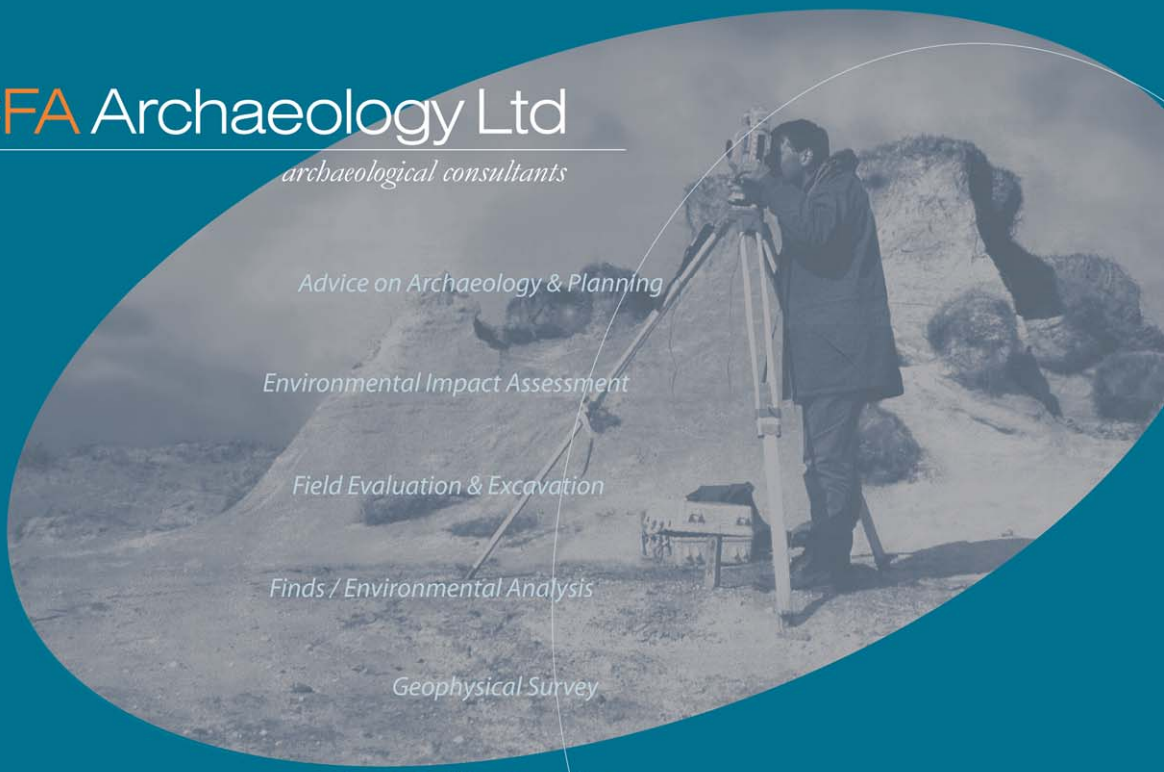
CFA Archaeology Ltd

archaeological consultants



Advice on Archaeology & Planning

Environmental Impact Assessment

Field Evaluation & Excavation

Finds / Environmental Analysis

Geophysical Survey

Historic Building Recording

Site & Landscape Survey

Interpretation, Design & Display

Stumpcross, Pontefract

Archaeological Evaluation

Report No. Y070/12

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This document has been prepared in accordance with CFA Archaeology Ltd standard procedures.

Stumpcross, Pontefract

Archaeological Evaluation

Report No. Y070/12

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Summary

An archaeological evaluation was carried out on land at the junction of Stumpcross Lane and Pontefract Road, Pontefract, West Yorkshire during October 2012. Twelve trenches were excavated, including two contingency trenches which were excavated in order to characterise a ditch. A ditch containing a sherd of likely prehistoric or Romano-British pot or was recorded, as well as undated ditches or continuations of ditches.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) on behalf of Prospect Archaeology between 17 and 22 November 2012. The CFA code and number for the project is PONT/2079.

This work was undertaken in advance of a planning application for a residential development and has been undertaken in accordance with a Specification issued by the West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service (WYAAS) in September 2012 (Appendix 5) at the request of Prospect Archaeology.

1.2 Site Location and Description

The proposed development area consists of 1.4ha of land at land at the junction of Pontefract Lane and Stumpcross Lane, Pontefract. West Yorkshire (Fig. 1, SE 4911 2409 centred). The site is bounded to the north by Pontefract Road, to the east by agricultural fields, the south by a railway embankment, and by residential housing to the west. The site slopes in a south-easterly direction; from 43 to 30m above the Ordnance Datum (AOD) before being terraced presumably in order to form the railway embankment to the south.

The solid geology of the area consists of ‘Calcareous Mudstone of the Edlington Formation, bordering the Magnesian Limestone of the Cadeby Formation (BGS 2012), with the soils of the area described as ‘silty loam’ land use as ‘suburban, arable and horticulture’ (NERC 2011).

1.3 Historical and Archaeological Background

The following summary is taken from desk-based research compiled as part of a ‘Cultural Heritage Assessment’ (Rosenberg 2012).

Although there are no known heritage assets within the Site, it lies in rich archaeological landscape, with heritage assets dating to the Neolithic, Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman periods all known nearby. These comprise both settlement and funerary / ritual sites and show the area to have been of great significance, particularly during prehistory.

The Stump Cross, the base stone of an 11th or 12th-century boundary marker, is a scheduled monument sits at the north-eastern corner of the site.

In more recent periods, the site has been agricultural land, and map evidence suggests there were buildings on the northern part of the site. At the time of the trenching the site was very heavily overgrown and there was a large amount of demolition debris and overburden in the northern and central parts of the site.

1.4 Previous Archaeological work

A Cultural Heritage Assessment (Rosenberg 2012) has been undertaken on the site. There has been no intrusive archaeological investigation, prior to this evaluation.

1.5 Aims

The aim of the evaluation was:

> 'to gather sufficient information to establish the extent, condition, character, condition, and date (as far as circumstances permit) of any archaeological features and deposits within the area of interest' (Appendix 5).

2. WORKING METHODS

All work was undertaken according to the Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct, and relevant Standards and Guidance documents (IfA 1996, 2001), and CFA's standard procedures and the WSI.

All machining was undertaken by a mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket under constant archaeological supervision. In the absence of archaeological remains the trenches were excavated to the top of natural geological deposits. Two additional trenches (11 and 12) were excavated at the request of WYAAS during a site meeting on 19 October 2012.

Trench positions were surveyed using industry-standard electronic surveying equipment and all trenches were backfilled on completion of the fieldwork.

2.3 Standards and Guidance

CFA Archaeology is a registered organisation (RO) with the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA). All work was conducted in accordance with relevant IfA Standards and Guidance documents (IfA 1996, 2001), English Heritage guidance (EH 2005 and 2008), and CFA's standard methodology.

2.4 Monitoring

The trial trenching was monitored by Jason Dodds, acting Senior Archaeological Officer for West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service, who was informed in advance of the works taking place and visited the site on 19 October 2012.

