

An Archaeological Evaluation at Offerton Grange Farm, Sunderland



Trench 1 overlooking the river wear

ARS Ltd Report No. 2009/147
May 2009

Ref: MON5843
Planning Application: 07/03764/FUL
OASIS ref: archaeol5-59285

Compiled By:
Daniel Amat
Archaeological Research Services Ltd
Baltic Business Centre
Saltmeadows Road
Gateshead
Tyne and Wear
NE8 3DA

Checked By:
Dr. Richard Chatterton
Tel: 01629 814540
Fax: 01629 814657
admin@archaeologicalresearchservices.com
www.archaeologicalresearchservices.com

An Archaeological Evaluation at Offerton Grange Farm, Sunderland

ARS Ltd Report 2009/147

May 2009

Archaeological Research Services Ltd

Contents

	Executive summary.....	4
1.	Introduction.....	5
	1.1. Location and scope of work.....	5
	1.2. Geology and soils.....	5
2.	Methodology.....	6
3.	Historical background.....	6
4.	Results.....	8
5.	Discussion.....	9
6.	Publicity, confidentiality and copyright.....	9
7.	Statement of indemnity.....	9
8.	Acknowledgements.....	9
9.	References.....	10

List of Figures

1.	Location of site.....	5
2.	Trench locations.....	11
3.	Trench sections.....	12
4.	Trench sections.....	13
5.	Trench 1.....	14
6.	Trench 1 section.....	14
7.	Trench 2.....	14
8.	Trench 2 section.....	14

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In May 2009 Archaeological Research Services Ltd were commissioned by Hopper Howe Sadler, on behalf of Mr. A. Coxon, to undertake an archaeological evaluation at Offerton Grange Farm, Sunderland. The work was carried out prior to the construction of a detached garage for the farmhouse, and the demolition of Ivy House and subsequent construction of two houses in its place.

Given the close proximity to areas of known archaeological importance, the archaeological potential for the study area was high. However the trenches excavated during the evaluation failed to produce any significant archaeological features or artefacts. It is therefore considered unlikely that the construction work proposed will disturb any features of archaeological importance.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and Scope of Work

1.1.1. In May 2009 Archaeological Research Services Ltd were commissioned by Hopper Howe Sadler, on behalf of Mr. A. Coxon, to undertake an archaeological evaluation at Offerton Grange Farm, Sunderland (Fig. 1). The work was carried out prior to the construction of a detached garage for the farmhouse, and the demolition of Ivy House and subsequent construction of two houses in its place.

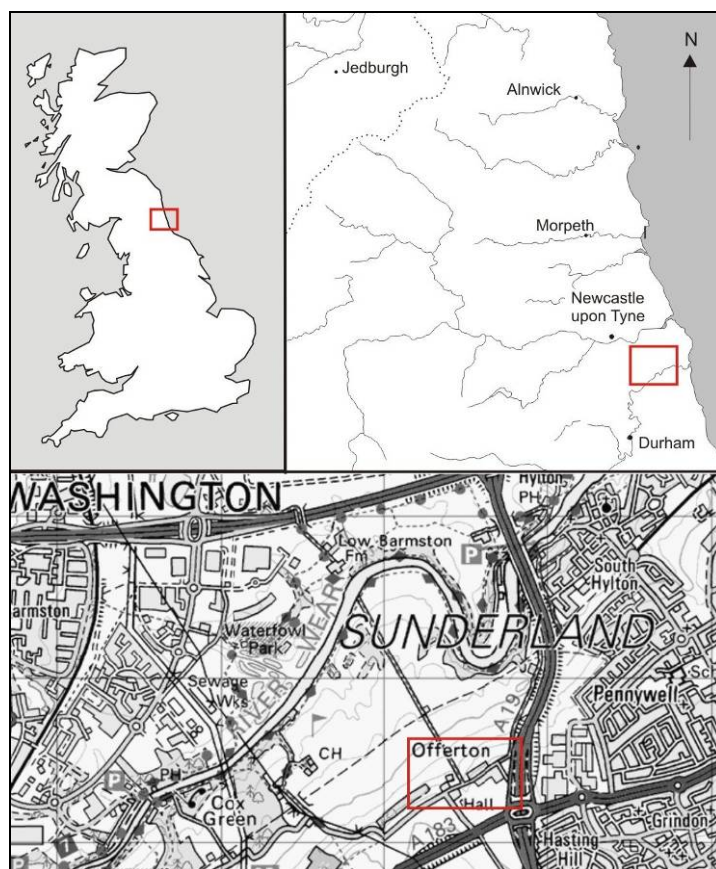


Fig. 1 Location of site.

Ordnance Survey data copyright OS, reproduced by permission, Licence no. 100045420

1.2.1. The site is centred at NZ 34592 55415 (Fig. 2) in the village of Offerton, just west of the A19, on land at approximately 70m aOD. The village of Offerton is Medieval in origin and is designated as an area of potential archaeological importance in the City of Sunderland's Unitary Development Plan (UDP).

1.2. Geology and soils

1.2.1. The solid geology of the site consists of magnesium limestone which is overlain by glacial till and clay with pockets of sand (British Geological Survey 2007).

2. METHODOLOGY

- 2.1. An archaeological evaluation was undertaken to establish whether any archaeological features were present within the proposed development area. The ground work involved the excavation of two trenches (fig. 2).
- 2.2. Trench one measured 4m in length and 2m in width. Trench two measured 5m in length and 2m in width. The trenches were opened by machine using a toothless ditching bucket. All machine excavation was undertaken under close archaeological supervision.

3. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

3.1. Prehistory

3.1.1. There is no evidence to suggest human activity within the study area during the Prehistoric period but there have been discoveries at nearby Grindon Hill and Hasting Hill. In 1905 a number of Prehistoric artefacts and inhumations were found at Grindon Hill. In addition a number of 'flints and scrapers' (HER 232) were discovered in 1905 by R. Paxton during the quarrying process and, in 1928, a large flake was found on the same site. The number of objects found by Paxton was not recorded but they are thought to date from the Mesolithic period. In 1947 two flint barbed-and-tanged arrowheads which date to the Early Bronze Age (HER 233) were also found in the quarry.

