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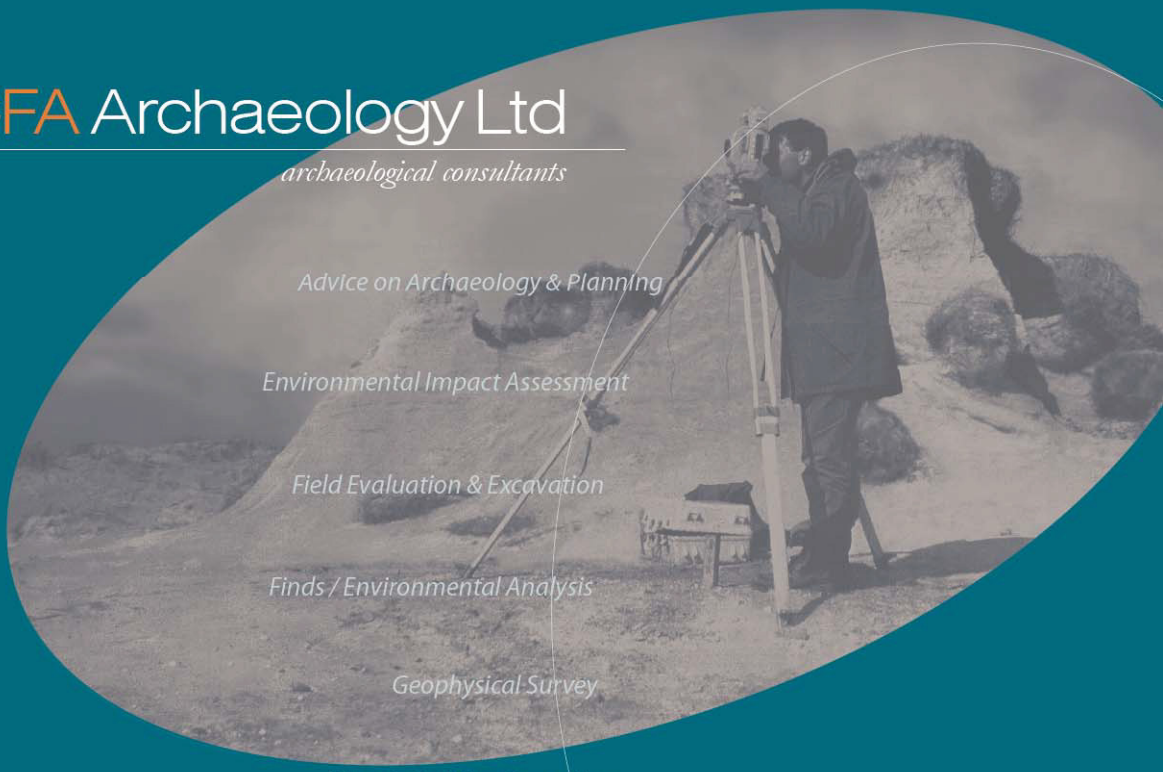

Advice on Archaeology & Planning

Environmental Impact Assessment

Field Evaluation & Excavation

Finds / Environmental Analysis

Geophysical Survey

Historic Building Recording

Site & Landscape Survey

Interpretation, Design & Display

Land at Ruskin Avenue Wrenthorpe Archaeological Evaluation and Excavation Phase 2

Report No. Y115/13

t 0113 271 6060 f 0113 271 3197 e yorkshire@cfa-archaeology.co.uk w www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

Clayton Works
Business Centre
Leeds
West Yorkshire
LS10 2RJ

Tel: 0113 2716060

email: yorkshire@cfa-archaeology.co.uk
web: www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Authors	Louise Felding BA mag. art. and Phil Mann BA
Illustrator	Tamlin Barton BA
Editor	Phil Moore BA
Commissioned by	Prospect Archaeology Ltd.
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Land at Ruskin Avenue, Wrenthorpe

Archaeological Evaluation and Excavation
Phase 2

Report No. Y115/13

CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION 3
2. WORKING METHODS 5
3. RESULTS 6
4. DISCUSSION 12
5. CONCLUSION 13
6. BIBLIOGRAPHY 14

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Trench Summary
Appendix 2: Context Register
Appendix 3: Photographic Registers
Appendix 4: Drawing Register
Appendix 5: Sample Register
Appendix 6: Composition of Flots and Retents
Appendix 7: Specification

FIGURES

Figure 1: Site location and geophysics overlay
Figure 2: Plan of Area D, Phase 2 excavation area with archaeological features
Figure 3: Plan of enclosure within Area D, Phase 2
Figure 4: Plans and sections of features
Figure 5: Plans of trenches 2 and 3

PLATES

Plate 1: Trench 2, taken facing north-east
Plate 2: Trench 2, 1002 and 1004, taken facing east
Plate 3: Trench 3, taken facing south
Plate 4: Trench 3, 1029, taken facing south
Plate 5: Photo of enclosure ditch, taken facing north-east
Plate 6: North-facing section of enclosure ditch (1033)
Plate 7: West-facing section of enclosure ditch (1046)
Plate 8: Pre-excavation photo of small pits (1055, 1057, 1059, and 1061)

Summary

A programme of archaeological works consisting of evaluation trenching and open-area excavation was undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd prior to the development of land at Ruskin Avenue, Wrenthorpe, near Wakefield, West Yorkshire. This followed on from an earlier phase of works (Moore 2012).

An enclosure identified from geophysical survey (GSB 2012) and dated in the previous phase of works was shown to continue, though it was heavily truncated by agricultural activity and disturbed by relict cultivation furrows and land drainage. No structural features or entrances to the enclosure were identified and apart from five small undated pits or post holes, there were no internal features.

In addition to the open area excavation, seven evaluation trenches were excavated. Relict cultivation furrows were recorded in the trenches, as was post-medieval field drainage and deposits associated with the construction of a nearby railway. No other archaeological features were identified.

Most of the pottery recovered was from the post-medieval contexts and dated from the 17th to 18th century. A single sherd of Romano-British pottery from the enclosure ditch was recovered from environmental samples, though the material was too abraded to date closely.

1. INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of a programme of archaeological works undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd. (CFA) between 9 and 20 September 2013 prior to a second phase of housing development on land off Ruskin Avenue, Wrenthorpe, West Yorkshire (NGR: SE 3205 2304, Fig.1). The work was commissioned by Prospect Archaeology Ltd on behalf of Redrow Homes plc. The work was required in order to comply with an archaeological planning condition (11/02067/FUL) and was undertaken in accordance with a written specification prepared by Rebecca Remmer of West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service (WYAAS) on behalf of Wakefield District Council (Appendix 7). The work presented here is for the archaeological investigations prior to the second phase (Phase 2) of housing development. Archaeological works were also conducted prior to the first phase of development on the site in 2012 (Moore 2012).

1.1 Site Location and Description

The site is on the north-east edge of the village of Wrenthorpe, near Wakefield. It comprised an irregular parcel of land approximately 7.5ha in total with the Phase 2 Area accounting for 4ha. The site was bound to the north-east by recreational fields, to the east by a railway cutting and to the south by the Phase 1 residential development.

The Phase 2 area sloped to the south and south-east at c. 80m above the Ordnance Datum (AOD). At the time of the works, the ground was hummocky and masked by thick vegetation.

The underlying solid geology of the site is Pennine Middle Coal Measures represented by formations of mudstone, siltstone and sandstone (BGS 2012). The natural substrate is varied and consists of glacial tills and occasional sandstone outcrops and tabular sandstone fragments.

The soils of the site are described as slowly permeable, seasonally wet, acid loamy and clayey soils supporting seasonally wet pastures and woodlands. Land use for the area is mainly grassland with some arable and forestry (Landis 2012).

1.2 Previous Archaeological work

A desk-based assessment of the site was produced in 2010 which identified the archaeological potential of the surrounding area (Horn 2010). Features of interest included the putative course of a Roman Road, areas of ridge-and-furrow, rhubarb cultivation, possible mining remains and undated linear features identified from aerial photographs.

A geophysical survey of the whole of the site, conducted in January 2012 (GSB 2012), was the first in a staged approach to the archaeological investigations. The survey identified a number of features which were interpreted as ditches, discrete features or pits and a possible sub-circular enclosure. The geophysical survey results are overlain on Figure 1.

A phased approach to the development of the overall site was adopted which was reflected in the archaeological fieldwork. Six targeted trial trenches and an area of strip, map and record were undertaken in the southern area in 2012, in advance of development in the Phase 1 area. The evaluation confirmed the presence of Romano-British remains and a strategy was agreed to mitigate the effects of the development by open-area excavation within the limits of the Phase 1 development area. The excavation uncovered two enclosures; part of the circuit of a presumed sub-circular enclosure and an irregular-shaped enclosure with an internal division. A small amount of predominantly 2nd century AD pottery was recovered along with a single sherd of 3rd century pottery. Both enclosures showed varying degrees of horizontal truncation. There were no structural elements identified, although there was evidence of an exterior bank to the irregular-shaped enclosure. The remains were interpreted as evidence for a low status, rural site (Moore 2012).

1.3 Project Objectives

In accordance with the specification (Appendix 7), the aim of the archaeological works was 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 research aims of the project followed the West Yorkshire research framework for the Iron Age and Roman Periods where relevant (WYAAS 2009).