2.5 Archiving

The site archive currently consists of a folder of recording forms along with digital photographs, site drawings and AutoCAD files. The site archive will be ordered and stored according to national guidelines (Brown 2011) at Pontefract Museum. A summary of the results of archaeological works will be submitted for inclusion in OASIS.

3. RESULTS

Twelve trenches were excavated (Fig. 1). Of the trenches excavated, archaeological features were only recorded in trenches at the southern end of the site. The ground of the central and northern area was characterised by disturbed and made ground. Bioturbation was common in many of the trenches, reflecting the past landuse of the site as allotments. A summary of the results from all trenches forms Appendix 1; contexts are summarised in Appendix 2, a register of photographs and drawings form Appendices 3 and 4.

Trenches 1-7 and 9 were entirely devoid of archaeological remains, though a clear change in the superficial geology was noted from clay at the higher northern end of the site to degraded sandstone, with bands of limestone at the southern end (Plate 1). Modern pottery was noted along with other debris in the topsoil and occasionally in the subsoil layers.

3.1 Ditches

Ditch 003

The ditch was ‘v’-shaped, 1.5m wide and 1.0m deep and recorded in Trench 8 (Plate 2). The ditch did not appear in Trench 9 implying that it terminated or changed course. The ditches recorded in the contingency trenches (11 and 12) may be continuations of this ditch. The ditch was filled by sterile brown to orange-brown sandy clay (004). No finds were recovered.

Ditch 005

This ditch which ran downslope, north-east to south-west through Trench 10 (Plate 3) was 0.5m wide and 0.6m deep and may have been a naturally-formed gully, filled with what appeared to be in-washed stone mixed with some orange-brown clay (006). No finds were recovered.

Ditch 014

This ditch was 1.0m wide and 0.55m deep and ran roughly north to south through Trench 12 (Plate 5). This may have been a continuation of Ditch 003 and it contained a similar sterile brown to orange-brown sandy clay (015). A single sherd of pottery was recovered, suggesting a possible pre-Roman or Romano-British date for the ditch (See Section 3.2 below).

Ditch 016

This appeared to be the terminus of a ditch, though as it ran into the south-east baulk of Trench 12 (Plate 7). It may equally have been a pit. Quite square edged in plan, it was 1.0m wide and 0.68m deep and approximately 0.5m west of Ditch 014. It was filled by sterile brown to orange-brown sandy clay (017). No finds were recovered.

Ditch 018

This ditch ran roughly east to west and terminated in Trench 11 (Plate 4). It was 1.0m wide and 0.5m deep, filled by sterile stony-brown sandy clay (019). This may have been a continuation of Ditch 003; though its profile and fill were different, this may have been due to its forming a terminus at this point. Alternatively it may have been a naturally-formed gully.

3.2 Finds

C.G. Cumberpatch BA PhD

A single sherd of hand-made pottery weighing 5g was recovered from the fill (015) of a ditch (014). The sherd appeared to be tempered with shell fragments suggesting an origin in Lincolnshire. Hand-made shell tempered pottery has a very long history in eastern England which includes the later prehistoric, Roman and post-Roman periods. Wheel-thrown wares are known to have been in production as late as the 16th century (Young, pers. comm.) although slab and coil manufacture ended in the earlier medieval period. It is probable that this example is of pre-Roman Iron Age or Romano-British date but a post-Roman date cannot be ruled out.

Should further work on site produce similar finds it is recommended that the sherd be re-examined with that assemblage. The sherd should be retained with the archive.

4. CONCLUSION

Although the site is within a landscape with high archaeological potential (Rosenberg 2012), only on the southern edge of the site were archaeological remains recorded. It may be that these are the vestigial remains of an Iron Age or Romano-British field system, known to be a feature of the surrounding landscape. The focus of this field system may have been southwards of the site, though it would not have survived the construction of the railway. Alternatively, it may be that the sherd is residual and the relate to more recent agricultural landuse.