3.1.2. To the south-east of the study area lies Hasting Hill, where two Scheduled Ancient Monuments are located. The first Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM 32044) comprises a round barrow (HER 112), 230m west of Hasting Hill farm. It occupies the highest point on the hill at its western end, above a magnesium limestone quarry. The barrow was excavated by Trechmann in 1911 and ten burials (HER 482) were found interred in the barrow, along with pottery of Neolithic and Bronze Age date (HER 483) together bone and flint tools. The skeleton of an infant, aged 18 months at death, was also discovered (HER 481). Behind the head of the infant was a Food Vessel, a flint splinter and an ox tooth. The burial dates from the Bronze Age. An antler pick (HER 325) was also discovered just to the west of the barrow and is thought to be prehistoric. The second Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM 32070) includes a cursus (HER 110), a causewayed enclosure (HER 109) and round barrows (HER 111), which have been identified through aerial photography, lying 600m to the south of Hasting Hill farm. No upstanding earthwork remains survive but the evidence of aerial photography, and limited excavations, have confirmed that significant remains survive beneath the present ground surface. The HER records state that a flint scatter (HER 238) was found at the north-east corner of the area covered by the monument. Unfortunately the collection is now lost.

3.2. Romano-British

3.2.1. There is no evidence to suggest Romano-British occupation within the study area. Wearside was less Romanised than other parts of Britain, comprising only a militarised zone. The closest town at Corstopitum (Corbridge) was many miles away and the nearest definite known villa was just to the south of present day

Durham City (Dodds 1995). At this time Newcastle was only occupied by a station point and bridge (Pons Aelius). In contrast to other towns and villas however, military installations are to be found to immediate north of the study area at Arbeia (South Shields) and Congcangium (Chester-le-Street). A small bronze statue of the smith god Jupiter Dolichenus was discovered in Wearside but nothing has been recovered from the study area.

3.3. Early-Medieval

- 3.3.1. Surtees, writing in 1816, describes Offerton as a small village at the north-east extremity of the Parish of Houghton. The original spelling of the place name was 'Ufferton', which is Saxon in origin and literally means 'Higher Town'. Offerton is situated on a high brow of ground overlooking the River Wear.
- 3.3.2. The earliest known documentary evidence relating to Offerton appears from around 930 AD when King Athelstan gave 'South Wearmouth' and its appendage, which included 'Ufferton', to the see of Durham (Surtees 1816, 192).
- 3.3.3. After this date there is little information about the area. Patrick of Ufferton is mentioned in 1172, where he attested a charter from Germanus, Prior of Durham, to the Baron of Hilton and in 1327 John de Denum is noted to have died, seised of the vill which he held from John of Hedham and William de Yeland (*ibid.*). After Denum's death it is thought that it passed through some of the co-heirs of that line into the Strother family (*ibid.*).
- 3.3.4. By the reign of Henry IV two-thirds of the manor were vested in the Fenwicks and Loreynes. The Loreynes' share eventually passed to the Earl of Durham and the Fenwicks' share, which passed to the Lilburn's, belonged to the Marchioness by the time Fordyce wrote about the area in 1914. A portion belonged to the Middleton family after 1569 and then descended to Richard Wharton Esq., who sold it to Simon Temple Esq. It then passed to the Lambton's and by the time Fordyce was writing in 1914 it belonged to the Earl of Durham.
- 3.3.5. A chapel dedicated to St. Cuthbert is rumoured to have existed at Offerton but the only evidence for its existence comes from a single reference in an 'ancient deed' in the possession of John Hodgson, and is cited by him in a footnote. There is no trace on the ground for this building and no local tradition survives.

"An ancient deed...by which William Basset conveyed to John de Staindrop, called the Coroner, a messuage and lands in Offerton, in the county of Durham, mentions 'the chapel of the blessed Cuthbert in Vfferton', in that village" (Hodgson 1897).

- 3.3.3. St. Cuthbert's Well is also rumoured to have existed at St Cuthbert's Chapel. However, the only evidence comes from the same footnote by John Hodgson (1897).

3.4. Medieval

- 3.4.1. Salt was important in Medieval times and was being produced at Sunderland from at least 1511. In 1589 a mine was opened at Offerton in order to supply

coal for heating brine. There is very little evidence to describe events in the village during this period.

3.5. Post-Medieval

- 3.5.1. The district-parish of Penshaw was formed by an Order of Council, dated May 1838, and consisted of the townships Offerton and Penshaw, which formerly constituted a chapelry in the parish of Houghton-le-Spring (Whellan 1894).
- 3.5.2. In 1840, shortly after the death of the Earl of Durham, a committee was established to build a monument in his memory. Penshaw Hill was selected for the site of the monument, and the design of a Grecian temple, by John and Benjamin Green of Newcastle, was adopted. The foundation stone for the monument was laid in 1844, watched by over 10,000 spectators. Original plans were to roof over the pediment and to adorn the monument with an equestrian statue, but this never occurred. There are a number of earthworks around Penshaw Hill. It has been suggested that they are evidence of a possible Iron Age hillfort, but there is no documentary, cartographic or archaeological evidence to support this. Alternatively, quarrying on the hill in the nineteenth century may have caused the features. Local tradition suggests that the 'rings' were formed by the legendary Lambton Worm which coiled around the hill. The land in which the monument is situated is now the property of the National Trust.
- 3.5.3. It was not until 1967 that Offerton was added to the County Borough of Sunderland. Sunderland saw huge industrial growth, with the mining of coal and the glassworks among other industries, but when many of the coal pits were closed the area went into decline. Henry Thompson, who wrote about the area, including Offerton in 1976, describes how the villages of Durham were "in defense against the encroachments of the town of Sunderland, the more so since so many of the collieries have been closed down, tight corporate communities have been dissolving, and village life, as the miners and their families understood it, has been difficult, if not impossible to maintain" (Thompson 1976).

4. RESULTS

4.1. Trench 1

- 4.1.1. Trench 1 (Fig. 5) measured 4m in length and 2m in width at its base, and was orientated northwest – southeast. The trench was located to the east of Offerton Grange Farm cottage in the area designated for development. The stratigraphy (Fig. 6) of the trench consisted of Silty dark brown (10yr 3/2) topsoil (001) which existed across the trench with depths between 0.40m and 0.57m. Directly underlying the topsoil (001) was a layer of dark brown/ red (2.5yr 4/8) silty clay subsoil (002) which had stone inclusions. This subsoil layer (002) existed across the whole trench with depths between 0.79m and 0.58m. Directly underlying the subsoil (002) was a layer of natural yellow (10yr 8/8), sand and limestone (003) the depth of which continued beyond excavation.

4.2. Trench 2

- 4.2.1. Trench 2 (Fig. 7) measured 4m in length and 2m wide at its base, and was orientated northeast – southwest. The trench was located to the southwest of Ivy house in the area designated for demolition and redevelopment. The stratigraphy (Fig. 8) of the trench consisted of Silty dark brown (10yr 3/2) topsoil (004) which existed across the trench with depths between 0.40m and 0.50m. Directly underlying the topsoil (004) was a layer of dark brown/ red (2.5yr 4/8) silty clay subsoil (005) which had stone inclusions. This subsoil layer (005) existed across the whole trench with depths between 0.57m and 0.80m. Directly underlying the subsoil (005) was a layer of natural yellow (10yr 8/8), sand and limestone (006) the depth of which continued beyond excavation.