2. WORKING METHODS

2.1 Monitoring

The archaeological works were monitored by Rebecca Remmer, Senior Archaeologist for West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service (WYAAS), who was informed in advance of the works taking place and visited the site on 17th September 2013 and by Nansi Rosenberg (Prospect Archaeology) on behalf of the Redrow Homes.

2.2 Excavation

The size of the excavation area and location of trial trenches was agreed in advance with WYAAS. Trench positions and the location of features were tied in with the Ordnance Survey National Grid and Ordnance datum using a GPS with a survey-grade accuracy of ±10mm.

All machining was undertaken with a back-acting 360 machine with a toothless ditching bucket under constant archaeological supervision. Topsoil and other overburden were removed by machine down to the top of natural subsoil or the first significant archaeological horizon, whichever was encountered first and was stored at the side of the trenches and in the case of the open-area excavation bunded within the development area.

The spoil was scanned for artefacts during excavation. The excavation area was then cleaned as necessary and the location of all features and deposits planned. A representative sample of linear features was excavated (typically 1m per section). Discrete features were sampled at a minimum of 50%.

All archaeological remains were recorded by means of photographs, drawings and written records conforming to IfA standards (IfA 1994 and 1995) and CFA's quality manuals. All features were planned and drawn in section at an appropriate scale (normally 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50). All plans and sections were related in height to the ordnance datum. The photographic record consists of accurately recorded digital photographs.

Environmental samples were taken as necessary in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (EH 2011). The onsite sampling strategy was informed by the professional judgement of the site supervisor in conjunction with CFA's environmental specialists and the WYAAS specification (Appendix 7).

Modern finds were recorded but not retained unless they were from stratigraphically significant deposits or intrinsically significant. All other finds were to be retained for assessment and analysis.

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 1994 and 1995), English Heritage Guidance (EH 2011), CFA's standard methodology and the terms of the specification issued by WYAAS (Appendix 7).

2.4 Archiving

The project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, finds, plans and reports, will be prepared to current guidelines (Brown 2011). The archive will be deposited at Pontefract Museum, who will received title to all archaeological finds. A summary of the results of the archaeological works will be submitted for inclusion in OASIS.

The project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, finds, plans, reports, and photographs will be ordered according to WYAAS instructions and nationally and to nationally recognised standards (IfA 2001 and Brown 2011) and deposited at the Pontefract Museum, 5 Salter Row, Pontefract, WF18 1BA. Title to the finds archive will be transferred to Pontefract museum upon deposition.

3. RESULTS

The results of the evaluation and excavation are described separately; trench summaries form Appendix 1; numbers in parenthesis below reference contexts; a full description of all contexts forms Appendix 2. Photographic, drawing, and sample registers form appendices 3-5; specialist tables form Appendix 6 and the specification appears as Appendix 7.

3.1 The Evaluation

Seven evaluation trenches were excavated. The locations of trenches 2, 3, 6 and 7 were modified due to the proximity of overhead and underground services. No archaeological remains were recorded and no finds were recovered from trenches 5, 6 and 7. Trenches where archaeological remains were recorded are described below

The natural substrate varied between yellow sandy clay to orange-yellow boulder clay (1001). Overlying this was a layer of dark grey-brown silty clay topsoil typically 0.3m thick (1000).

Trench 1

Trench 1 targeted a possible circular feature identified in the geophysical survey as an archaeological trend. However, this anomaly proved to be an irregular spread of geological shale. A shallow east-west orientated cultivation furrow was also partially excavated.

Trench 2

Trench 2 (Plate 1) targeted an ‘L-shaped’ anomaly identified by the geophysical survey as an archaeological trend. A shallow and truncated north-east to south-west orientated linear feature was recorded (Plate 2, 1002), though no finds were recovered from the silty-clay fill (1003). This feature was truncated by an indistinct feature (1004) partially uncovered during the excavation of small extension to the trench. It was very shallow (0.05m), probably truncated and filled by a deposit from which two small sherds of post-medieval pottery were recovered (1005).

A 0.48m wide by 0.14m deep, linear feature was orientated north-south (1010) and was probably a truncated ditch, filled by a sterile deposit of silty clay (1011).

Two other curvilinear features (1012, 1016), were also recorded. Both were horizontally truncated and were 0.09m deep and both filled by sterile deposits of silty-clay (1013, 1017). Features 1012 and 1016 appeared to be cut by an irregular feature orientated south-west to north-east (1014), though the clarity of horizon was relatively poor. Feature 1014 was 0.15m deep and filled by friable sandy-silt (1015). Another linear feature 0.2m deep (1018) also on the same orientation as was recorded for a length of 13m. The mixed fill of silty-clay contained slate and stone inclusions (1019). A clay-pipe fragment was also recovered suggesting a probable post-medieval date.

Trench 3 (Plate 3)

A 0.16m deep by 0.64m wide linear feature was recorded in Trench 3 (Plate 4, 1020). It had steep sides and an uneven base. Sherds of post-medieval pottery were recovered from the friable silty-clay fill (1021). The feature was orientated north-south and continued beyond the limit of excavation.

Other post-medieval features recorded in Trench 3 were a curvilinear drain constructed in brick and capped by stone slabs (1023) and an irregular-shaped burnt spread of soft sandy-clay with a maximum depth of 0.1m (1024). A piece of post-medieval pottery was recovered from this deposit as well as charcoal and some small fragments of brick.

Trench 4

The evaluation recorded two intersecting drains (1026, 1028) of brick construction that were capped by stone slabs. The drains had been cut into the natural substrate (1025, 1027). No other features were recorded.

3.2 Open Area Excavation

This area was excavated in order to target remains of the Romano-British enclosure that were identified by the geophysical survey (Fig. 1), but were not excavated during the Phase 1 excavations of 2012 (Moore 2012).

The site was traversed by the remains of post-medieval cultivation furrows which were orientated north-west to south-east and were typically 1.5–2m wide and 0.10-0.2m in depth.

The remains of interconnecting brick drains, probably contemporary with those recorded in Trench 4 (see above) were also encountered.

Some disturbance of the site that was identified by crushed and burnt shale. These areas corresponded to strong magnetic responses in the geophysical survey results. The construction of the railway to the west may have also contributed to the disturbance of the site.

The continuation of the Romano-British enclosure recorded in Phase 1 revealed by the striping of the site (Fig. 2 and Plate 5).

The Enclosure (Fig. 3)

The continuation of the enclosure circuit recorded in Phase 1 was best preserved to the west (1032, 1033 (Plate 6) and 1042). Sections through the ditch recorded depths of 0.48 to 0.5m and a maximum width of 1.6m. These ditch profiles were pronounced and generally steep sided with concave profiles or, in the case of Section 1042, a slight 'V-shaped' profile (Fig. 4).

After Section 1032, continuing north around the circuit, the ditch sections (Fig. 4; 1039, 1044 and 1046, Plate 7) became shallower and were generally between 0.3 and 0.35m deep, with widths between 1.4 and 1.6m wide creating more gradual concave profiles. The in filling deposits were variations of sandy or silty clays. Deposit 1038, the secondary fill of Section 1039 contained a (presumably residual) flint flake. Section 1049 to the north of the enclosure though horizontally truncated, survived to a depth of 0.11m and a width of 1m.

After this point the circuit of the enclosure became indistinct. Sections dug to the eastern side of the predicted line of the enclosure (1062, 1065 and 1068) showed the enclosure ditch to be truncated and masked by agricultural activity (1066). The depth of the ditch here was 0.22-0.25m, with the feature generally having steep sides and a slightly concave profile.

Exploratory excavations were able to reliably record the ditch circuit in Section 1068 with a maximum depth of 0.25m, and Section 1065 with a maximum depth of 0.5m. Both these sections were 2m wide and had clearly been truncated obliquely by furrows.

Five small pits, located centre-east of the enclosure were excavated (Fig. 4; 1050, 1055, 1057, 1059, and 1061). Four of these pits were close together and in a roughly sub-rectangular configuration measuring 1.5 x 1.6m in size (Fig. 4 and Plate 8). The best preserved of was Pit 1061 which was oval in shape and survived to a depth of 0.31m with a long axis of 0.65m. Pits 1055 and 1059 had roughly the same dimensions; 0.21m deep, with a maximum diameter of 0.28m. Features 1050 and 1057 were heavily truncated and survived to a depth of 0.06m and 0.16-0.18m in diameter. All the infilling deposits contained small to medium sandstone fragments within a friable silty-clay matrix. No datable finds were recovered from any of these features.

3.3 Pottery

by C.G. Cumberpatch BA PhD

Post-medieval pottery

The assemblage consisted of 63 sherds of pottery and fired clay weighing 732g. The details are summarised in Table 1.