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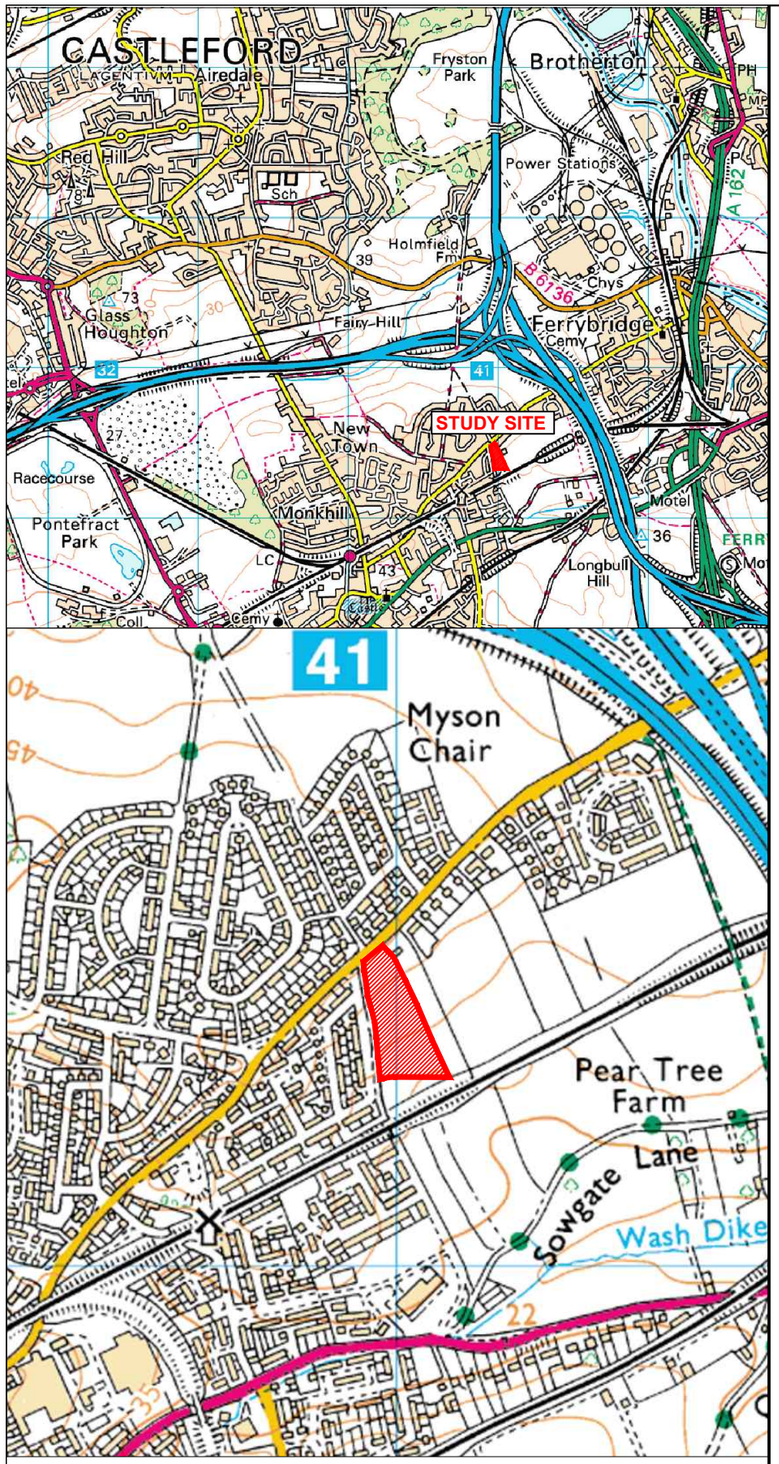
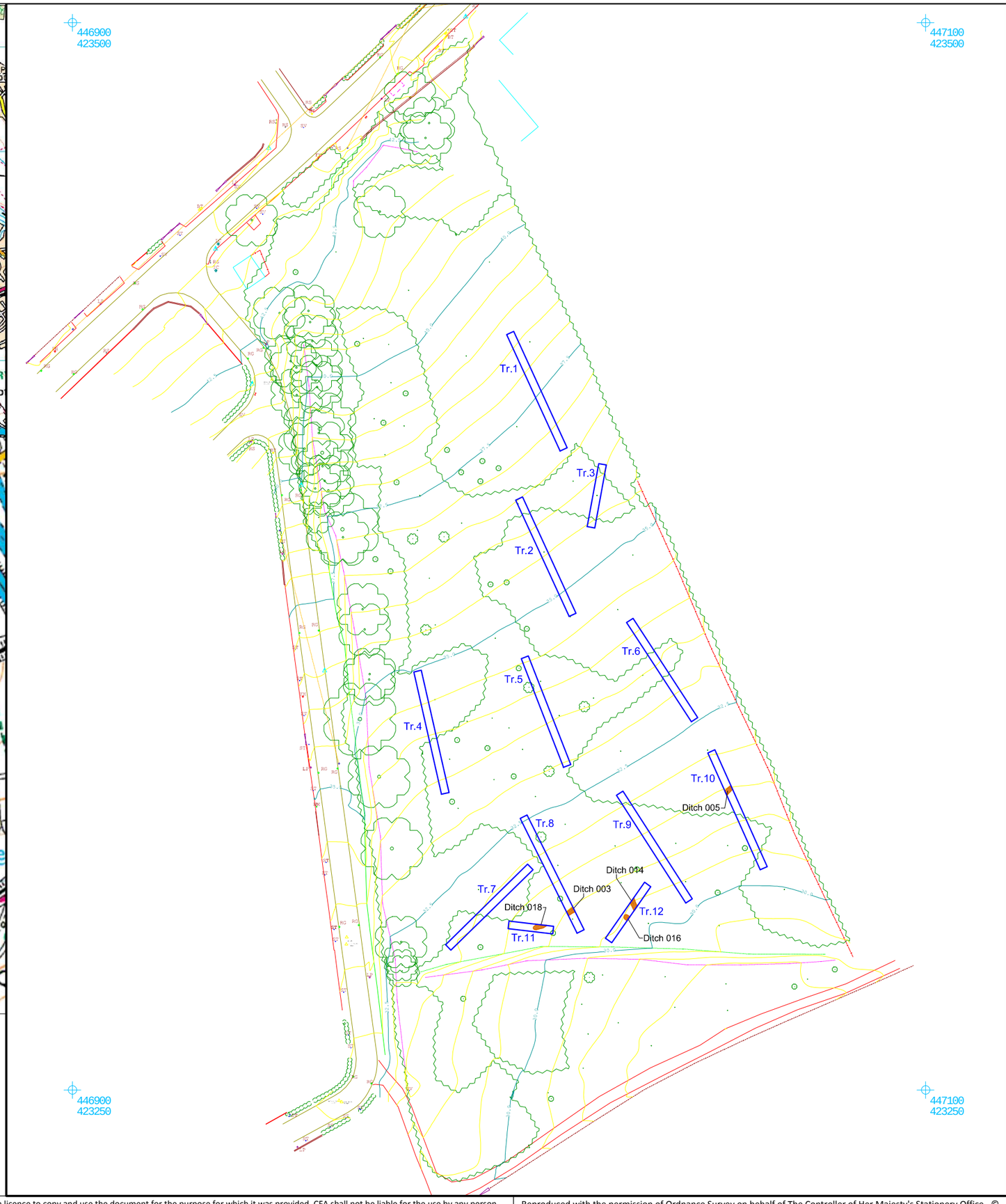
Figure 1





Key:

Evaluation Trench

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Fig. No: 1

Revision: A

Title: Site Location and Trench Layout

Project: Land at Pontefract Road, Pontefract

Client: Prospect Archaeology

Scale at A3: 1:1000

Drawn by: KH | Checked: LW | Report No: Y070/12

Plates 1-7

Plate 1a: Trench 9, Looking North-west

Plate 1b: Trench 4, Looking North-west

Plate 1c: Trench 12, Looking South-west

Plate 1d: Trench 14, Looking South

Plate 2: Ditch 003, Trench 8, Looking Northeast

Plate 3: Ditch 005, Trench 10, Looking Northeast

Plate 4: Ditch 018, Trench 11, Looking North-west

Plate 5: Ditches 014 and 016, Trench 12, Looking South-east

Plate 6: Ditch 014, Trench 12, Looking North

Plate 7: Ditch 016, Trench 12, Looking North-east

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Trench Summary

Trench	Comments
1	Orientated north-west to south-east, the trench was between 0.80 and 1.10m deep, with topsoil (001) between 0.20 and 0.30m and subsoil (002) about 0.60m thick. No archaeological remains were recorded and no finds recovered.
2	Orientated north-west to south-east, the trench was between 0.80 and 1.10m deep, with topsoil (001) between 0.20 and 0.30m and subsoil (002) between 0.40 and 0.60m thick. Here there was significant overburden and clear bioturbation. No archaeological remains were recorded and no finds recovered.
3	15m long and orientated north to south, the trench was 0.90m deep, with topsoil (001) 0.20m and subsoil (002) about 0.70m thick. No archaeological remains were recorded and no finds recovered. Other than plough marks no archaeological remains were recorded and no finds recovered.
4	Orientated north-west to south-east and sloping to the south, the trench was between 0.40 and 0.60m deep, with topsoil (001) 0.30m and subsoil (002) about 0.20m thick. No archaeological remains were recorded and no finds recovered.
5	Orientated north-west to south-east, the trench was 1.00m deep, with topsoil (001) 0.20 and subsoil (002) between 0.30 and 0.50m thick. No archaeological remains were recorded and no finds recovered.
6	Orientated north-west to south-east, the trench was 0.50m deep, with topsoil (001) 0.15m and subsoil (002) about 0.30m thick. No archaeological remains were recorded and no finds recovered. Bioturbation was noted
7	Orientated north-east to south-west, the trench was between 0.80 and 1.30m deep, with topsoil (001) 0.20 and subsoil (002) between 0.70 and 1.10m thick. No archaeological remains were recorded and no finds recovered. Bioturbation was noted
8	Sloping to the south and orientated north-west to south-east, the trench was 0.3 to 1.20m deep, with topsoil (001) 0.40m and subsoil (002) about 0.80m thick. A ditch (003) was recorded running east to west towards the southern end of the trench.
9	Sloping to the south and orientated north-west to south-east, the trench was between 0.60 and 1.10m deep, with topsoil (001) between 0.20 and 0.40m and subsoil(002) between 0.3 and 0.70m thick. No archaeological remains were recorded and no finds recovered. Bioturbation was noted
10	Sloping to the south and orientated north-west to south-east, the trench was 0.6 to 0.80m deep, with topsoil (001) 0.30m and subsoil (002) between 0.4 and 0.60m thick. A ditch (005) was recorded running north-east to southwest towards the northern end of the trench. disturbance, possibly related to a geotechnical test pits were recorded at the north of the trench.
11	This contingency trench was 10m long and orientated almost east to west. The trench was 1.20m deep with topsoil (001) 0.35m and subsoil (002) 0.85m thick. The terminus of a ditch (018) was recorded. This may have been the continuation of a ditch recorded in Trench 8 (003). Bioturbation was noted.
12	This contingency trench was 10m long and orientated north-east to south-west, sloping to the south. The trench was 0.50 to 0.90m deep with topsoil (001) between 0.20 and 0.50m and subsoil (002) 0.30 to 0.70m thick. Although a ditch was recorded (014) it was orientated north-west to south-east and could either be a continuation of Ditch 003 in Trench 8 or an entirely separate ditch. A pit or ditch terminus was also recorded a few metres to the southwest (016).