5. DISCUSSION

- 5.1. Given the close proximity to areas of known archaeological importance, the archaeological potential for the study area was high. However the trenches excavated during the evaluation failed to produce any significant archaeological features or artefacts. It is therefore considered unlikely that the construction work proposed will disturb any features of archaeological importance. It should also be taken into account that, had there been any archaeological features on the site originally, they may well have been disturbed during the construction of Ivy House

6. PUBLICITY, CONFIDENTIALITY AND COPYRIGHT

- 6.1. Any publicity will be handled by the client.
- 6.2. Archaeological Research Services Ltd will retain the copyright of all documentary and photographic material under the Copyright, Designs and Patent Act (1988).

7. STATEMENT OF INDEMNITY

- 7.1 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.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 8.1. Archaeological Research Services Ltd would like to thank all those involved in this project, in particular Jason Gibbons of Hopper Howe Sadler, Mr. A. Coxon of Offerton Grange Farm, and Jennifer Morisson, Tyne and Wear County Archaeological Officer.

9. REFERENCES

Institute of Field Archaeologists. 1995. *Standard and Guidance for archaeological excavation.*

Institute of Field Archaeologists, 2000. *Code of Conduct.*

Institute of Field Archaeologists, 2001. *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials.*

Petts, D. and Gerrard, C. 2006. *Shared Visions: The North-East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment.*

Hewitt, R. and Carey, C. 2007. *An Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Building recording at Offerton Grange Farm, Sunderland*

Websites

British Geological Survey	http://www.bgs.ac.uk/geoindex/index.htm
Northumberland Communities	http://communities.northumberland.gov.uk
Keys to the Past	http://www.keystothepast.info/
Roman Britain	http://www.roman-britain.org/
Heddon website	http://www.heddon.co.uk/

Appendix I: Figures

Fig 4



Fig. 5 Trench 1



Fig. 6 Trench 1, northeast facing section



Fig. 7 Trench 2



Fig. 8 Trench 2 southeast facing section

APPENDIX II: PHOTOGRAPH AND LEVEL REGISTERS

Film One: colour print

Shot No.	Description	Scale	Date	Name
1	Trench 1	1m	07/05/2009	D.A
2	Trench 1	1m	07/05/2009	D.A
3	Trench 1 northeast facing section	1m	07/05/2009	D.A
4	Trench 1 northeast facing section	1m	07/05/2009	D.A
5	Trench 1 southeast facing section	1m	07/05/2009	D.A
6	General shot	1m	07/05/2009	D.A
7	General shot	1m	07/05/2009	D.A
8	Trench 2	1m	08/05/2009	D.A
9	Trench 2	1m	08/05/2009	D.A
10	Trench 2 southeast facing section	1m	08/05/2009	D.A
11	Trench 2 southeast facing section	1m	08/05/2009	D.A

Film Two: B&W

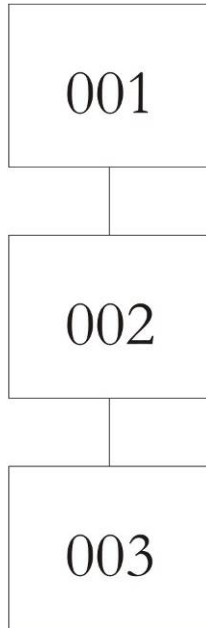
Shot No.	Description	Scale	Date	Name
1	Trench 1	1m	07/05/2009	D.A
2	Trench 1	1m	07/05/2009	D.A
3	Trench 1 northeast facing section	1m	07/05/2009	D.A
4	Trench 1 northeast facing section	1m	07/05/2009	D.A
5	Trench 1 southeast facing section	1m	07/05/2009	D.A
6	General shot	1m	07/05/2009	D.A
7	General shot	1m	07/05/2009	D.A
8	Trench 2	1m	08/05/2009	D.A
9	Trench 2	1m	08/05/2009	D.A
10	Trench 2 southeast facing section	1m	08/05/2009	D.A
11	Trench 2 southeast facing section	1m	08/05/2009	D.A

Levels Register

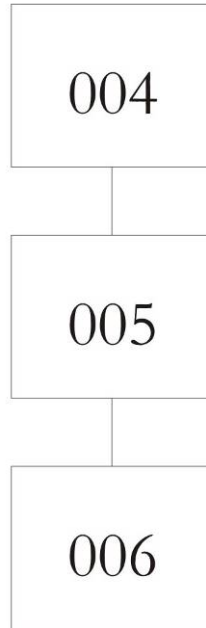
Level No.	Location & Figure	T.B.M.	B.S.	F.S.	Corrected
1	Trench 2. Fig. 2	93	24	16.3	100.7
2	Trench 2. Fig. 2	93	24	33.2	83.8
3	Trench 2. Fig. 2	93	24	16.2	100.8
4	Trench 2. Fig. 2	93	24	26.8	90.2
5	Trench 1. Fig. 2	93	24.8	20.8	97
6	Trench 1. Fig. 2	93	24.8	22	95.8

APPENDIX II: HARRIS MATRIX

Trench 1



Trench 2



APPENDIX III: SPECIFICATION

TYNE AND WEAR SPECIALIST CONSERVATION TEAM

SPECIFICATION FOR PRELIMINARY EVALUATION WORK TO RECORD SUSPECTED ARCHAEOLOGICAL DEPOSITS AT OFFERTON GRANGE FARM, OFFERTON LANE, SUNDERLAND SR4 9JL

Introduction

Grid reference NZ 3459 5543

Planning permission has been granted for an extension to the existing farmhouse, a detached two storey garage with work space above, demolition of Ivy House and the construction of two houses in its place.

The commissioning client will provide a site location plan and a plan showing the location of the proposed two storey garage with work space above and the two new build houses on the site of Ivy House.

An archaeological desk based assessment has been produced (Archaeological Research Services Ltd, July 2007). The appointed archaeologist must familiarise themselves with the results of previous archaeological work on the site before starting work.

The site lies within the presumed extent of 'Ufferton' early medieval village, which dates back to 930 AD, when it was granted to the see of Durham by King Athelstan. A chapel dedicated to St. Cuthbert is supposed to have existed at Offerton and a well, but the location is unknown.

Early medieval, medieval and post medieval remains may survive.