Context	Type	No	Wt	ENV	Part	Form	Decoration	Date range	Notes
1005	Blackware	1	21	1	Handle	Cup/mug	U/Dec	C17	Unglazed handle
1005	Redware	1	4	1	BS	U/ID	Red slip on one side	C17 -EC18	Soft heavily abraded pale orange fabric
1021	Brown Glazed Fineware	1	3	1	BS	Hollow ware	Brown glaze int & ext	C18	Pale orange fabric, abraded
1021	Fired clay	1	6	1	Fragment	N/A	N/A	Undated	Irregular lump
1021	Coarse Blackware type	49	622	49	BS	Hollow ware	Sparse thin glaze in part	C17	Hard, dense oxidised fabric
1021	Coarse Blackware type	2	22	2	Rim	Hollow ware	Thin glaze ext	C17	Hard, dense oxidised fabric
1021	Redware	7	27	7	Base & BS	Dish/bowl	Clear/red glaze int, red slip ext	C17– EC18	Soft pale orange fabric, heavily abraded
1024	Blackware	1	27	1	BS	Hollow ware	Black glaze int & ext	C17	-
	Total	**63**	**732**	**63**					

Table 1: Post-medieval Pottery

The majority of sherds were of 17-18th century date and most probably of local manufacture; Wrenthorpe having been the location of a significant mid 15th to early 18th century pottery industry (Moorhouse and Roberts 1992 and Cumberpatch in prep.). Cistercian ware, the product for which the village was best known, was not present among the assemblage (which belonged to the later phases of the industry) and which ceased production sometime in the early 18th century for reasons that are at present obscure.

The largest group of sherds was from Context 1021 and included a considerable quantity of Coarse Blackware (possibly include production waste). The term Coarse Blackware refers to the larger utilitarian vessels that formed a significant part of the output of the potteries alongside the better known cups, tygs, jars, bottles and costrels. In some cases the larger vessels were used as *ad hoc* saggars with smaller vessels being fired inside them. The fragmentary nature of the assemblage precluded any attempt to identify vessel forms and this characteristic, together with the quantity of material strongly suggested that the assemblage was derived from a dump of waste material from one of the several potteries in Wrenthorpe.

The sherds from contexts 1005 and 1024 were not obviously production waste but were nevertheless likely to have been manufactured locally and are of a similar date to the larger group, as indicated in the Table 1.

The pottery assemblage described here is too small to significantly enhance our understanding of the Wrenthorpe pottery industry, but nevertheless fits easily into the

broader narrative as it is understood at present. It represents aspects of the later history of the industry but the range of material is much more limited than is the case with assemblages from other sites excavated in recent years.

Undated/Romano-British Pottery

The assemblage, recovered from environmental samples consisted of 14 sherds and fragments. It was not possible to arrive at exact weights as the majority of the items were too small to weigh accurately. The details of the assemblage are given in Table 2.

Context	Type	No	Wt	ENV	Part	Form	Decoration	Date range	Notes	Sample No
1054	U/ID	1	<1	1	Flake	U/ID	U/Dec	Undated	Could be a flake of post-medieval or early modern pottery but could also be a small piece of fine sandstone	9
1054	Stone	1	1	1	BS/Flake	N/A	Parallel ridges on one side	N/A	Probably part of a fossil	9
1051	U/ID	5	<1	5	Flakes	U/ID	U/Dec	Undated	Five very small fragments; one may be stone but the remaining four may be chips of an oxidised sandy ware; too small to identify or date	8
1060	Stone	1	2	1	Fragment	N/A	Parallel ridges on one side	N/A	Probably part of a fossil	11
1043	Burnt stone	1	<1	1	Fragment	N/A	N/A	Undated	A very small fragment of burnt stone	5
1043	Greyware	1	2	1	BS	U/ID	U/Dec	LC1st – C2ndAD	A heavily abraded fragment of sandy Roman greyware	5
1064	Fired clay?	1	<1	1	Flake	U/ID	U/Dec	Undated	A small fragment of possible fired clay; pottery or CBM	13
1064	Fired clay	1	<1	1	Flake	U/ID	U/Dec	Undated	A small fragment of fired clay; pottery or CBM	13
1048	Fired clay	1	<1	1	Fragment	U/ID	U/Dec	Undated	A small fragment of fired clay; pottery or CBM	7
1047	Stone	1	<1	1	Fragment	U/ID	N/A	N/A	A small piece of stone	6

Table 2: Romano-British and Undated Pottery

Only one sherd was identifiable, a heavily abraded fragment of Roman greyware in a sandy-textured fabric. A date range in the later 1st or 2nd centuries AD is probably appropriate for this sherd.

The remainder of the assemblage consisted of very small fragments of stone, burnt stone and fired clay, the latter category probably including some heavily-abraded sherds of pottery. The size of the sherds and their poor condition precludes any definite identification or dating but a pre-early modern date (pre-1720) is possible.

3.4 Flint

By Martin Lightfoot

A single worked flint was recovered from the fill (1038) of an enclosure ditch (1039). The flint was dark grey-brown and probably derived from a riverine pebble. A small amount of buff-coloured cortex was evident on its dorsal surface and it was 8 x 11 x 35mm in size (weighing 3g). The flint is a side scraper and though of an undiagnostic form is likely to be later prehistoric (Bronze Age?) in date. As with the single flint recovered from the previous phase of works, it is likely to be residual.

3.5 Palaeoenvironmental Assessment

by Mhairi Hastie

Methodology

Thirteen bulk soil samples, ranging in volume from 3-8 litres, were taken from the ditch of a circular enclosure of possible Romano-British date and a number of postholes.

Each bulk soil sample was processed through a Siraf-style flotation tank. The floating debris (flot) was collected in a 250μm sieve and the material remaining in the tank (retent) washed through a 1mm mesh. Both the flots and retents were air-dried; the retents were then sorted by eye and any archaeological significant remains removed. The flots were scanned using a binocular microscope (x10 to x200 magnification) and the presence of any charred plant remains and other archaeological material recorded.

Results

The results are summarised in Appendix 6. Small amounts of both domestic and, potentially, industrial material was recovered from the samples. The abraded nature of the material suggests it has undergone much movement prior to burial. The quantity of material recovered does not allow for detailed discussion.

Small finds

Pottery/Tile (?): Tiny fragments/chips of what may be pottery or tile were recovered from both the enclosure ditch (samples 6, 7, 8 and 13). Two larger pottery sherds (<20mm in dia.) were also recovered from the enclosure ditch (Sample 5) and a posthole (1060, Sample 11).

Burnt Bone: Two very small (<2mm in dia.) undiagnostic fragments of burnt bone were recovered from the enclosure ditch (Sample 6) and the fill of a posthole (1060, Sample 11).

Slag: Small lumps of what may be metal working debris (slag) were recovered from the enclosure ditch (samples 2, 4 and 6) and two postholes (samples 10 and 11).

Carbonised Plant Remains

Cereal Grains: Three highly abraded cereal grains were recovered from the samples, two from the fill of the enclosure ditch (Sample 8) and one from a posthole (1061, Sample 11). Where preservation allowed, barley (*Hordeum* sp.) was identified.

Nutshell and other

Plant remains: Small fragments of hazelnut shell (*Corylus avellana*) were recovered from the fill of the enclosure ditch (samples 2 and 13) and Posthole 1060 (Sample 11). The remains of a possible fruit stone were also recovered from Sample 1; it was poorly preserved and could not be identified to species level.

Wood charcoal: Low concentrations of wood charcoal were recovered from the majority of the samples. The charcoal was abraded and vitrified. Initial scanning of the charcoal indicates that both oak (*Quercus* sp.) and small diameter non-oak (hazel/birch?) round wood fragments were present.

Recommendations

Carbonised Plant Remains: No further detailed analysis is recommended for the cereal grain, nutshell or wood charcoal.

AMS Dating: Sufficiently large enough fragments of hazelnut shell for AMS dating were recovered from samples 2 and 13 (enclosure ditch) and the cereal grain recovered from Sample 8 (enclosure ditch) may potentially be sufficiently well-preserved to hold enough carbon for AMS dating.

The wood charcoal was poorly preserved and vitrified (glassy appearance), and would not be suitable for AMS dating.

4. DISCUSSION

As with the evaluation and excavation undertaken within the southern portion of the site (Phase 1), this phase of works showed the site to have been heavily truncated by modern ploughing in places. In particular the eastern side of the enclosure ditch was disturbed by the effect of agricultural activity.

The enclosure may have been backfilled in places, representing a deliberate end of use of the site. Pottery recovered from previous excavations on the enclosure ditch dated it to the 2nd to 3rd century AD (Moore 2012), and the single sherd recovered from this phase of works appears to support this date for the enclosure. An abandonment date in 3rd century is consistent with other local examples, such as the enclosures near Whitwood (Burgess and Roberts 2004, 35-36).

The four small pits or post holes in a roughly square configuration excavated within the enclosure are similar to other configurations of such features recorded on similar sites and which are traditionally interpreted as granaries (e.g. Morris 1979, 29). An alternative interpretation may be that the '4-post structure' is actually the porch for a

round house (Vyner 2008, 27), though this would have to mean that in this case evidence for other structural remains such as a drip gully or central posts has not survived. As the pits/post holes at Ruskin Avenue are undated and heavily truncated the function of these features is unknown and they may not even related to the enclosure ditch or even pre-modern activity on the site.