All trenches were 30m long unless stated otherwise

Appendix 2: Context Summary

Context no.	Trench/ Area	Fill of	Type	Description
000	Site	-	Deposit	Natural substrate; light yellowish-grey limestone-gravel
001	Site	-	Deposit	Topsoil; dark brownish-grey clayey-silt
002	Site	-	Deposit	Subsoil; firm reddish-brown clayey-silt
003	Trench 8	-	Cut	Cut of E/W running ditch
004	Trench 8	003	Deposit	Upper fill of Ditch 003
005	Trench 10	-	Cut	Cut of E/W running gully
006	Trench 10	005	Deposit	Fill of gully
007	Trench 8	-	Deposit	Topsoil deposit associated with Ditch 003
008	Trench 8	-	Deposit	Subsoil deposit associated with Ditch 003
009	Trench 8	-	Deposit	Subsoil deposit associated with Ditch 003
010	Trench 8	003	Deposit	Fill of Ditch 003
011	Trench 8	003	Deposit	Fill of Ditch 003
012	Trench 8	003	Deposit	Fill of Ditch 003
013	Trench 10	-	Deposit	Subsoil deposit associated with Gulley 005
014	Trench 12	-	Cut	Cut of ditch
015	Trench 12	014	Deposit	Fill of Ditch 014
016	Trench 12	-	Cut	Cut of pit/possible terminus
017	Trench 12	016	Deposit	Fill of Pit/ Possible terminus 016
018	Trench 11	-	Cut	Cut of ditch
019	Trench 11	018	Deposit	Fill of Ditch 018

Appendix 3: Photographic Register

No	Contexts/description	Facing	Conditions
1	Trench 9 following topsoil removal	South-east	Overcast
2	Trench 10 following topsoil removal	South-east	Bright
3	Trench 8 following topsoil removal	North-west	Bright
4	West facing section of Trench 8 showing Ditch 003	South-west	Bright
5	West facing section of Ditch 003	South-west	Bright
6	West facing section of Ditch 003	South-west	Bright
7	Trench 7 following topsoil removal	North-east	Bright
8	Trench 4 following topsoil removal	South-east	Bright
9	Trench 5 following topsoil removal	South-east	Bright
10	Trench 6 following topsoil removal	South-east	Bright
11	West facing section of Trench 10 showing Gulley 005	South-west	Overcast
12	Trench 3 following topsoil removal	North-east	Bright
13	Trench 11 following topsoil removal	South-east	Overcast
14	Trench 12 following topsoil removal	North-east	Overcast
15	Trench 1 following topsoil removal	South-east	Overcast
16	Trench 2 following topsoil removal	North-west	Overcast
17	South-east facing section of Ditch 018	South-east	Overcast
18	Post-Excavation shot of Ditch 018	North-east	Overcast
19	Post-Excavation shot of Ditch 018	North-east	Overcast
20	Post-excavation shot of Trench 12	North-east	Overcast
21	General shot of Ditch 014 and Pit 016 following excavation	North-east	Overcast
22	South facing section of Ditch 014	South	Overcast
23	West facing section of Pit 016	West	Overcast
24	Oblique shot of Pit 016	West	Overcast
25	General shot of Ditch 018 western terminus	South-east	Overcast

Appendix 4: Drawing Register

Drawing No.	Sheet No.	Scale	Plan/ Section	Description/contexts
1	1	1:10	Section	West facing section of Ditch 003
2	2	1:50	Plan	Plan of Ditch 003
3	1	1:10	Section	West facing section of Ditch 005
4	2	1:20	Plan	Plan of Ditch 005
5	3	1:10	Section	South-east facing section of Ditch 018
6	2	1:50	Plan	Plan of Ditch 018
7	2	1:10	Section	South facing section of Ditch 014
8	2	1:10	Section	West facing section of Pit/Possible Terminus 014
9	2	1:50	Plan	Plan of Trench 12 showing features 014 and 016

Appendix 5: Specification

WEST YORKSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGY ADVISORY SERVICE:
SPECIFICATION FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION BY TRIAL TRENCHING AT PONTEFRACT ROAD, PONTEFRACT.

Specification prepared at the request of Nansi Rosenberg of Prospect Archaeology on behalf of Barratt and David Wilson Homes (Planning Application Consultation)

1. Summary

1.1 A limited amount of archaeological work consisting of trial trenching is proposed to help establish the archaeological significance of the above site. Any work arising from the results of the evaluation will be covered by a further specification.

1.2 This specification has been prepared by the West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service, the holders of the WY Historic Environment Record
.

NOTE: The requirements detailed in paragraphs 6.3, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6 and 8.1 are to be met by the archaeological contractor **prior** to the commencement of fieldwork by completing and returning the attached form to the WY Archaeology Advisory Service.

2. Site Location & Description

Grid Reference: centred on SE 4911 2409

2.1 The proposed development site lies to the immediate south of Pontefract Road and is bounded on the west by Manor Park Avenue, which on it southern end joins onto Stumpcross Lane. To the south is a railway line which runs east to west. The eastern boundary of the site is marked by a tree line to the east of which is agricultural fields. To the north, west and south the site is enclosed by mature trees and overgrowth and the development site is itself covered by trees and overgrowth.

2.2 The underlying geology of the site comprises of Cadeby formation Dolostone and the soils are freely draining lime-rich loamy soils. The site is occupied by mature trees and very dense scrubland. This scrub would require clearing in an archaeologically sensitive manner prior to the trenching taking place and access to the development site. The site slopes from north (40m O.D) to the south (30m O.D.)