In accordance with PPG16 and UDP Policy B13:

THE CITY COUNCIL WILL SEEK TO SAFEGUARD SITES OF LOCAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE. WHEN DEVELOPMENT AFFECTING SUCH IS ACCEPTABLE IN PRINCIPLE, THE COUNCIL WILL SEEK TO ENSURE MITIGATION OF DAMAGE THROUGH PRESERVATION OF THE REMAINS IN SITU AS A PREFERRED SOLUTION. WHERE THE PHYSICAL PRESERVATION OF REMAINS IN THE ORIGINAL SITUATION IS NOT FEASIBLE, EXCAVATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECORDING WILL BE

REQUIRED {Sunderland City Council, Adopted Unitary Development Plan, 1998}

a programme of evaluation is required.

Research Aims and Objectives

The evaluation report should make reference to Regional and Thematic Research Frameworks.

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

See <http://www.algao.org.uk/Association/England/Regions/ResFwks.htm>

Ideally and where possible the evaluation should cross-reference its aims and objectives to national priorities, defined in SHAPE (Strategic Frameworks for Historic Environment Activities and Programmes in English Heritage), and the English Heritage Research Agenda 2005-2010.

Where appropriate note any similar nationwide projects using ADS, internet search engines, ALSF website, HEEP website, OASIS, NMR excavation index.

All staff on site must understand the project aims and methodologies.

Methods statement

Two evaluation trenches are needed to inform the Planning Authority of the character, nature, date, depth, degree of survival of archaeological deposits on this site. The excavation must be carried out by a suitably qualified and experienced archaeological organisation. The work will record and environmentally sample any archaeological deposits of importance found on the plot. The purpose of this brief is to obtain tenders for this work. The report must be the definitive record for deposition in the Tyne and Wear HER, and it

must contain recommendations for any further work needed on this site before development destroys any archaeological remains.

The commissioning client needs to be aware that the purpose of the preliminary evaluation is merely to ascertain if archaeological remains survive on this site and if they do, to determine their broad date, nature and function. Where archaeological remains are found in the preliminary trenches, and if these remains are at threat by the proposed development, further archaeological excavation and or a watching brief will be required before and during development work.

All staff employed by the Archaeological Contractor shall be professional field archaeologists with appropriate skills and experience to undertake work to the highest professional standards.

The work will be undertaken according to English Heritage Guidelines - Managing Archaeological Projects 2nd Edition ('MAP2') 1991 (www.english-heritage.org.uk/guidance/map2/index.htm) and Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) – The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide, Project Planning Notes and Technical Guides 2006 (www.english-heritage.org.uk/publications).

The work will be undertaken according to MoRPHE Project Planning Notes 2006 -

PPN3 – Archaeological Excavation and PPN6 – Development of Procedural standards and guidelines for the historic environment.

All work must be carried out in compliance with the codes of practice of the Institute of Field Archaeologists and must follow the IFA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations, Excavation or Watching Briefs as appropriate. www.archaeologists.net

Notification

The County Archaeologist needs to know when archaeological fieldwork is taking place in Tyne and Wear so that he can inform the local planning authority and can visit the site to monitor the work in progress. The Archaeological Contractor must therefore inform the County Archaeologist of the start and end dates of the Evaluation. He must also keep the County Archaeologist informed as to progress on the site. The CA must be informed of the degree of archaeological survival and of any significant finds. The Client will give the County Archaeologist reasonable access to the development to undertake monitoring.

PROJECT INITIATION

PROJECT DESIGN

Because this is a detailed specification, the County Archaeologist does not require a Project Design from the appointed archaeologist. However a health and safety statement and risk assessment, identifying potential risks in a risk log (see template in appendix 2 of The MoRPHE Project Manager's Guide) and specifying suitable

countermeasures and contingencies, is required to be submitted to the commissioning client.

The Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) – The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide 2006 contains general guidance on Risk management (section 2.3.2, Appendix 2).

Risk assessments must be produced in line with legislative requirements (for example the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999, the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Regulations 2002 and the Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations 2002) and best practice e.g. as set out in the SCAUM (Standing Conference on Archaeological Unit Managers) Health and Safety Manual <http://www.scaum.org/uk>

Detailed information on hazards and how to carry out a risk assessment can be obtained from the Health and Safety Executive (www.hse.gov.uk) and the local authority health and safety department. Specific guidance for land contamination and archaeology can be obtained from the Institute for Archaeologists (www.archaeologists.net), the Construction Industry Research and Information Association (www.contaminated-land.org) and the Association of Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Specialists (www.ags.org.uk).

See also Environment Agency, 2005 "Guidance on Assessing the Risk Posed by Land Contamination and its Remediation on Archaeological Resource Management".

The Archaeological Contractor must be able to provide written proof that the necessary levels of Insurance Cover are in place.

The Archaeological Contractor must detail measures taken to ensure the safe conduct of excavations, and must consult with the client's structural engineers concerning working in close proximity to the foundations of the surrounding buildings. The Client may wish to see copies of the Archaeological Contractor's Health and Safety Policies.

The Archaeological Contractor must maintain a Site Diary for the benefit of the Client, detailing the nature of work undertaken on a day by day basis, with full details of Site Staff present, duration of time on site, etc. and contact with third parties.

PROJECT EXECUTION

1) Archaeological evaluation

One trench will be excavated on the site of the proposed two storey garage to the north-east of the farmhouse. This trench will be 2m x 4m in plan at base. The trench must avoid the trees.

One trench will be excavated on the site of the two new houses. This trench will measure 2m x 5m in plan at base. This trench might need to be excavated after Ivy Cottage has been demolished. If it is excavated while Ivy Cottage still stands it must keep a safe distance away from the house. Ideally this trench will be excavated to the immediate west of Ivy Cottage in the grass, where archaeological deposits might survive in a better condition than under Ivy Cottage itself.

The approximate location of the trenches is shown on the accompanying plan.

Trench locations can be adjusted to avoid services or for practical or safety purposes.

Trenches can be widened if feasible in order to step the sides to reach depths over 1.2m where necessary, otherwise shoring will be required.

Trenches must avoid known services.

Trenches must stay a safe distance away from pylons and overhead power lines.

The commissioning client will advise of any ecological or biodiversity issues which need to be taken into consideration.

The commissioning client will advise of any protected trees which must be avoided by the evaluation. Damage to trees covered by a Tree Protection Order carries a substantial fine.

Trench positions should be accurately surveyed prior to excavation and tied in to the national grid.

The trenches should be excavated to the depth of natural subsoil if this can be reached safely.

Tasks

Hand excavation, recording and environmental sampling (as stipulated below) of deposits down to the depth specified above.