The evaluation of the rest of the Phase 2 area recorded the presence of ridge and furrow, confirming that this part of the site had been agriculturally exploited during the post-medieval and modern period. The trenching also identified a number of modern drains and areas of disturbance related to the construction of the railway in the west of the site. Although there was a significant amount of post-medieval pottery recovered from the site, most of it (95%) was from a single context, the fill (1021) of a ditch or furrow recorded in Trench 3 and this may more likely represent material dumped on the site rather than industrial or domestic activity on it.

5. CONCLUSION

The Phase 2 evaluation and excavation has confirmed, as expected, the continuation of the Romano-British enclosure that was partially excavated in 2012.

As with the Phase 1 evaluations and excavation, the excavation has added to the corpus of evidence for the morphology, dating and distribution of Romano-British enclosures in the area. The enclosure may be contemporary with other evidence for the Romano-British period in the area, such as a Roman road predicted to run a short distance to the south (Margary 1973, 721) and finds of Roman coins near the site in 1955 (Horn 2010). The lack of pottery or convincing features within the enclosure may suggest that it was more related to pastoral activity rather than settlement, though it may also be the case that evidence may have been removed from the site by later agricultural activity.

Although the results were consistent with the previous excavation, it was clear that this area of the site being on higher ground had suffered greater truncation from agricultural activity; the enclosure ditch was not as well preserved as that excavated in Phase 1. The post-medieval features, although yielding dating evidence in the form of pottery and clay pipe were indistinct and appeared shallow and probably represent agricultural rather than industrial or domestic activity.

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Appendix 1: Trench Summary

Appendix 1: Trench Summary

Trench No	Dimensions (m)	Topsoil depth(m)	Description
1	55 x 2m	0.3	Natural substrate was red-brown boulder clay. Trench was targeted on a possible circular anomaly identified during geophysical survey. Trench itself was extended by 5m at the north-western end to define extent of geophysical anomaly. Contained probable cultivation furrow (1006). No archaeology was recorded within this trench.
2	44 x 2m	0.36m	Natural substrate was orange-yellow boulder clay. Trench was targeted on anomalies identified by geophysical survey. Trench was shortened by 6m at the north-eastern end due to presence of electricity pylons, with an additional area dug to further evaluate a spread of material at the north-eastern end of the trench. Trench contained two shallow linear features (1002 and 1014) and a spread of material that yielded some fragments of post-medieval pottery (1005). Trench also contained several modern field drains
3	34 x 2m	0.49	Natural substrate was orange-yellow boulder clay. Trench was shortened by 16m at the north end of the trench due to presence of electricity pylon. Several modern field drains were present in the trench. Trench contained no archaeological features.
4	51.5 x 2m	0.46	Natural substrate was orange-yellow boulder clay. Trench contained signs of disturbance from 18th-19th century mining/infrastructure, and two red brick, stone capped field drains.
5	54 x 2m	0.3	Natural substrate was yellow boulder clay. Trench contained a number of north-west to south-east aligned probable cultivation furrows, and two north-south orientated modern field drains.
6	50 x 2m	0.4	Natural substrate was yellow boulder clay. Original alignment of trench was changed due to overhanging electricity cables. Trench contained two north-east to south-west probable cultivation furrows.
7	52 x 2m	0.45	Natural substrate was red-brown boulder clay. Original location of trench moved due to presence of existing site compound area, and underground electrical services. No archaeological features were present.

Appendix 2: Context Register

Appendix 2: Context Register

Context	Fill of	Width (m)	Max Depth (m)	Description
1000				Topsoil: dark brown clayey silt.
1001				Natural: yellowish clay to orange-yellow boulder clay towards southern part of the site.
1002		3.4	0.09	Cut of small curvilinear. Continued beyond L.O.E. Rounded sides with a rounded base.
1003	1002			Fill of small linear 1002. Dark brown silty clay.
1004		1.0	0.05	Possible cut/ natural hollow. Shallow feature with uncertain edges.
1005	1004			Mid brown firm silty clay. Fill of possible cut 1004. Contained two pot fragments of post-medieval date.
1006		1.1	0.05	Cut of a furrow/ shallow linear. Orientated east-west
1007	1006			Fill of furrow 1006. Mid brown firm silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks.
1008		0.35	0.06	Cut of posthole. Sub circular in plan with gentle sloping sides towards a rounded base.
1009	1008			Fill of posthole. Consisted of mid brown firm silty clay.
1010		0.48	0.14	Cut of linear feature (drainage?). Curved sides towards rounded base. Continued beyond L.O.E.
1011	1010			Fill of possible drain/ ditch 1010. Consisted of firm light brown silty clay.
1012		0.34	0.08	Cut of shallow curvilinear/ possible drainage feature. Linear in plan with sloping sides towards a rounded base.
1013	1012			Fill of linear 1012. Consisted of light brown, firm silty clay.
1014		0.6	0.15	Cut of linear field drain/ gully. Consisted of rounded sides with a round base.
1015	1014			Fill of linear/ drain 1014. Consisted of light-mid brown friable sandy silt.
1016		0.6	0.1	Cut of shallow furrow. Linear in plan with sloping sides and a curved base.
1017	1016			Fill of shallow linear 1016. Consisted of light brown firm silty clay. Cut by 1014.
1018				Cut of a modern field drain.
1019	1018			Fill of modern field drain 1018.
1020		0.64	0.16	Cut of ditch/furrow. Linear in plan, with steep sides and a flat base.
1021	1020			Fill of ditch/ furrow 1020. Consisted of greyish brown silty clay with charcoal, stones and slate. Post-medieval pottery recovered.
1022				Cut of a brick lined field drain.
1023	1022			Brick lining in field drain 1022
1024		1.81	0.1	Burnt deposit/ spread. Brown red sandy clay with charcoal and brick fragments.
1025				Cut of brick lined field drain.
1026	1025			Brick lined fill of drain 1025.
1027				Cut of brick lined field drain.
1028	1027			Brick lined fill of drain 1027.
1029	1032	1.67	0.14	Upper fill of enclosure ditch. Consisted of light brown firm silty clay with charcoal and some stones.
1030	1032			Fill of enclosure ditch 1032. Consisted of mid brown sandy clay with charcoal and stones.
1031	1032	0.22	0.11	Primary fill of enclosure ditch 1032. Consisted of light brown grey sandy clay.
1032		1.67	0.49	Cut of enclosure ditch. Curvilinear in plan, with steep curved sides towards a slightly rounded base.
1033		1.4	0.48	Cut of enclosure ditch. Curvilinear in plan, with steep curved sides towards a u-shaped base.
1034	1033	1.4	0.36	Upper fill of enclosure ditch 1033. Consisted of mid brown firm silty

Context	Fill of	Width (m)	Max Depth (m)	Description
				clay with moderate amount of small angular stones.
1035	1033	0.75	0.13	Primary fill of enclosure ditch 1033. Consisted of grey brown clayey silt with frequent angular smaller stones.
1036	1039	1.55	0.12	Upper fill of enclosure ditch 1039. Consisted of greyish brown friable silty clay with charcoal flecks and stones.
1037	1039	1.55	0.19	Fill of enclosure ditch 1039. Consisted of grey silty friable clay with charcoal and stones.
1038	1039	1.5	0.3	Primary fill of enclosure ditch 1039. Consisted of yellow-grey sandy firm clay with charcoal flecks.
1039		1.55	0.3	Cut of enclosure ditch. Curvilinear in plan. Moderately sloping sides with a flat base.
1040	1042	1.55	0.22	Upper fill of enclosure ditch 1042. Consisted of purple brown firm silty clay with frequent angular small stones.
1041	1042	1	0.3	Primary fill of enclosure ditch 1042. Consisted of mid brown clayey silt. Packed with angular smaller stones.
1042		1.55	0.3	Cut of enclosure ditch. Curvilinear, with steep sides towards a V – shaped (slightly flat) base.
1043	1044	1.6	0.34	Fill of enclosure ditch 1044. Consisted of light yellow-orange clay with sandstone fragments and occasional charcoal flecks. Pottery and bone fragments recovered.
1044		1.6	0.34	Cut of enclosure ditch. Linear in plan, with steep sides towards a flat base.
1045				VOID.
1046		1.4	0.35	Cut of enclosure ditch. Curvilinear in plan, with gently sloping sides towards a flat rounded base.
1047	1046	1.4	0.35	Fill of enclosure ditch 1046. Consisted of light brown firm, clayey silt.
1048	1049	1.27	0.11	Fill of enclosure ditch 1049. Consisted of light brown firm silty clay. Poor clarity of horizon. Disturbed my modern mining feature.
1049		1.27	0.11	Cut of enclosure ditch. Curvilinear in plan. Sloping sides towards a flat base.
1050		0.45	0.09	Cut of a small pit, sub-oval in plan. Sharp curved sides towards uneven base.
1051	1050	0.45	0.09	Fill of small pit 1050. Consisted of light brown firm silty clay.
1052				VOID
1053				VOID
1054	1055	0.28	0.21	Fill of posthole 1055. Consisted of dark greyish brown stony fill.
1055		0.28	0.21	Cut of posthole. Sub circular in shape with steep sides towards flat base.
1056	1057	0.18	0.06	Fill of posthole 1057. Consisted of dark grey brown stony silty clay.
1057		0.16	0.06	Cut of shallow posthole. Sub circular in plan with sloping sides towards flat base.
1058	1059	0.22	0.21	Fill of posthole 1059. Consisted of dark brown/ grey silty clay with stones.
1059		0.22	0.21	Cut of posthole. Circular in plan. Steep to sloping sides towards a sloping base.
1060	1061	0.65	0.31	Fill of posthole/ pit 1061. Consisted of dark grey brown silty clay with stone inclusions.
1061		0.65	0.31	Cut of posthole/ pit. Sub circular in plan. Steep sides towards flat base.
1062		1.6	0.5	Cut of possible linear/ ditch. Steep sides with concave base. Full extent unknown as it is unclear in plan/ truncated by furrow.
1063	1062	1.5	0.5	Fill of possible ditch 1062. Consisted of dark brown orange silty clay with frequent small angular sandstone and occasional charcoal flecks.
1064	1065	2.6	0.4	Fill of enclosure ditch 1065. Consisted of light greyish brown silty clay with charcoal flecks. Masked by cultivation furrow.
1065		2.6	0.5	Cut of enclosure ditch. Linear in plan (full extent masked by furrow). Gradual to steep sloping sides with concave profile.
1066		1.9	0.22	Cut of furrow cutting enclosure ditch 1068. Linear shape in plan, with gradual to steep sloping sides and a flat profile.