3. Background

3.1 A planning application for a housing development will be submitted to Wakefield Council by the Barratt and David Wilson Homes, and this specification has been compiled at the request of Nansi Rosenberg their archaeological consultant.

3.2 The Developer has been advised by the WYAAS that there is reason to believe that important archaeological remains may be affected by the proposed development and that an archaeological evaluation is required to establish the significance and the degree of archaeological recording that may be necessary.

3.3 This specification has been prepared by the WYAAS at the request of Ms. Nansi Rosenberg of Prospect Archaeology, acting on behalf of the applicants, to detail what is required for the evaluation and to allow an archaeological contractor to provide a quotation.

4. Archaeological Interest

4.1 The proposed development site is an area of unknown archaeological significance, however, the site is located immediately adjacent to the scheduled ancient monument of Stump Cross also known as Ralph's Cross which is the socket stone of a medieval wayside cross, possibly of 12th century date. The cross would have also marked the position of a medieval township boundary. The cross base is located on the southwest corner of Ferrybridge road and Stumpcross Lane, which forms the north western boundary of the development site.

4.2 Map regression of the proposed development site clearly shows that from the mid 19th century until today the development site has been utilised as open agricultural land, perhaps until more recent years when the land has been occupied by trees and overgrowth.

4.2 To the east of the south western side of the development site aerial photography from 1996 clearly shows crop marks of a number of ditched enclosures, associated track ways and field systems and pits. The two enclosures may form the internal subdivisions of a larger rectilinear enclosure. Although the crop marks have not been precisely dated, on the basis of their form they are likely to be either Iron Age or Roman in date. Given the previous land use of the proposed development site (open agricultural fields) it is possible that similar or associated features may be present and survive within the development site.

4.3 To the east of the northern side of the development site at 115 Pontefract Road ditches suggested to form part of a larger enclosure or field system of Iron Age or Roman date were discovered which also indicates that features from this complex may run into the proposed development site.

4.4 c.160m to the north east at 97 Pontefract Road during a watching brief a 14m length of ditch was discovered which contained 2nd to 3rd century Romano-British pottery.

5. Aim of the Evaluation

5.1 The aim of the evaluation is to gather sufficient information to establish the extent, condition, character and date (as far as circumstances permit) of any archaeological features and deposits within the area of interest. The information gained will allow the Planning Authority to make a reasonable and informed decision on the planning application as to whether archaeological deposits should be preserved in-situ, or more appropriately, be recorded prior to destruction (whether this be a summary record from a salvage excavation or watching brief, or a detailed record from full open area excavation).

6. General Instructions

6.1 Health and Safety

6.1.1 The archaeologist on site will naturally operate with due regard for Health and Safety regulations. Where archaeological work is carried out at the same time as the work of other contractors, regard should also be taken of any reasonable additional constraints that these contractors may impose. This work may require the preparation of a Risk Assessment of the site, in accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Regulations. The West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service and its officers cannot be held responsible for any accidents or injuries that may occur to outside contractors while attempting to conform to this specification.

6.2 Confirmation of Adherence to Specification

6.2.1 Prior to the commencement of *any work,* the archaeological contractor must confirm adherence to this specification in writing to the WYAAS, or state (with reasons) any proposals to vary the specification. Should the contractor wish to vary the specification, then written confirmation of the agreement of the WYAAS to any variations is required prior to work commencing. Unauthorised variations are made at the sole risk of the contractor. **Modifications presented in the form of a re-written specification/project design will not be considered by the WYAAS.** Any technical queries arising from the specification detailed below should be addressed to the WYAAS *without delay*.

6.3 Confirmation of Timetable and Contractors' Qualifications

6.3.1 Prior to the commencement of *any work*, the archaeological contractor **must** provide WYAAS **in writing** with:

- a projected timetable for the site work;
- details of the staff structure and numbers;
- names and *CVs* of key project members (the project manager, site supervisor, any proposed specialists, sub-contractors *etc.*),

6.3.2 All project staff provided by the archaeological contractor must be suitably qualified and experienced for their roles. The timetable should be adequate to allow the work to be undertaken to the appropriate professional standard, subject to the ultimate judgement of WYAAS.

6.4 Notification

6.4.1 The project will be monitored as necessary and practicable by the WYAAS, in its role as "curator" of the region's archaeology. The WYAAS should receive as much notice as possible, and certainly one week, of the intention to start fieldwork. This notification is to be supplied **in writing**, and copied to the relevant District Museum (see para. 9.1 below). As a courtesy, English Heritage's Science Adviser Dr Andy Hammon should also be notified of the intention to commence fieldwork (contact : tel. 01904 601983; email andy.hammon@english-heritage.org.uk). A copy of the contractor's risk assessment should accompany notification of intention to commence work.

6.5 Documentary Research

6.5.1 An archaeological desk based assessment has been produced by Prospect Archaeology and in order to gain an overview of the archaeological/historical background of the site and environs this document should be consulted prior to fieldwork commencing. In addition to providing a knowledge base for the work in hand, the results of this desk-based assessment may be incorporated into the contractor's report where they are considered to contribute to that report, but any extraneous material should be omitted. The results of this exercise should be used to inform the whole project. A copy is available at the HER. Alternatively a copy may be available from Prospect Archaeology. Please note the HER makes a charge for commercial consultations.

7. Fieldwork Methodology

7.1 Trench Size and Placement (Fig. 1)

7.1.1 The work will involve the excavation of 9no. 30m by 2m trenches and 1no. 15m by 2m trench, which can be machine-opened. The contractor should also allow for a contingency amount of 145 square metres. The use of the contingency will depend upon the results obtained in the initial trial trenching. The use of the contingency will be at the decision of the WYAAS, whose decision will be issued in writing, if necessary in retrospect after site discussions. Proposed trench locations are shown on Figure 1. The northern portion of the proposed development site is occupied by building demolition material and the western side of the site is occupied by a former cess pit and there is a sulphate/sulphide hotspot in the northern and western side of the site, the trenches below have, therefore been positioned to avoid these features.

Trench No	Dimensions (m)	Area (m^2)
1	30m by 2m	60m square
2	30m by 2m	60m square
3	15m by 2m	30m square
4	30m by 2m	60m square
5	30m by 2m	60m square
6	30m by 2m	60m square
7	30m by 2m	60m square
8	30m by 2m	60m square
9	30m by 2m	60m square
10	30m by 2m	60m square

Total site area: **14370m^2**
Total area of trenching: **570m^2**
Contingency trenching: **145m^2**

7.1.2 Given the current nature of the site (mature trees and scrub) the trench locations are representative, and can with the prior written approval of WYAAS be moved to avoid trees and areas of dense overgrowth. Te main function of the trench locations is to test for the continuation of Iron Age/Roman features into the development site.