Any modern overburden or levelling material can be machined-off using a wide toothless ditching bucket under strict archaeological supervision and the remaining deposits are to be excavated by hand.

All faces of the trench that require examination or recording will be cleaned.

Excavation is to be carried out with a view to avoid damage to any archaeological features which appear to worthy of preservation in-situ.

Excavation is to be carried out by single context planning and recorded on *pro forma* context sheets. Features over 0.5 m in diameter can be half sectioned.

Environmental sampling (and where relevant scientific dating) are compulsory parts of the evaluation exercise. All tenders will give a price for the assessment, full analysis, report production and publication per environmental and scientific dating sample as a contingency.

Samples will be taken of bricks from any brick-built structures. The dimensions of the bricks and the type of bonding must be recorded.

Scientific investigations should be undertaken in a manner consistent with “The Management of Archaeological Projects”, English Heritage 1991 and with “Archaeological Science at PPG16 Interventions: Best Practice for Curators and Commissioning Archaeologists”, English Heritage, 2003. Advice on the sampling strategy for environmental samples and samples for scientific dating etc. must be sought from Jacqui Huntley, English Heritage Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science (jacqui.huntley@english-heritage.org.uk or 07713 400387) **before** the evaluation begins. See Appendix 1 for more information.

See Appendix 2 for guidance on procedures relating to human remains.

See Appendix 4 for guidance on Treasure Act procedures.

The spoil can be kept close-by and rapidly backfilled into the trenches at the conclusion of this work.

Recording

A full written, drawn (accurate scale plans, elevations and section drawings) and photographic record (of all contexts in black and white print and colour transparency with clearly visible graduated metric scale) will be made.

The finished report must include a plan and section of each trench (even where no archaeological remains are recorded) plus plans and sections through excavated archaeological features.

The plans will include at least two site grid points and will show section line end points.

The plans will depict building material (i.e. brick and stone) where a complex of structures has been found.

Where there is a complex of interlocking multi-phased structures, a phasing plan will also be included.

There will be elevation drawings of any standing structures such as walls.

Pro-forma context sheets will be used.

All deposits and the base of the trench will be levelled. Levels will be expressed as metres above Ordnance Datum.

Stratigraphy shall be recorded even when no archaeological features have been recognised.

A 'Harris' matrix will be compiled where stratified deposits are recorded.

2) Post-excavation and report production

Finds Processing and Storage

The Archaeological Contractor will process and catalogue the finds in accordance with Museum and Galleries Commissions Guidelines (1992) and the UKIC Conservation Guidelines, and arrange for the long term disposal of the objects on behalf of the Client. A catalogue of finds and a record of discard policies, will be lodged with the finds for ease of curation.

Finds shall be recorded and processed in accordance with the IFA Guidelines for Finds Work

Finds will be assessed by an experienced finds specialist.

Human and animal bone assemblages should be assessed by a recognised specialist (see Appendices 2 and 3 for more information).

Industrial slag and metal working debris will be assessed by a specialist.

Assessment should include x-radiography of all iron objects (after initial screening to exclude recent debris) and a selection of non-ferrous artefacts (including all coins). Refer to "Guidelines on the x-radiography of archaeological metalwork, English Heritage, 2006.

Brick dimensions will be measured and a note made of the bonding material.

If necessary, pottery sherds and bricks should be recommended for Thermoluminescence dating.

Finds processing, storage and conservation methods must be broadly in line with current practice, as exemplified by the IFA "Standard and guidance for the collection,

documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials”, 2001. Finds should be appropriately packaged and stored under optimum conditions, as detailed in the RESCUE/UKIC publication “First Aid for Finds” (Watkinson and Neal 1998). Proposals for ultimate storage of finds should follow the UKIC publication “Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage” (Walker 1990). Details of methodologies may be requested from the Archaeological Contractor.

Other useful guidance – “A Strategy for the Care and Investigation of Finds”, English Heritage, 2003, “Finds and Conservation Training Package”, English Heritage, 2003.

All objects must be stored in appropriate materials and conditions to ensure minimal deterioration. Advice can be sought from Jacqui Huntley of English Heritage (0191 3341137 or 07713 400387) where necessary.

PRODUCTS

The report

1. The Archaeological Contractor must produce an interim report of 200 words minimum, **two weeks after the completion of the field-work**, for the Client and the Planning Authority, with a copy for information to the County Archaeologist. This will contain the recommendations for any further work needed on site.
2. The production of Site Archives and Finds Analysis will be undertaken according to English Heritage Guidelines - Managing Archaeological Projects 2nd Edition ('MAP2') 1991 and Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) 2006.
3. A full archive report or post-excavation assessment, with the following features should be produced **within six months of the completion of the field-work**. All drawn work should be to publication standard. The report must include:
 - * Location plans of trenches and grid reference of site
 - * Site narrative – interpretative, structural and stratigraphic history of the site
 - * Plans showing major features and deposit spreads, by phase, and section locations
 - * Sections of the two main trench axes and through excavated features with levels
 - * Elevation drawings of any walls etc. revealed during the excavation
 - * Artefact reports – full text, descriptions and illustrations of finds
 - * Tables and matrices summarising feature and artefact sequences.
 - * Archive descriptions of contexts, grouped by phase (not for publication)
 - * Deposit sequence summary (for publication/deposition)
 - * Colour photographs of trenches and of archaeological features and finds
 - * Laboratory reports and summaries of dating and environmental data, with collection methodology.
 - * A consideration of the results of the field-work within the wider research context (ref. NERRF).
 - * Recommendations for further work on site, or further analysis of finds or environmental samples
 - * Copy of this specification
4. Three bound and collated copies of the report need to be submitted:
 - one for the commissioning client
 - one for the planning authority (Sunderland City Council) – this must be formally submitted by the developer to the planning department with the appropriate fee.

- one for deposition in the County HER at the address below. A digital copy of the report on CD is also required by the HER in a plastic case. Please do not attach this to the report.

The report and CD for the HER must be sent by the archaeological consultant or their client directly to the address below. If the report is sent via the planning department, every page of the report will be stamped with the planning application number which ruins the illustrations. The HER is also often sent a photocopy instead of a bound colour original which is unacceptable.

Publication

If significant archaeological features are found during the evaluation, the results may also warrant publication in a suitable archaeological journal. The tender should therefore include an estimated figure for the production of a short report of, for example 20 pages, in a journal such as *Archaeologia Aeliana*, the *Arbeia Journal*, *Industrial Archaeology Review* or *Durham Archaeological Journal*. This is merely to give the commissioning client an indication of potential costs.