Context	Fill of	Width (m)	Max Depth (m)	Description
1067	1066	1.7	0.22	Fill of furrow 1066. Consisted of light brown sandy silt.
1068		1.9	0.25	Cut of poss. ditch. Curvilinear in plan. Steep sloping sides with a v-shaped profile. Horizon unclear.
1069	1068	1.9	0.25	Fill of poss. enclosure ditch 1068. Consisted of brown-grey sandy silt with frequent small angular sandstone. Horizon unclear as fill very similar to natural.

Appendix 3: Photographic Register

Appendix 3: Photographic Register

Number	Contexts/description	Facing	Conditions
1	Post-excavation shot of Trench 1	NW	Sunny
2	Post-excavation shot of Trench 1	SE	Sunny
3	Shot of geophysical anomaly in Trench 1 caused by natural geology.	NW	Sunny
4	Trench 1 possible linear/ furrow	E	Sunny
5	Trench 2 pre-excavation	SW	Cloudy
6	Trench 2 pre-excavation	NE	Cloudy
7	Trench 1 post-ex of possible furrow	W	Cloudy
8	Trench 2 pre-ex shot of 1002 and 1004	E	Cloudy
9	Trench 2 post-ex shot of 1002 and 1004	E	Cloudy
10	Trench 2 shot of 1008	SW	Cloudy
11	Shot of north-south linear 1010	S	Overcast
12	Post ex shot of curvilinear drain 1012	SW	Cloudy
13	Post ex shot of north-south drain 1016	SW	Cloudy
14	Post ex shot of north-east to south-west drain 1018	SW	Cloudy
15	General shot Trench 3	S	Sunny
16	General shot Trench 3	N	Sunny
17	General shot Trench 4	N	Sunny
18	General shot Trench 4	S	Sunny
19	Post ex shot of ditch/ drain 1020	S	Rain
20	Post ex shot of drain 1022	N	Rain
21	Post ex shot of drain 1022	N	Rain
22	Field drains 1025 and 1027, Trench 4	N	Rain
23	Field drains 1025 and 1027, Trench 4	N	Rain
24	Field drains 1025 and 1027, Trench 4	S	Rain
25	Post ex shot of burnt deposit 1024	S	Rain
26	Burnt deposit south end Trench 4	NW	Rain
27	Burnt deposit south end Trench 4	SE	Rain
28	Trench 6 general shot	SE	Sunny
29	Trench 6 general shot	NW	Sunny
30	Trench 5 general shot	SE	Sunny
31	Trench 5 general shot	NW	Sunny
32	North-east facing section of 1032 within enclosure, Area D	S	Sunny
33	North-east facing section of 1032 within enclosure, Area D	S	Sunny
34	North-east facing section of 1032 within enclosure, Area D	S	Sunny
35	South facing ditch section 1033, Area D	N	Sunny
36	North facing ditch section 1033, Area D	S	Sunny
37	North facing ditch section 1039, Area D	S	Cloudy
38	North facing ditch section 1039, Area D	S	Cloudy
39	North facing ditch section 1039, Area D	S	Cloudy
40	East facing section of enclosure ditch 1042	W	Rain
41	General shot Trench 7	E	Showers
42	General shot Trench 7	W	Showers
43	West facing section of 1042 within enclosure ditch, Area D	E	Cloudy
44	East facing section of 1042 within enclosure ditch, Area D	W	Cloudy
45	East facing section of 1042 within enclosure ditch, Area D	W	Cloudy
46	South-west facing section of 1044 within enclosure ditch, Area D	NE	Rain
47	South-west facing section of 1044 within enclosure ditch, Area D	NE	Rain
48	West facing section of Ditch 1046	E	Rain
49	West facing section of Ditch 1046	E	Rain
50	South-west facing section of Ditch 1049 within enclosure, Area D	NE	Sunny
51	South-west facing section of Ditch 1049 within enclosure, Area D	NE	Cloudy

Number	Contexts/description	Facing	Conditions
52	South-west facing section of Ditch 1049 within enclosure, Area D	NE	Cloudy
53	Pre-ex shot of Ditch 1050	N	Overcast
54	Post ex shot of Ditch 1050	N	Overcast
55	Pre ex of Pit 1059	NE	Cloudy
56	Pre ex of Pit 1055	NE	Cloudy
57	Pre ex of Pit 1057	NE	Cloudy
58	Pre ex of Pit 1061	NE	Cloudy
59	Overview of pits pre ex 1055,1057,1059, and 1061	NE	Cloudy
60	Overview of pits pre ex 1055,1057,1059, and 1061	NE	Cloudy
61	South facing section of Ditch 1062	N	Rain
62	South facing section of Ditch 1062	N	Rain
63	Overall shot of enclosure ditch, Area D	NW	Bright
64	Overall shot of enclosure ditch, Area D	N(E)	Bright
65	Overall shot of enclosure ditch, Area D	NE	Bright
66	Overall shot of enclosure ditch, Area D	W	Bright
67	Working shot	SW	Bright
68	Working shot	NW	Bright
69	Oblique shot of wide ditch 1065 within enclosure, Area D	NW	Cloudy
70	South facing section 1065 of enclosure ditch	N	Cloudy
71	Oblique facing shot of Area D	N	Cloudy
72	Post ex shot of Pit 1061	NE	Cloudy
73	Post ex shot of Pit 1059	NE	Cloudy
74	Post ex shot of Pit 1055	NE	Cloudy
75	South-west facing section of 1066 and 1068 within enclosure	NE	Cloudy

Appendix 4: Drawing Register

Appendix 4: Drawing Register

Number	Sheet No.	Scale	Plan / Section	Description/contexts
1	1	1:50	Plan	Plan of Trench 2
2	2	1:50	Plan	Plan of Trench 3
3	3	1:50	Plan	Plan of Trench 4
4	4	1:10	Section	South-west facing section of 1032 enclosure ditch
5	4	1:10	Section	North facing section of 1033 enclosure ditch
6	4	1:10	Section	South facing section of 1039 enclosure ditch
7	5	1:10	Section	East facing section of 1042 enclosure ditch
8	5	1:20	Plan	Detailed plan of 1042 enclosure ditch
9	4	1:20	Plan	Detailed plan of 1039 enclosure ditch
10	4	1:20	Plan	Detailed plan of 1032 enclosure ditch
11	5	1:20	Plan	Detailed plan of 1033 enclosure ditch
12	6	1:20	Section	West facing section of 1046 enclosure ditch
13	6	1:20	Plan	Plan of 1046 enclosure ditch
14	6	1:20	Section	South-west facing section of 1044 enclosure ditch
15	6	1:20	Plan	Plan of 1044 enclosure ditch
16	6	1:20	Section	South-west section of 1048 enclosure ditch
17	6	1:20	Plan	Plan of 1049 enclosure ditch
18	6	1:10	Section	West facing section of posthole 1050
19	6	1:20	Plan	Plan of posthole 1050
20	6	1:20	Section	South-east facing section of posthole 1059
21	6	1:20	Plan	Plan of posthole 1050
22	6	1:20	Section	South-east facing section of posthole 1055
23	6	1:20	Plan	Plan of posthole 1055
24	6	1:20	Section	South-east facing section of posthole 1057
25	6	1:20	Plan	Plan of posthole 1057
26	6	1:20	Section	South-east facing section of posthole 1061
27	6	1:20	Plan	Plan of posthole 1061
28	7	1:20	Section	South facing section of 1062
29	7	1:20	Plan	Plan of 1062
30	7	1:20	Section	South-west facing section of shallow linear 1066 and possible enclosure ditch 1068
31	7	1:20	Plan	Plan of 1066 and 1068

