Carsington Pasture Anemometer, Derbyshire.

Report on an Archaeologically Controlled Excavation

Testing of anchor point after installation

Report No. 2009/23

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Archaeological Research Services Ltd

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Executive Summary

In April 2009 Archaeological Research Services Ltd undertook an archaeologically controlled excavation on behalf of Carsington Wind Energy Ltd.. This work was carried out during the excavation of five trenches measuring 2.6m length x 0.33m width x 2m depth, these were required for the installation of anchor points and later erection of an anemometer.

The watching brief revealed no finds or deposits of archaeological significance during the excavation.

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1. Introduction

1.1 This document reports the findings of an archaeologically controlled excavation undertaken by Brian Marshall of Archaeological Research Services Ltd (ARS Ltd) on behalf of Carsington Wind Energy Ltd. The work was undertaken on land adjacent to Eniscloud Meadow Farm during the excavation of five trenches to facilitate the installation of anchor points, which will enable the erection of a wind anemometer. This work follows on from an archaeological evaluation undertaken adjacent to the site by Archaeological Research Services in January 2008 (Brightman, J. Burrill, C. Sandford, T. & Shakarien, J. 2008).

2. Location, Land Use and Geology

2.1 Carsington Pasture is located north-west of the village of Carsington, east of Brassington and adjacent to the High Peak Trail within the Civil Parish of Carsington (Fig. 1). The site is centred at OS Map Reference SK 25318 54377.

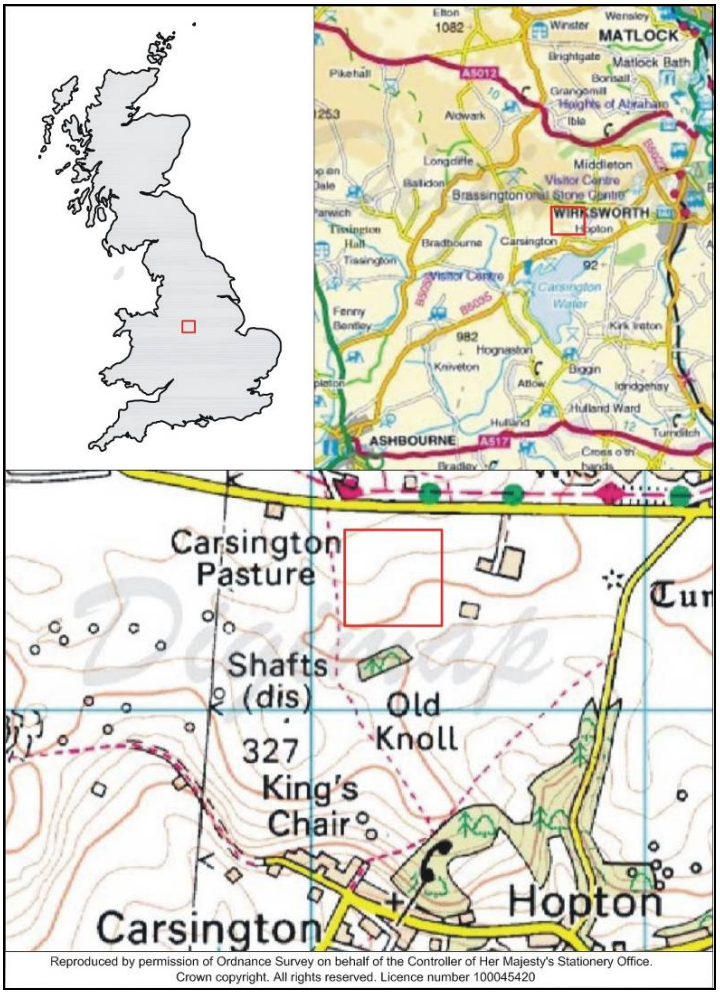

Fig.1 Location of the site at Carsington Pasture.

2.2 The underlying geology of the survey area is dolomitised carboniferous limestone belonging to the Bee Low Limestone formation (Rieuwerts 2007, 9.4). This

geographical area is commonly known as the White Peak. The ground cover of the site consists of upland pasture, but had been arable ground in the past.