7.2 Method of Excavation

7.2.1 The trial trenches may be opened and the topsoil and recent overburden removed down to the first significant archaeological horizon in successive level spits of a **maximum** 0.2m. thickness, by the use of an appropriate machine using a wide toothless ditching blade. **Under no circumstances should the machine be used to cut arbitrary trenches down to natural deposits.** Prior to the commencement of the evaluation an access for the machine to the site would also need to be created. All machine work must be carried out under direct archaeological supervision and the machine halted if significant archaeological deposits are encountered. The top of the first significant archaeological horizon may be exposed by the machine, but must then be cleaned by hand and inspected for features and then dug by hand.

7.2.2 No archaeological deposits should be entirely removed unless this is unavoidable in achieving the objectives of this evaluation, although **all** features identified are expected to be half-sectioned and the **full** depth of archaeological deposits must be assessed. It is possible that 19th-century structures may be present in northern areas of the site. These will be recorded in full and then removed in order to investigate the remainder of the sequence down to natural deposits. All trenches are to be the stated dimensions at their base.

7.2.3 All artefacts are to be retained for processing and analysis except for unstratified 20th-century material, which may be noted and discarded. Finds will be stored in secure, appropriate conditions following the guidelines in First Aid for Finds (3rd edition).

7.3 Method of Recording

7.3.1 The trenches are to be recorded according to the normal principles of stratigraphic excavation. The stratigraphy of each trial trench is to be recorded even where no archaeological deposits have been identified.

7.3.2 The actual areas of trenching and any features of possible archaeological concern noted within the trenches should be accurately located on a site plan and recorded by photographs, summary scale drawings and written descriptions sufficient to permit the preparation of a report on the material. The site grid is to be accurately tied into the National Grid and located on the largest scale map available of the area (either 1:2500 or 1:1250).

7.3.3 Except where otherwise requested, black and white photography using orthodox monochrome chemical development should be used. Film should be no faster than ISO400. Slower films should be used where possible as their smaller grain size yields higher definition images. Technical Pan (ISO 25), Pan-F (ISO50), FP4 (ISO125) and HP5 (ISO400) are recommended. The use of dye-based films such as Ilford XP2 and Kodak T40CN is unacceptable due to poor archiving qualities. Black and white photography should be supplemented by colour photography; this should be in transparency format (i.e. slides or digital photography as an acceptable alternative, see paragraph 7.3.4 below).

7.3.4 Digital photography: as an alternative for colour slide photography, good quality digital photography may be supplied, using cameras with a minimum resolution of 4 megapixels. Note that conventional black and white print photography is still required and constitutes the permanent record. Digital images will only be acceptable as an

alternative to colour slide photography if each image is supplied in three file formats (as a RAW data file, a DNG file and as a JPEG file). The contractor must include metadata embedded in the DNG file. The metadata must include the following: the commonly used name for the site being photographed, the relevant centred OS grid coordinates for the site to at least six figures, the relevant township name, the date of photograph, the subject of the photograph, the direction of shot and the name of the organisation taking the photograph. **Any digital images are to be supplied to WYAAS on gold CDs by the archaeological contractor accompanying the hard copy of the report.**

7.4 Use of Metal Detectors on Site

7.4.1 Spoil heaps are to be scanned for both ferrous and non-ferrous metal artefacts using a metal detector capable of making this discrimination, operated by an experienced metal detector user (if necessary, operating under the supervision of the contracting archaeologist). Modern artefacts are to be noted but not retained (19th-century material and earlier should be retained.)

7.4.2 If a non-professional archaeologist is to be used to carry out the metal-detecting, a formal agreement of their position as a sub-contractor working under direction must be agreed in advance of their use on site. This formal agreement will apply whether they are paid or not. To avoid financial claims under the Treasure Act a suggested wording for this formal agreement with the metal detectorist is: "In the process of working on the archaeological investigation at [*location of site*] between the dates of [*insert dates*], [*name of person contributing to project*] is working under direction or permission of [*name of archaeological organisation*] and hereby waives all rights to rewards for objects discovered that could otherwise be payable under the Treasure Act 1996."

7.5 Environmental Sampling Strategy

7.5.1 Bulk samples must be taken from **all** securely stratified deposits using a strategy which combines systematic and judgement sampling, but which also follows the methodologies outlined in the English Heritage (2011) 'Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation (Second Edition)' guidance.

7.5.2 Samples for scientific dating (radiocarbon dating, archaeomagnetic dating, dendrochrology etc.) should be taken if suitable material is encountered during the excavation. The English Heritage Science Advisor should be consulted (Dr Andy Hammon, tel.: 01904 601983, email: andy.hammon@english-heritage.org.uk) and provision should be made for an appropriate specialist(s) to visit the site, take samples and discuss the sampling strategy, if necessary.

7.6 Conservation Strategy

7.6.1 A conservation strategy must be developed in collaboration with a recognised laboratory. All finds must be assessed in order to recover information that will contribute to an understanding of their deterioration and hence preservation potential, as well as identifying potential for further investigation. Furthermore, all finds must be stabilised and packaged in accordance with the requirements of the receiving museum. As a guiding principle only artefacts of a “displayable” quality would warrant full conservation, but metalwork and coinage from stratified contexts

would be expected to be X-rayed if necessary, and conservation costs should also be included as a contingency.

7.7 Location of Services, etc.

7.7.1 The archaeological contractors will be responsible for locating any drainage pipes, service pipes, cables *etc*. which may cross any of the trench lines, and for taking the necessary measures to avoid disturbing such services.

7.8 Human Remains

7.8.1 Any human remains that are discovered must initially be left *in-situ*, covered and protected. WYAAS will be notified at the earliest opportunity. If removal is necessary the remains must be excavated archaeologically in accordance with the *Guidance for Best Practice for Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds in England* published by English Heritage (2005), a valid Ministry of Justice licence and any local environmental health regulations.

7.9 Treasure Act

7.9.1 The terms of the Treasure Act 1996, as amended, must be followed with regard to any finds that might fall within its purview. Any finds must be removed to a safe place and reported to the local coroner as required by the procedures as laid down in the "Code of Practice". Where removal cannot be effected on the same working day as the discovery, suitable security measures must be taken to protect the finds from theft.

8. Monitoring

8.1 The representative of the WYAAS will be afforded access to the site at any reasonable time. It is usual practice that the visit is arranged in advance, but this is not always feasible. The WYAAS' representative will be provided with a site tour and an overview of the site by the senior archaeologist present and should be afforded the opportunity to view all trenches, any finds made that are still on site, and any records not in immediate use. It is anticipated that the records of an exemplar context that has previously been fully recorded will be examined. Any observed deficiencies during the site visit are to be made good to the satisfaction of the Advisory Service's representative, by the next agreed site meeting. Access is also to be afforded at any reasonable time to English Heritage's Archaeological Science Advisor.

8.2 Please note that WYAAS now make a charge for site monitoring visits. An invoice will be raised on the archaeological contractor. One monitoring visit will be charged for this project. Please contact us for the current charge.