Appendix 5: Sample Register

Appendix 5: Sample Register

Sample No.	Context	Fill of	Sample Type	Reason for Collecting	Sample Volume (L)
1	1041	1042	Bulk	Charcoal	5
2	1035	1033	Bulk	Charcoal	5
3	1031	1032	Bulk	Charcoal	5
4	1038	1039	Bulk	Charcoal	5
5	1043	1044	Bulk	Charcoal	5
6	1047	1046	Bulk	Charcoal	5
7	1048	1049	Bulk	Charcoal	5
8	1051	1050	Bulk	Charcoal	2
9	1054	1055	Bulk	Charcoal	2
10	1058	1059	Bulk	Charcoal	2
11	1060	1061	Bulk	Charcoal	3
12	1056	1057	Bulk	Charcoal	1
13	1064	1065	Bulk	Charcoal	5

Appendix 6: Composition of Flots and Retents

Appendix 6a: Composition of Flots

Sample	Context	Context description	Flot vol. (ml)	Cereal Grain		Hazelnut Shell	Other Plant remains	Charcoal	Unburnt Coal	Comments
				Qty	Id. / Preservation					
1	1041	Enclosure ditch	20				1 x cf. fruits stone, unidentifiable		++	
2	1035	Enclosure ditch	20			+ (x2 frags)		++		Oak chracoal
3	1031	Enclosure ditch	10					+ (SF)		
4	1038	Enclosure ditch	20					++`		Oak charcoal
5	1043	Enclosure ditch	10					+ (VSF)	++	Vitrified charcoal
6	1047	Enclosure ditch	10					+ (VSF)	++	Vitrified charcoal
7	1048	Enclosure ditch	10					+ (VSF)	++	Vitrified charcoal
8	1051	Posthole [1050]	10	+	Barley indet x 2 / much abraded			+ (SF)	++	
9	1054	Posthole [1055]	10					+ (SF)		
10	1058	Posthole [1059]	10					+ (SF)	++	
11	1060	Posthole [1061]	20	+	Cereal indet x 1 / much abraded embryo end	+ (x1 frag)		+++		Both oak and non-oak charcoal
12	1056	Posthole [1057]	10					+ (VSF)	+	Vitrified charcoal
13	1064	Enclosure ditch	30					+++	+	Both oak and non-oak charcoal

Appendix 6b: Composition of Retents

Sample number	Context number	Context description	Volume	Pottery/Tile (possible)	Burnt Bone	Slag (possible)	Nutshell	Charcoal	Comments
1	1041	Enclosure ditch	5 litres						
2	1035	Enclosure ditch	5 litres			+		+ (SF)	
3	1031	Enclosure ditch	5 litres					+ (SF)	
4	1038	Enclosure ditch	5 litres			+			
5	1043	Enclosure ditch	5 litres	+				+ (SF)	Vitrified charcoal
6	1047	Enclosure ditch	5 litres	+ (VSF)	+ (VSF)	+		+ (SF)	Vitrified charcoal
7	1048	Enclosure ditch	5 litres	+ (VSF)				+ (SF)	Vitrified charcoal
8	1051	Posthole [1050]	2 litres	+ (VSF)					
9	1054	Posthole [1055]	2 litres	+					
10	1058	Posthole [1059]	2 litres			+		+ (VSF)	
11	1060	Posthole [1061]	3 litres	+	+ (VSF)	+		+ (SF)	
12	1056	Posthole [1057]	1 litres						
13	1064	Enclosure ditch	5 litres	+ (VSF)			+ (SF)	+ (VSF)	

Key: + = rare, ++ = occasional, +++ = common and ++++ = abundant
SF = small fragments (<5mm in dia.)
VSF = very small fragments (<2mm in dia.)

Appendix 7: WYAAS Specification

WEST YORKSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGY ADVISORY SERVICE:
SPECIFICATION FOR A PRE-DETERMINATION ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION BY TRIAL TRENCHING AND STRIP AND RECORD AT LAND OFF RUSKIN AVENUE, WRENTHORPE.

Specification prepared on behalf of Wakefield Metropolitan District Council at the request of Nansi Rosenberg of Prospect Archaeology (Planning Application reference 11/02067/FUL).

1. Summary

1.1 A limited amount of archaeological work consisting of trial trenching and a strip and record exercise 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 3205 2304

2.1 The proposed development site consists of an irregular shaped parcel of land (which measures c.7.5 hectares) which lies to the northeast of Wrenthorpe. It is bounded to the north by playing field and the A650, to the east by houses along Ruskin Avenue, to the south by houses and to the west by a railway line. The land slopes from 80m AOD in the north, to 60m AOD at the south. It is currently agricultural land.

2.2 The underlying geology of the site comprises mudstone, siltstone and sandstone of the Pennine Middle Coal Measures.

3. Background

3.1 A planning application for a residential development of 229 houses on land to the rear of Ruskin Avenue, Wrenthorpe, has been submitted to Wakefield Metropolitan District Council (11/02067/FUL).

3.2 The Planning Authority have 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 degree of archaeological recording that is necessary prior to determining the application.

3.3 This specification has been prepared by the WYAAS at the request of Nansi Rosenberg of Prospect Archaeology, acting on behalf of the applicants, to detail what is required for the evaluation.

3.4 Due to the presence of mine workings at a relatively shallow level, the developers plan to grout a large portion of the site (c. 1.7 hecatres), this grounting will be preceded by a topsoil strip which will be archaeologically monitored. The rest of the site will be subject to trial trenching. It is possible that this topsoil stripping may take place prior to the determination of the planning application, as part of site preparation works, and so it has been included within the same specification as the required pre-determination trial trenching.

4. Archaeological Interest

4.1 The proposed development site lies in an area of known archaeological significance. A desk based assessment of the site was carried in 2010 which identified a number of possible features in the surrounding area. The possible course of a Roman Road has been identified at Snow Hill, immediately south of the proposed development site, along with ridge and furrow, possible mining remains and linear features which had been identified from aerial photographs. It is possible that similar features extend into the proposed site. A Roman coin has been found within the proposed development site itself.

4.2 The north eastern part of the Snow Hill site was evaluated by trial trenching in January 2000 in advance of the construction of Phase 1 of the development. This involved the excavation of 7 trial trenches. A pit feature and debris of a demolished structure (presumed to be the remains of an early rhubarb shed) were identified, along with 17th century pottery.

4.3 A geophysical survey of the proposed site was carried out in January 2012 by GSB Prospection Ltd. This identified a number of features on the site, which included ditches, a possible enclosure and an ‘L’ shaped anomaly. A number of pit-like anomalies were identified which may be archaeological in origin.

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 Prior to the commencement of *fieldwork*, the WY HER should be visited by either the project manager or the site supervisor, in order to gain an overview of the archaeological/historical background of the site and environs. In addition to providing a knowledge base for the work in hand, the results of this 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. Please note that the WY

HER makes a charge for consultations of a commercial nature. The results of this exercise should be used to inform the whole project. Please note, however, that a formal desk-based report is not required and the results of this stage of work should be incorporated in the final report. Alternatively, if the contractor can obtain a copy of the desk based assessment (carried out by ASWYAS in 2010) and the geophysical survey from the developer/consultant then there would not be a requirement to visit the HER).

7. Fieldwork Methodology

7.1 Trench Size and Placement (Fig. 1)

7.1.1 The work will involve the excavation of fifteen 2m by 50m trenches, which can be machine-opened, and a strip and record covering roughly 1.7 hectares,. The contractor should also allow for a contingency amount of 300 square metres for the trial trenching. 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.

Total site area: **75,750m^2**
Total area of strip and record: **17,550m^2**
Total area of trenching: **1500m^2**
Contingency trenching: **300m^2**

7.2 Method of Excavation

7.2.1 The trial trenches and strip and record area 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.** 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. 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 and area of strip and record 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 or stripped area 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 Digital photography: as an alternative to 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. 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 specialist environmental analysis and scientific dating (soil profiles, archaeomagnetic dating, dendrochrology etc.) should be taken if suitable material is encountered during the excavation. The English Heritage Regional 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 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 the project, the archaeological contractor must contact the archaeological curator of the museum to determine the museum's requirements for the deposition of an excavation archive. In this case the contact is Wakefield M.D.C. Museum and Arts, Pontefract Museum, 5 Salter Row, Pontefract, WF8 1BA. telephone 01924 305352; Museums Curatorial and Collections Officer: Mr David Evans (davidevans@wakefield.gov.uk).

9.2 It is the policy of Wakefield Museums 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 Museums' 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 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. 8.4 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 copy of the report 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.