Before preparing a paper for publication, the archaeological contractor must discuss the scope, length and suitable journal with the County Archaeologist.

Archive Preparation and Dissemination

The archive should be a record of every aspect of an archaeological project – the aims and methods, information and objects collected, results of analysis, research, interpretation and publication. It must be as complete as possible, including all relevant documents, records, data and objects {Brown, 2007, 1}.

The site archive (records and materials recovered) should be prepared in accordance with *Managing Archaeological Projects*, Second Edition, 5.4 and appendix 3 (HBMC 1991), MoRPHE Project Planning Notes 2006 PPN3 – *Archaeological Excavation*, “Archaeological documentary archives” IFA Paper No. 1, “Archaeological Archives – creation, preparation, transfer and curation” Archaeological Archives Forum etc., *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage* (UKIC 1990) and “Archaeological Archives – A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation” by Duncan H. Brown, Archaeological Archives Forum, July 2007.

Documentary Archive

The documentary archive comprises all records made during the archaeological project, including those in hard copy and digital form.

This should include written records, indexing, ordering, quantification and checking for consistency of all original context sheets, object records, bulk find records, sample records, skeleton records, photographic records (including negatives, prints, transparencies and x-radiographs), drawing records, drawings, level books, site note-

books, spot-dating records and conservation records, publication drafts, published work, publication drawings and photographs etc.

A summary account of the context record, prepared by the supervising archaeologist, should be included.

All paper-based material must at all times be stored in conditions that minimise the risk of damage, deterioration, loss or theft.

Do not fold documents

Do not use self-adhesive labels or adhesive or tape of any kind

High quality paper (low-acid) and permanent writing materials must be used.

Original drawings on film must be made with a hard pencil, at least 4H.

Do not ink over original pencil drawings.

Use polyester based film for drawings (lasts longer than plastic).

Store documents in acid-free, dust-proof cardboard boxes

Store documents flat

All documents must be marked with the project identifier (e.g. site code) and/or the museum accession number.

All types of record must use a consistent terminology and format.

Use non-metal fastenings, and packaging and binding materials that ensure the longevity of documents.

Copies of reports and appropriate drafts, with associated illustrative material, must be submitted for inclusion with the archive.

Material Archive

The material archive comprises all objects (artefacts, building materials or environmental remains) and associated samples of contextual materials or objects.

All artefacts and ecofacts retained from the site must be packed in appropriate materials.

All finds must be cleaned as appropriate to ensure their long-term survival

All metal objects retained with the archive must be recorded by x-radiograph (except gold or lead alloys or lead alloys with a high lead content and objects too thick to be x-rayed effectively e.t.c.)

All finds must be marked or labelled with the project and context identifiers and where relevant the small-finds number

Use tie-on rot-proof labels where necessary

Bulk finds of the same material type, from the same context, may be packed together in stable paper or polythene bags

Mark all bags on the outside with site and context identifiers and the material type and include a polyethylene label marked with the same information

Use permanent ink on bags and labels

Sensitive finds must be supported, where appropriate, on inert plastic foam or acid-free tissue paper. It is not advisable to wrap objects in tissue as the unwrapping could cause damage.

The archive will be placed in a suitable form in the appropriate museum (typically the Museum of Antiquities for Newcastle (stores in Bedson Building and at Team Valley) and Tyne and Wear Museums for the rest of Tyne and Wear (check with these institutions) with the landowner's permission. Contact Andrew Parkin at the Museum of Antiquities (0191 2228996) and Alex Croom at Tyne and Wear Museums (0191 4544093).

A letter will be sent to the County Archaeology Officer within six months of the report having been submitted, confirming where the archive has been deposited.

Digital Archive

See MoRPHE Technical Guide 1 – Digital Archiving & Digital Dissemination 2006.

SIGNPOSTING

OASIS

The Tyne and Wear County Archaeologist supports the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) project. This project aims to provide an online index/access to the large and growing body of archaeological grey literature, created as a result of developer-funded fieldwork.

The archaeological contractor is therefore required to register with OASIS and to complete the online OASIS form for their evaluation at <http://www.oasis.ac.uk/>. Please ensure that tenders for this work takes into account the time needed to complete the form.

Once the OASIS record has been completed and signed off by the HER and NMR the information will be incorporated into the English Heritage Excavation Index, hosted online by the Archaeology Data Service.

The ultimate aim of OASIS is for an online virtual library of grey literature to be built up, linked to the index. The unit therefore has the option of uploading their grey literature report as part of their OASIS record, as a Microsoft Word document, rich text format, pdf or html format. The grey literature report will only be mounted by the ADS if both the unit and the HER give their agreement. The grey literature report will be made available through a library catalogue facility.

Please ensure that you and your client understand this procedure. If you choose to upload your grey literature report please ensure that your client agrees to this in writing to the HER at the address below.

For general enquiries about the OASIS project aims and the use of the form please contact: Mark Barratt at the National Monuments Record (tel. 01793 414600 or oasis@english-heritage.org.uk). For enquiries of a technical nature please contact: Catherine Hardman at the Archaeology Data Service (tel. 01904 433954 or oasis@ads.ahds.ac.uk). Or contact the Tyne and Wear Archaeology Officer at the address below.

The tender

Tenders for the work should contain the following:-

1. Brief details of the staff employed and their relevant experience
2. Details of any sub-contractors employed
3. A quotation of cost, broken down into the following categories:-
 - * Costs for the excavation, incl. sub-headings of staff costs on a person-day basis, transport, materials, and plant etc.
 - * Post-excavation costs, incl. storage materials
 - * Cost of Environmental analysis and scientific dating per sample
 - * Estimated cost for full publication of results in an archaeological journal
 - * Overheads
4. An indication of the required notification period (from agreement to start date) for the field-work; the duration of fieldwork and the expected date for completion of the post-excavation work (a maximum of 6 months after completion of the fieldwork)

Monitoring

The Archaeological Contractor will inform the County Archaeologist of the start and end dates of the excavation to enable the CA to monitor the work in progress.

Should important archaeological deposits be encountered, the County Archaeologist must be informed. If further archaeological evaluation is required on this site, then the archaeological contractor must submit a written scheme of investigation for approval by the CA before extending the size of the trenches.

APPENDICES

1 *Environmental Sampling, Scientific Analysis and Scientific Dating*

This is a compulsory part of the evaluation exercise.

Scientific investigations should be undertaken in a manner consistent with “The Management of Archaeological Projects”, English Heritage 1991 and with “Archaeological Science at PPG16 Interventions: Best Practice for Curators and Commissioning Archaeologists”, English Heritage, 2003.