9. Archive Deposition

9.1 Before commencing any fieldwork, the archaeological contractor must contact the relevant District museum archaeological curator to determine the museum's requirements for the deposition of an excavation archive. In this case the contact is David Evans (Wakefield Council Museum and Arts), Pontefract Museum, 5 Salter

Row, Pontefract, WF8 1BA; telephone: 01977 722760; Keeper of Archaeology. This deposition should be confirmed in writing by the archaeological contractor; this correspondence is to be copied to the WYAAS.

9.2 It is the policy of Wakefield Museum to accept complete excavation archives, including primary site records and research archives and finds, from all excavations carried out in the District that it serves.

9.3 It is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to endeavour to obtain consent of the landowner, in writing, to the deposition of finds with Wakefield Museum

9.4 It is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to meet Wakefield Museum's' requirements with regard to the preparation of excavation archives for deposition.

10. Unexpectedly Significant or Complex Discoveries

10.1 Should there be unexpectedly significant or complex discoveries made that warrant, in the professional judgement of the archaeologist on site, more detailed recording than is appropriate within the terms of this specification, then the archaeological contractor should urgently contact the WYAAS with the relevant information to enable them to resolve the matter with the developer.

11. Post-Excavation Analysis and Reporting

11.1 Finds and Samples

11.1.1 On completion of the fieldwork, any samples taken shall be processed and any finds shall be cleaned, identified, assessed/analysed, dated (if possible), marked (if appropriate) and properly packed and stored in accordance with the requirements of national guidelines.

11.1.2 Samples should be processed for the recovery of artefactual material, animal/fish/human bones, industrial residues, shell, molluscs, charcoal and mineralised plant remains as a minimum. 'Specialist' samples (e.g. monoliths, cores, plant/invertebrate macrofossils) should be processed separately as appropriate.

11.1.3 Material suitable for scientific dating (e.g. charcoal) should be identified to species and assessed for suitability by an environmental specialist prior to submission to a dating laboratory. Any human remains submitted for C14 dating should also have carbon (delta 13C) and nitrogen isotope analysis carried out by the radiocarbon laboratory.

11.1.4 All finds and biological material must be analysed by a qualified and experienced specialist.

11.1.5 Following identification, finds of 20th-century date should be noted, quantified and summarily described, but can then be discarded if appropriate. All finds which are of 19th century or earlier date should be retained and archived.

11.2 Field Archive

11.2.1 A fully indexed field archive shall be compiled consisting of all primary written documents, plans, sections, photographic negatives and a complete set of labelled photographic prints/slides. Standards for archive compilation and transfer should conform to those outlined in Archaeological Archives – a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation (Archaeological Archives Forum, 2007). An index to the field archive is to be deposited with the West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service (preferably as an appendix in the report).

11.2.2 Prints may be executed digitally from scanned versions of the film negatives, and may be manipulated to improve print quality (but **not** in a manner which alters detail or perspective). **All digital prints, including those presented in the report, must be made on paper and with inks which are certified against fading or other deterioration for a period of 75 years or more when used in combination. If digital printing is employed, the contractor must supply details of the paper/inks used in writing to the WY Archaeology Advisory Service, with supporting documentation indicating their archival stability/durability.** Written confirmation that the materials are acceptable must have been received from the WYAAS prior to the commencement of work on site.

11.2.3 The original archive is to accompany the deposition of any finds, providing the landowner agrees to the deposition of finds in a publicly accessible archive (see para. 9.4 above). In the absence of this agreement the field archive (less finds) is to be deposited with the West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service.

11.3 Report Format and Content

11.3.1 A report should be produced, which should include background information on the need for the project, a description of the methodology employed, and a full description and interpretation of results produced. It is not envisaged that the report is likely to be published, but it should be produced with sufficient care and attention to detail to be of academic use to future researchers.

11.3.2 Location plans should be produced at a scale which enables easy site identification and which depicts the full extent of the site investigated (a scale of 1:50,000 is not regarded as appropriate unless accompanied by a more detailed plan or plans). Site plans should be at an appropriate scale showing trench layout (as dug), features located and, where possible, predicted archaeological deposits. Upon completion of each evaluation trench all sections containing archaeological features will be drawn. Section drawings (at a minimum scale of 1:20) must include heights O.D. Plans (at a minimum scale of 1:50) must include O.D. spot heights for all principal strata and any features. Where no archaeological deposits are encountered at least one long section of each trench will be drawn.

11.3.3 Artefact analysis is to include the production of a descriptive catalogue, quantification by context and discussion/interpretation if warranted, with finds critical for dating and interpretation illustrated.

11.3.4 Environmental analysis is to include identification of the remains, quantification by context, discussion/interpretation if warranted, and a description of the processing methodology. Radiocarbon results must be presented in full (laboratory sample number, conventional radiocarbon age, delta C13 value,

calibration programme). Copies of the laboratory-issued dating certificates must be included as an appendix to the report.

11.3.5 Details of the style and format of the report are to be determined by the archaeological contractor, but should include a full bibliography, a quantified index to the site archive, and as an appendix, a copy of this specification.

11.4 Summary for Publication

11.4.1 The attached summary sheet should be completed and submitted to the WYAAS for inclusion in the summary of archaeological work in West Yorkshire published on WYAAS' website.

11.5 Publicity

11.5.1 If the project is to be publicised in any way (including media releases, publications etc.), then it is expected that the WYAAS will be given the opportunity to consider whether it wishes its collaborative role to be acknowledged, and if so, the form of words used will be at the WYAAS' discretion.

11.6 Consideration of Appropriate Mitigation Strategy

11.6.1 The report should not give a judgement on whether preservation or further investigation is considered appropriate, but should provide an interpretation of results, placing them in a local and regional, and if appropriate, national context. However, a client may wish to separately commission the contractor's view as to an appropriate treatment of the resource identified.

11.7 Report Submission and Deposition with the WY HER

11.7.1 **A hard copy of the report (plus a digital copy on gold disk) is to be supplied directly to the WYAAS, in a timely manner to allow further work, if necessary, to be scheduled and the planning application to be determined in an informed manner, and certainly within a period of two months following completion of fieldwork** so as not to delay a planning decision to be made, unless specialist reports are awaited. In the latter case a revised date should be agreed with the WYAAS. Completion of this project and advice from WYAAS on an appropriate mitigation strategy are dependant upon receipt by WYAAS of a satisfactory report which has been prepared in accordance with this specification. Any comments made by WYAAS in response to the submission of an unsatisfactory report will be taken into account and will result in the reissue of a suitably edited report to all parties, within a timescale which has been agreed with WYAAS.

11.7.2 The report will be supplied on the understanding that it will be added to the West Yorkshire Historic Environment Record where it will be publicly accessible once deposited with the WYAAS unless confidentiality is explicitly requested, in which case it will become publicly accessible six months after deposition.

11.7.3 A copy of the final report (in .pdf format) shall also be supplied to English Heritage's Science Advisor (Andy Hammon, English Heritage, 37 Tanner Row, York Y01 6WP).

11.7.4 Copyright - Please note that by depositing this report, the contractor gives permission for the material presented within the document to be used by the WYAAS, in perpetuity, although The Contractor retains the right to be identified as the author of all project documentation and reports as specified in the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act* 1988 (chapter IV, section 79). The permission will allow the WYAAS to reproduce material, including for non-commercial use by third parties, with the copyright owner suitably acknowledged.

