh, Corbridge, Northumberland. The archaeological works were carried out as part of emergency stabilisation works caused by a landslip on land north-west of West Lodge, Corbridge. Subsequent to the initial phase of work, in September 2016 an area measuring 1059m <sup>2</sup> was excavated along the edge of the previously excavated landslip area. Also carried out in September 2016 was the excavation of a single drainage trench which was monitored as part of an archaeological watching brief.
Project dates	Start: 05-09-2016 End: 08-09-2016
Previous/future work	Yes / Yes
Type of project	Recording project
Monument type	NONE None
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"Full excavation"
Prompt	Scheduled Monument Consent

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	NORTHUMBERLAND TYNEDALE CORBRIDGE Farnley Haugh
Study area	1059 Square metres
Site coordinates	NY 99906 63184 54.96320975521 -2.00146827146 54 57 47 N 002 00 05 W Point

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeological Research Services Ltd
Project brief originator	Northumberland County Council
Project design originator	Archaeological Research Services Ltd
Project director/manager	Reuben Thorpe
Project supervisor	Philippa Cockburn

### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive Exists?	No
Paper Archive recipient	Northumberland HER
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Report", "Unpublished Text"

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	An Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample at Farnley Haugh, Corbridge, Northumberland
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Cockburn, P.
Date	2016
Issuer or publisher	ARS Ltd
Place of issue or publication	Gateshead
Entered by	Philippa Cockburn (philippa@archaeologicalresearchservices.com)
Entered on	3 October 2016

## OASIS:

Please e-mail [Historic England](#) for OASIS help and advice

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Cite only: <http://www.oasis.ac.uk/form/print.cfm> for this page