Aims of environmental sampling – to determine the abundance/concentration of the material within the features and how well the material is preserved, to characterise the resource (the site) and each phase, to determine the significance of the material and its group value, what crop processing activities took place on the site? What does this tell us about the nature of the site? Is there any evidence for changes in the

farming practice through time? How did people use this landscape? Can we place certain activities at certain locations within the site? Function and date of individual features such as pits, hearths etc. Are the charred assemblages the result of ritual deposition or rubbish? Is the charcoal the result of domestic or industrial fuel?

Advice on the sampling strategy for environmental samples and samples for scientific dating etc. must be sought from Jacqui Huntley, English Heritage Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science (07713 400387) **before** the evaluation begins. The sampling strategy should include a reasoned justification for selection of deposits for sampling.

Deposits should be sampled for retrieval and assessment of the preservation conditions and potential for analysis of biological remains (English Heritage 2002). Flotation samples and samples taken for coarse-mesh sieving from dry deposits should be processed at the time of fieldwork wherever possible. Sieving recovers fish, amphibian, small bird and mammal bone, small parts of adult mammals and young infused bones which may be under-represented otherwise. However it is noted that clay soils in this region make sieving difficult. Discuss the potential for sieving with Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science.

Environmental samples (bulk soil samples of 30-40 litres volume) will be collected by the excavator from suitable (i.e. uncontaminated) deposits. It is suggested that a large number of samples be collected during evaluation from which a selection of the most suitable (uncontaminated) can be processed. All tenders will give a price for the assessment, full analysis, report production and publication per sample.

The full 30-40 litre sample must be assessed by the laboratory, not just a small sub-sample.

Deposits will be assessed for their potential for radiocarbon, archaeomagnetic (guidance is available in the Centre for Archaeology Guideline on Archaeometallurgy 2001) and Optically Stimulated Luminescence dating. Timbers will be assessed for their potential for dendrochronology dating. Sampling should follow procedures in "Dendrochronology: guidelines on producing and interpreting dendrochronological dates", Hillam, 1998. All tenders will quote the price of these techniques per sample.

The following information should be provided with the environmental samples to be processed – brief account of nature and history of the site, aims and objectives of the project, summary of archaeological results, context types and stratigraphic relationships, phase and dating information, sampling and processing methods, sample locations, preservation conditions, residuality/contamination etc.

Laboratory processing of samples shall only be undertaken if deposits are found to be reasonably well dated, or linked to recognisable features and from contexts the derivation of which can be understood with a degree of confidence.

A range of features, and all phases of activity, need to be sampled for charred plant remains and charcoal. Aceramic features should not be avoided as the plant remains from these features may help to date them. Deep features should be sampled in spits to pick up changes over time. Part, or all of each of the contexts should be processed. In general samples should be processed in their entirety. All flots should be scanned, and some of the residues.

Pollen

Pollen samples can be taken from features such as lakes, ponds, palaeochannels, estuaries, saltmarshes, mires, alluvium and colluvium, and from waterlogged layers in wells, ditches and latrines etc. Substances such as honey, beer or food residues can be detected in vessels. Activities such as threshing, crop processing and the retting of flax can be identified. When taken on site, pollen samples should overlap. Your regional science advisor can advise on the type of corer or auger which would be most appropriate for your site. Samples need to be wrapped in clingfilm and kept

dark and cool. Make a description of the sediments in which the pollen was found, and send this with the sample to be assessed.

Forams and diatoms

Coastal or estuary sites (even those which are now well drained) are suitable for sampling for foraminifera. Diatoms can also be found on marine sites, but also in urban settings (sewers, wells, drains, ditches etc). They only survive in waterlogged conditions. These aquatic microfossils are used as proxy indicators of the former aquatic ecological conditions on site, changes in sea levels and temperature, salinity, PH and pollution. Forams are taken from cores, monolith tins or bulk samples. Diatoms are cut from monolith tins or cores or taken as spot samples.

Insects

Insects, which are useful as palaeoenvironmental indicators, survive best in waterlogged deposits such as palaeochannels and wells. They can provide information on climate change and landscape reconstruction as some species are adapted to particular temperatures, habitats or even particular trees. Certain insects can indicate the function of a feature or building (eg. Weevils, which were introduced by the Romans, often indicate granary sites, parasites will indicate the presence of particular animals such as sheep or horse, latrine flies survive in the mineral deposits in latrines, or in the daub of medieval buildings etc). Samples need to be sealed (eg. in a plastic box).

Industrial Activity

Where there is evidence for industrial activity, macroscopic technological residues should be collected by hand. Separate samples should be collected for micro-slugs (hammer-scale and spherical droplets). Guidance should be sought from the English Heritage Regional Science Adviser on the sampling strategy for metalworking features and advice on cleaning and packaging. Specialist on-site advice must be sought on identification of metalworking features. Slag and metal working debris must be assessed by a specialist. Scientific analysis (such as x-ray fluorescence, chemical analysis, metallography or scanning electron microscope) of slag can provide information on the melting temperature, chemical composition (is it iron, zinc, copper etc), microstructure (the type and shape of the crystals), physical properties (the hardness or viscosity), isotopic composition (strontium_87 or strontium_88 etc) and mineralogical composition. Guidance is available in the English Heritage "Archaeometallurgy" guidelines, 2001; "Archaeomagnetic dating", 2006 and "Guidelines on the X-radiography of archaeological metalwork", 2006.

See also Historical Metallurgy Society, 2008, "Metals and metalworking: a research framework for archaeometallurgy".

Buried soils and sediments

Buried soils and sediment sequences should be inspected and recorded on site by a recognised geoarchaeologist. Procedures and techniques in the English Heritage document "Environmental Archaeology", 2002 and "Geoarchaeology", 2004 should be followed.

Wood

Sampling strategies for wooden structures should follow the methodologies presented in "Waterlogged wood. Guidelines on the recording, sampling, conservation and curation of waterlogged wood" R. Brunning, 1996. If timbers are likely to be present on your site, contact a wood specialist beforehand. Pre-excavation planning – determine questions to ask, agree on a sampling strategy, allocate reasonable time and budget. Soil samples should be taken of the sediments surrounding the timber. Keep the timbers wet! Record them asap on-site – plan, photograph, record the size and orientation of the wood (radial,

tangential, transverse), any toolmarks, joints, presence of bark, insect damage, recent breaks, and if another piece of wood was on top of or below the piece sampled. Both vertical and horizontal positioning of wattling must be recorded. Wood samples can provide information on woodland management such as medieval coppicing, type of taxa (native or foreign), conversion technology (how the wood was turned into planks), building techniques and type of tools used.