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

12. General Considerations

12.1 Authorised Alterations to Specification by Contractor

12.1.1 It should be noted that this specification is based upon records available in the West Yorkshire Historic Environment Record and on a brief examination of the site by the WYAAS. Archaeological contractors submitting tenders should carry out an inspection of the site prior to submission. If, on first visiting the site or at any time during the course of the recording exercise, it appears in the archaeologist's professional judgement that:

i) a part or the whole of the site is not amenable to evaluation as detailed above, and/or
ii) an alternative approach may be more appropriate or likely to produce more informative results,

then it is expected that the archaeologist will contact the WYAAS as a matter of urgency. If contractors have not yet been appointed, any variations which the WYAAS considers to be justifiable on archaeological grounds will be incorporated into a revised specification, which will then be re-issued to the developer for redistribution to the tendering contractors. If an appointment has already been made and site work is ongoing, the WYAAS will resolve the matter in liaison with the developer and the Local Planning Authority.

12. 2 Unauthorised Alterations to Specification by Contractor

12.2.1 It is the archaeological contractor's responsibility to ensure that they have obtained the WYAAS' consent in writing to any variation of the specification prior to the commencement of on-site work or (where applicable) prior to the finalisation of the tender. Unauthorised variations may result in the WYAAS being unable to recommend determination of the planning application to the Local Planning Officer

based on the archaeological information available and are therefore made solely at the risk of the contractor.

12.3 Technical Queries

12.3.1 Similarly, any technical queries arising from the specification detailed above, should be addressed to the WYAAS without delay.

12.4 Valid Period of Specification

12.4.1 This specification is valid for a period of one year from date of issue. After that time it may need to be revised to take into account new discoveries, changes in policy or the introduction of new working practices or techniques.

Jason Dodds **September/2012**
West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service

WY Historic Environment Record
West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service
Registry of Deeds
Newstead Road
Wakefield
WF1 2DE

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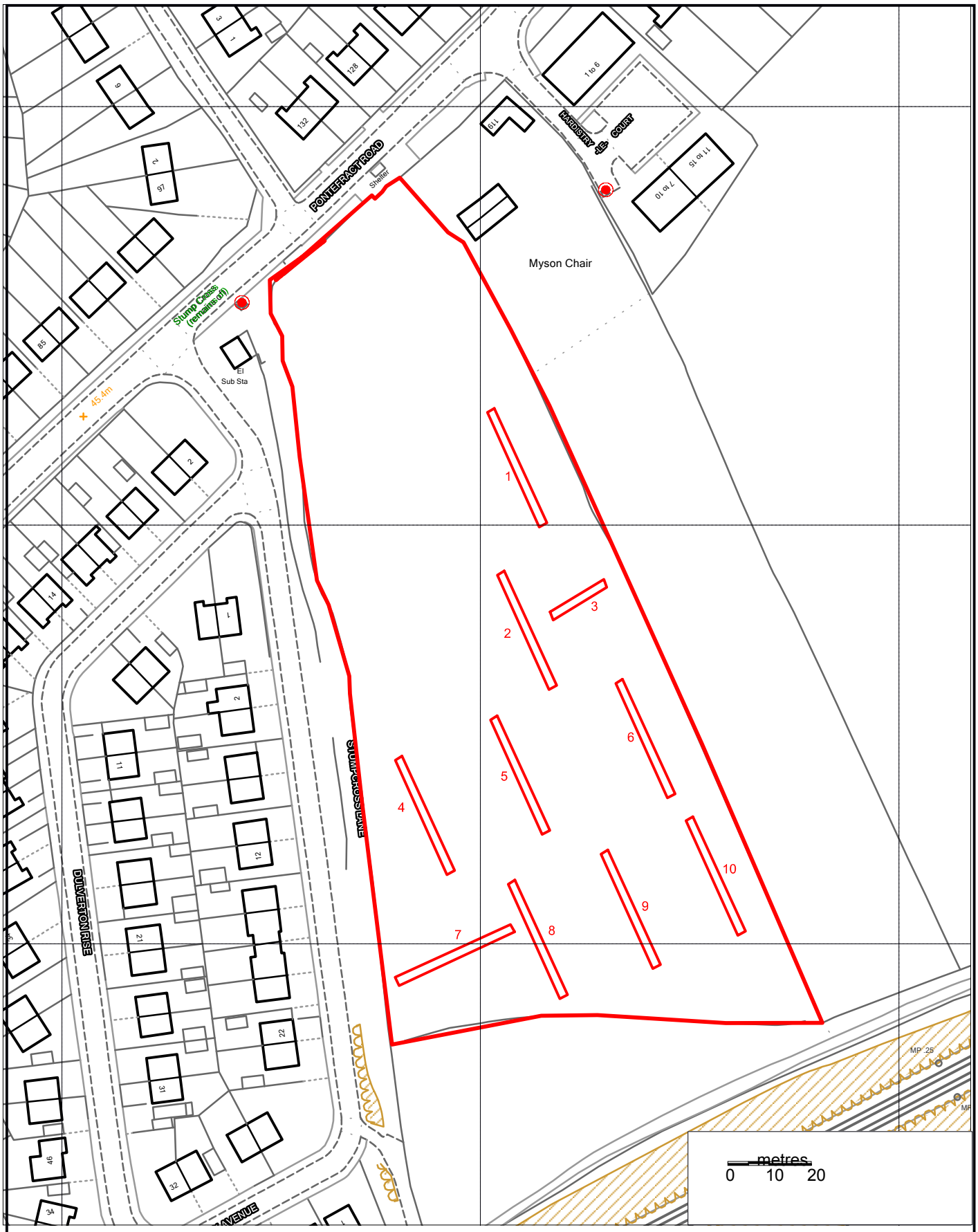

WYAAS
County Historic Environment Record
Registry of Deeds, Newstead Road
Wakefield WF1 2DE

Tel. 01924 306797 Fax. 01924 306810

Figure 1. Trench Location Plan WYAAS

Pontefract Road, Pontefract

Date Plotted: 25/09/2012

Sheet No.:

Scale 1: 1250

N W E S

Site name/ Address: Stumpcross, Pontefract Road, Pontefract	
Township: Pontefract	**District:** Wakefield
National Grid Reference: SE 4911 2409	
Contractor: CFA Archaeology	
Date of Work: October 2012	
Title of Report: Stumpcross, Pontefract, Archaeological Evaluation	
Date of Report: 27/11/2012	
SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS: An archaeological evaluation was carried out on land at the junction of Stumpcross Lane and Pontefract Road, Pontefract, West Yorkshire during October 2012. Twelve trenches were excavated, including two contingency trenches which were excavated in order to characterise a ditch. A ditch containing a sherd of likely prehistoric or Romano-British pot or was recorded, as well as undated ditches or continuations of ditches.	
Author of summary: Martin Lightfoot	**Date of summary:** 27/11/2012