3. Objective of the Project

- The objective of the controlled excavation is to ensure that any archaeological features encountered in the specified area are recorded and interpreted and, if at all possible protected and any significant archaeological artefacts collected and preserved.

4. Methodology

4.1 The five trench locations were set out by an engineer from DULAS Ltd who had been contracted to erect the anemometer mast. A marker post was centred at OS Map Reference SK 25318 54377, north was located and the centres of the trenches located at a 30m radius orientated NE, SE, SW and NW. The fifth trench was located on the SW axis 15m from the central marker post (Fig. 2).

4.2 Excavation was undertaken by machine using a 0.3m toothless bucket, removing the ground in level spits until the natural stratum was encountered. This was controlled throughout by a representative from Archaeological Research Services Ltd.

4.3 There was a requirement for 30 litres of each context to be sieved through a 10mm mesh, this equated to the sieving of the entire topsoil layer and the upper level of the natural stratum in each trench.

5. Excavation Results

5.1 The five trenches opened were the same dimension, measuring 2.6m length x 0.33m width x 2m depth.

5.2 The trenches were opened by machine with a toothless ditching bucket under the supervision of an archaeologist from Archaeological Research Services Ltd. The machine digging removed turf and then topsoil in level spits so that any significant archaeological deposits could be identified.

5.3 Brown silty sand topsoil (001) was consistent across all five trenches; this was excavated to a depth between 0.2m to 0.25m. (001) overlay reddish brown sandy natural subsoil (002) (Fig. 3), this was excavated until the trench depth was 2m. (002) was consistent across all five trenches. Sandy deposit (003) was revealed at 0.8m depth in trench four and natural limestone bedrock encountered at 1.7m depth in trench 5 (Fig. 4).

5.4 No finds or deposits of archaeological significance were revealed within any of the excavated context and as a result of the sieving procedure..

Insert Trench Plan

Fig.2: Plan of the site showing the trench positions.

Fig. 3: Natural subsoil seen over all trenches.

Fig. 4: Trench 5 fully excavated revealing Limestone bedrock

6. Conclusion

6.1 No finds or deposits of archaeological significance were revealed during the excavation process.

7. Publicity, Confidentiality and Copyright

7.1 Any publicity will be handled by the client.

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

8. Statement of Indemnity

8.1 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.

9. Acknowledgements

9.1 ARS Ltd would like to thank all those who contributed to the outcome of this project. In particular, Carsington Wind Energy Ltd, the engineers on site from DULAS Ltd and Steve Baker of Derbyshire County Council.

!0. Site Archive.

The site archive will consist of a paper and digital report.

Recipient Museum

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Fax 01298 79394
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Accession Number - DERSB: 2009.22.

References.

Brightman, J. Burrill, C. Sandford, T. & Shakarien, J. 2008. *Carsington Pasture, Derbyshire: Report on Pre-Determination Archaeological Evaluation Work*. Unpublished ARS Ltd report no. 2008/23.

Rieuwerts, J.H., 2007. *Lead Mining in Derbyshire v.1*, Landmark Publishing Ltd.

Appendix One

Context Register

Context Number	Location	Munsell Number	Description
001	Across all the trenches	Brown 10YR 4/3	Fine silty sand 0.2m to 0.25m depth. Inclusions of 35% very poorly sorted sub rounded and sub angular pebbles up to 0.04m. Topsoil.
002	Across all the trenches	Reddish Brown 5YR 4/3	Medium silty sand, 60% sub rounded and angular pebbles within the upper 0.3m. Occsional rounded cobbles up to 0.13m and limestone brash appear at a lower depth. Natural subsoil.
003	Trench 4	Brownish Yellow 10YR 6/6	Medium grained sand pocket within a central area of the trench. 0.8m below the surface and depth unknown. Natural deposit.
004	Trench 5		Limestone boulders encountered at 1.7m depth, largest size excavated 0.3m x 0.18m x 0.17m. Natural bedrock.