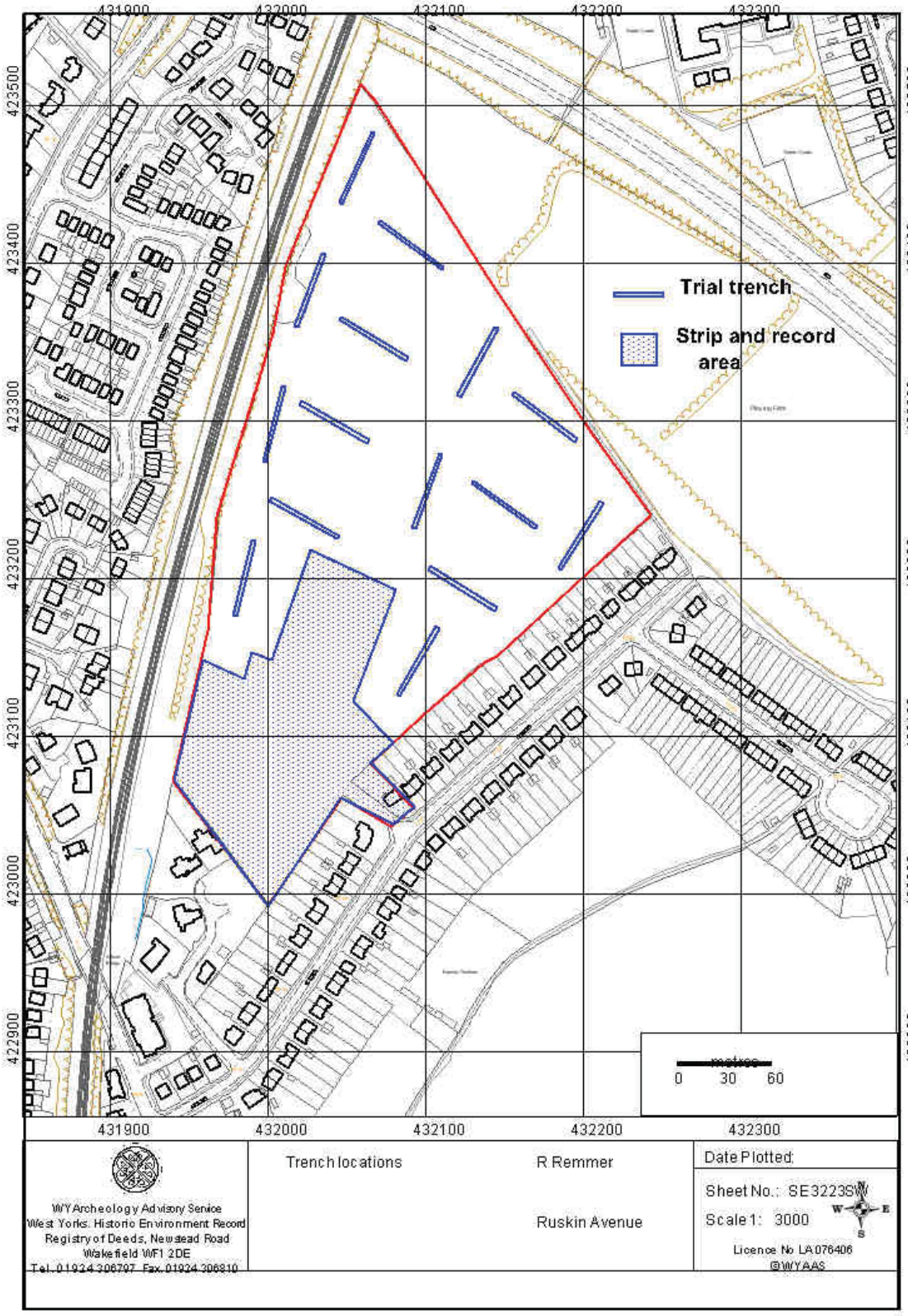
12.4 Valid Period of Specification

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.

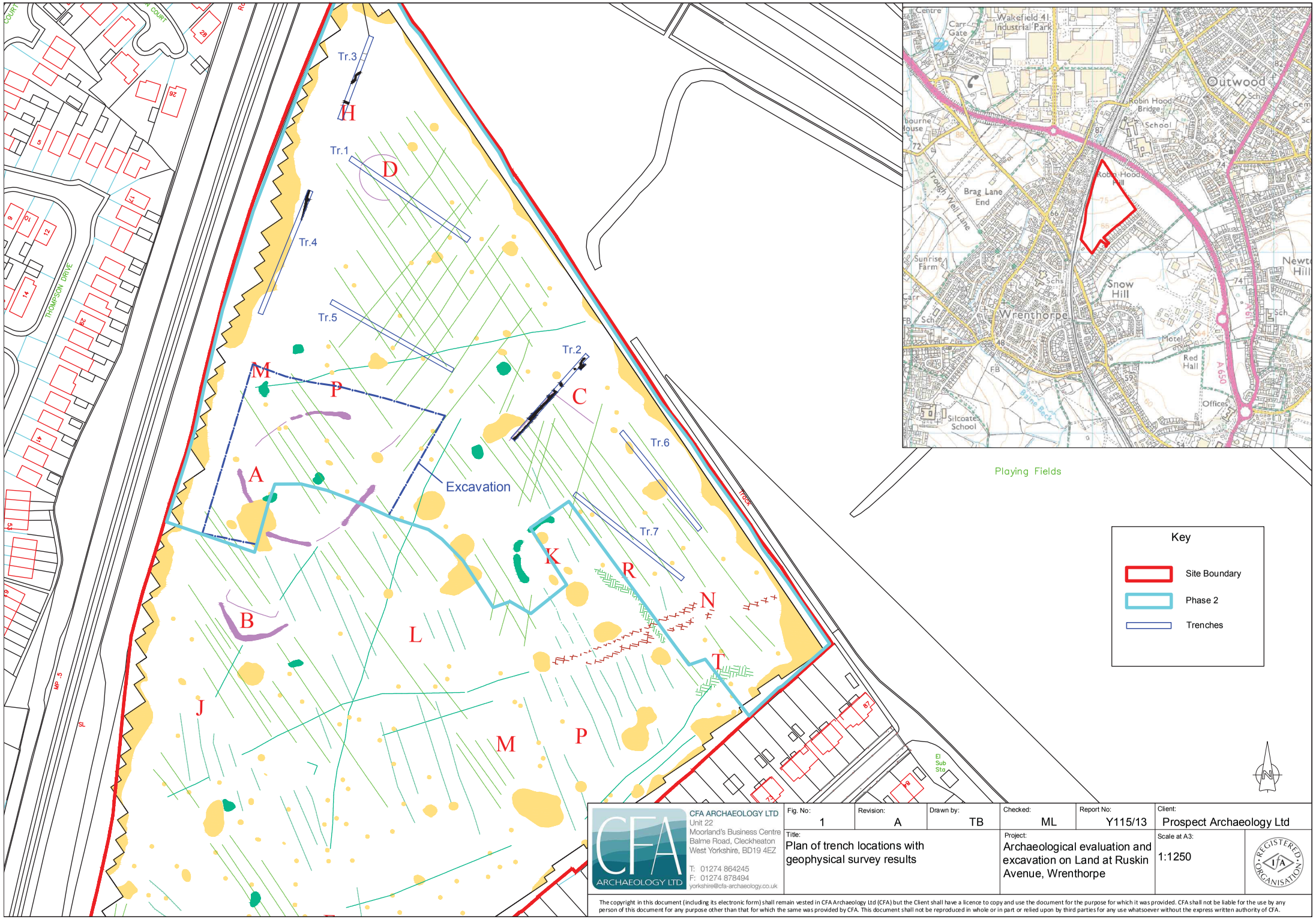
Rebecca Remmer **February 2012**
West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service

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

Telephone: (01924) 305992
Fax: (01924) 306810
E-mail: rremmer@wyjs.org.uk


431900
432000
432100
432200
432300
423500
423400
423300
423200
423100
423000
422900
Trial trench
Strip and record area
metres
0 30 60
WY Archeology Advisory Service
West Yorks. Historic Environment Record
Registry of Deeds, Newstead Road
Wakefield WF1 2DE
Tel. 01924 306797 Fax 01924 306810
Trench locations
R Remmer
Ruskin Avenue
Date Plotted:
Sheet No.: SE3223SW
Scale 1: 3000
Licence No LA 076406
©WYAAS