Suitable samples should be submitted for dendrochronological dating. See English Heritage guidelines, 2004, "Dendrochronology".

Leather and organic materials

Waterlogged organic materials should be dealt with following recommendations in "Guidelines for the care of waterlogged archaeological leather", English Heritage and Archaeological Leather Group 1995.

2 Animal Bone

Animal bone can explore themes such as hunting and fowling, fishing, plant use, trade network, seasonality, diet, butchery, animal husbandry, food procurement, age structures, farrowing areas, species ratios, local environment.

Domestic animal bone was used in prehistoric and Roman cremation rituals.

Post medieval cattle bones – small cow bones invariably represent animals which produced high quality buttermilk for cheese. Big 'improved' cattle with large bones were produced for large quantities of meat and poorer quality milk. Large and small cattle bones are often found together on post medieval sites, usually with less of the small bones.

Animal bone assemblages should be assessed by a recognised specialist.

The specialist will need to know a brief account of the nature and history of the site, an account of the purpose, methods (details of sampling) for recovery of animal bones, and the main aims and results of the excavation, details of any specific questions that the excavator wants the animal bone specialist to consider, information about other relevant finds from the excavation (e.g. bone tools, fishing equipment, weaving equipment), specific information about each context that has produced significant quantities of animal bone (recovery method, phase, context type, position in relation to major structures, contamination by more recent material, some indication of the amount of bone (by weight or by container size). See "Ancient Monuments Laboratory Advisory Note, "Assessment of animal bone collections from excavations", Sebastian Payne, 1991 and "The Assessment of a collection of animal bones", S. Davis, n.d., Ancient Monuments Laboratory.

Fish bone – there was some herring exploitation in the early medieval period. Christian fasting from around 970 allowed fish to be eaten on Fridays which led to a huge demand for fish. There was an increase in marine fishing, fish trade and fish consumption (cod, haddock, ling, herring etc) around 1000 AD. Middens provide evidence of commercial fishing. There was a decline in freshwater fish (cyprinid or carp, salmon, smelt, eel, pike) from the eleventh century.

Smoking fish is a recent practice. They were previously air dried and salted.

Newcastle was a major port. Samples should be sieved to retrieve fish and bird bones along with small parts of other animal skeletons and young infused bones.

A crane bone was recovered from excavations at Tuthill Stairs, Newcastle – a rare find.

Herring bones are so small that they can only be retrieved by 2mm sieving.

Clay soils are difficult to sieve, hot water can help.

Acidic soils mean poor preservation of bone.

See English Heritage 2002, "Environmental Archaeology – a guide to the theory and practice of methods from sampling and recovery to post excavation", Centre of Archaeology Guideline 1.

Isotope analysis can determine where the fish were coming from – North Sea, Scandinavia, Newfoundland, Iceland etc.

There is an excellent reference collection of fish bone at York.

Fish bones should be archived to museums for future dating and isotope analysis where this is not undertaken as part of the post-excavation process.

www.fishlab.org

3 Human Remains

Human remains must be treated with care, dignity and respect.

Excavators must comply with the relevant legislation (essentially the Burial Act 1857) and local environmental health concerns. If found, human remains must be left in-situ, covered and protected. The archaeological contractor will be responsible for informing the police, coroner, local Environmental Health department and the County Archaeologist. If it is agreed that removal of the remains is essential, the archaeological contractor will apply for a licence from the Home Office and their regulations must be complied with.

Site inspection by a recognised osteologist is desirable for isolated burials and essential for cemeteries. The remains will be recorded in-situ and subsequently lifted, washed in water (without additives). They will be marked and packed to standards compatible with "Excavation and post-excavation treatment of cremated and inhumed human remains", McKinley and Roberts, 1993. After excavation, the remains will be subject to specialist assessment.

Analysis of the osteological material should take place according to published guidelines "Human Remains from Archaeological Sites, Guidelines for producing assessment documents and analytical reports, English Heritage, 2002.

Some of the potential benefits from the study of human skeletons – demography, growth profiles, patterns of disease, genetic relationships, activity patterns, diet, burial practices, human evolution. New scientific techniques available include DNA and stable isotope analyses.

Diseases which yield ancient DNA – leprosy, syphilis, tuberculosis, mycobacterium bovis (animal form of TB passed to humans when they shared a living space from Neolithic period onwards).

Cremation destroys the crown of the tooth so it cannot be dated (the closure of the cranium vault can be used in adults for dating instead). Cremation also fragments bone, distorts it due to lack of water, shrinks the bone, causes microstructural alteration and destroys organic components (so DNA analysis not possible).

The final placing of the remains after scientific study and analysis will be agreed beforehand.

Further guidance is available in:

"Guidance for best practice for treatment of human remains excavated from Christian burial grounds in England", The Church of England and English Heritage, 2005 (www.english-heritage.org.uk/upload/pdf/16602_HumanRemains1.pdf)

“Church Archaeology: its care and management”, Council for the Care of Churches, 1999

The Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Christian burials in England can provide free well-informed advice with consideration of relevant religious, ethical, legal, archaeological and scientific issues. Panel’s website:

<http://www.britarch.ac.uk/churches/humanremains/index.html>

or email the secretary simon.mays@english-heritage.org.uk

4 Treasure

Defined as:

- Any metallic object, other than a coin, provided that at least 10% by weight of metal is precious metal and that is at least 300 years old when found
- Any group of two or more metallic objects of any composition of prehistoric date that come from the same find
- All coins from the same find provided that they are at least 300 years old when found, but if the coins contain less than 10% gold or silver there must be at least ten
- Any object, whatever it is made of, that is found in the same place as, or had previously been together with, another object that is Treasure
- Any object that would previously have been treasure trove, but does not fall within the specific categories given above. Only objects that are less than 300 years old, that are made substantially of gold or silver, that have been deliberately hidden with the intention of recovery and whose owners or heirs are unknown will come into this category

If anything is found which could be Treasure, under the Treasure Act 1996, it is a legal requirement to report it to the local coroner within 14 days of discovery. The Archaeological Contractor must comply with the procedures set out in The Treasure Act 1996. Any treasure must be reported to the coroner and to The Portable Antiquities Scheme Finds Liaison Officer, Rob Collins (0191 2225076 or Robert.Collins@newcastle.ac.uk) who can provide guidance on the Treasure Act procedures.

Jennifer Morrison

Tyne and Wear Archaeology Officer
West Chapel
Jesmond Old Cemetery
Jesmond Road
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE2 1NL
Tel (0191) 2816117
jennifer.morrison@newcastle.gov.uk

Ref: MON5843
30th April 2009
Planning Application: 07/03764/FUL