Figures 1 – 5



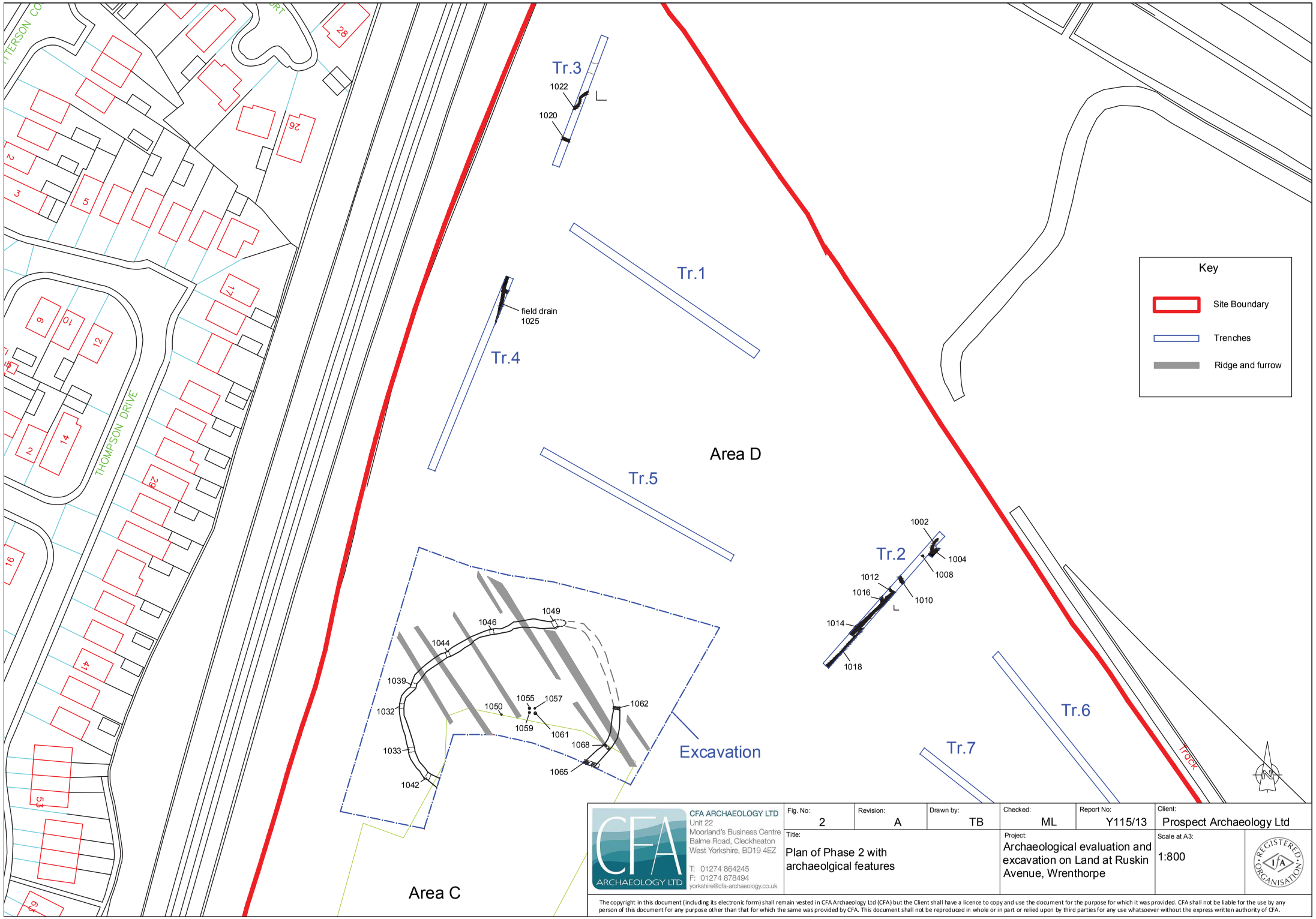
CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD
Unit 22
Moorland's Business Centre
Balme Road, Cleckheaton
West Yorkshire, BD19 4EZ
T: 01274 864245
F: 01274 878494
yorkshire@cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Fig. No:	Revision:	Drawn by:	Checked:	Report No:	Client:
1	A	TB	ML	Y115/13	Prospect Archaeology Ltd

Title: Plan of trench locations with geophysical survey results

Project: Archaeological evaluation and excavation on Land at Ruskin Avenue, Wrenthorpe

Scale at A3: 1:1250



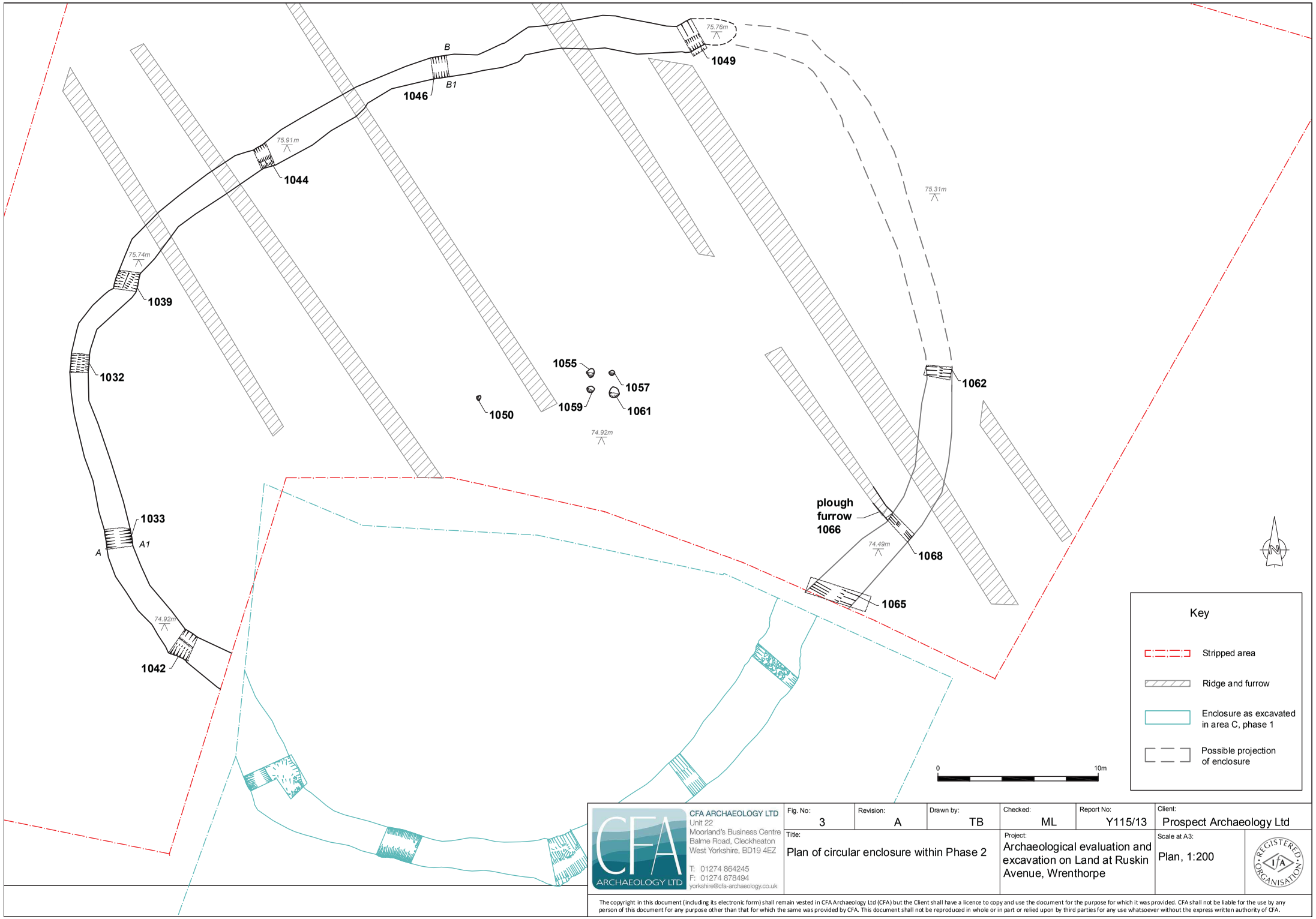
CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD
Unit 22
Moorland's Business Centre
Balme Road, Cleckheaton
West Yorkshire, BD19 4EZ
T: 01274 864245
F: 01274 878494
yorkshire@cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Fig. No:	Revision:	Drawn by:	Checked:	Report No:	Client:
2	A	TB	ML	Y115/13	Prospect Archaeology Ltd

Title: Plan of Phase 2 with archaeolgical features

Project: Archaeological evaluation and excavation on Land at Ruskin Avenue, Wrenthorpe

Scale at A3: 1:800



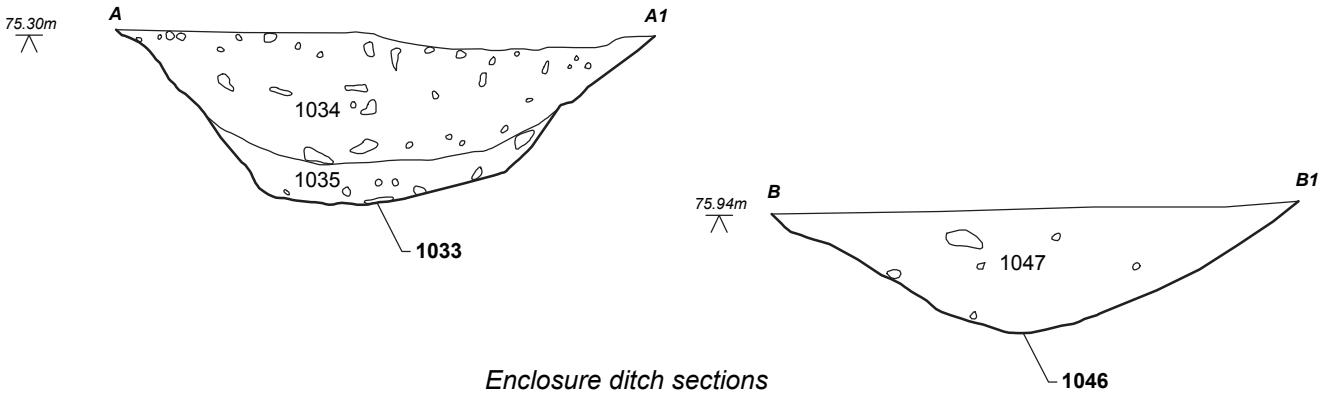
CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD
Unit 22
Moorland's Business Centre
Balme Road, Cleckheaton
West Yorkshire, BD19 4EZ
T: 01274 864245
F: 01274 878494
yorkshire@cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Fig. No:	Revision:	Drawn by:	Checked:	Report No:	Client:
3	A	TB	ML	Y115/13	Prospect Archaeology Ltd

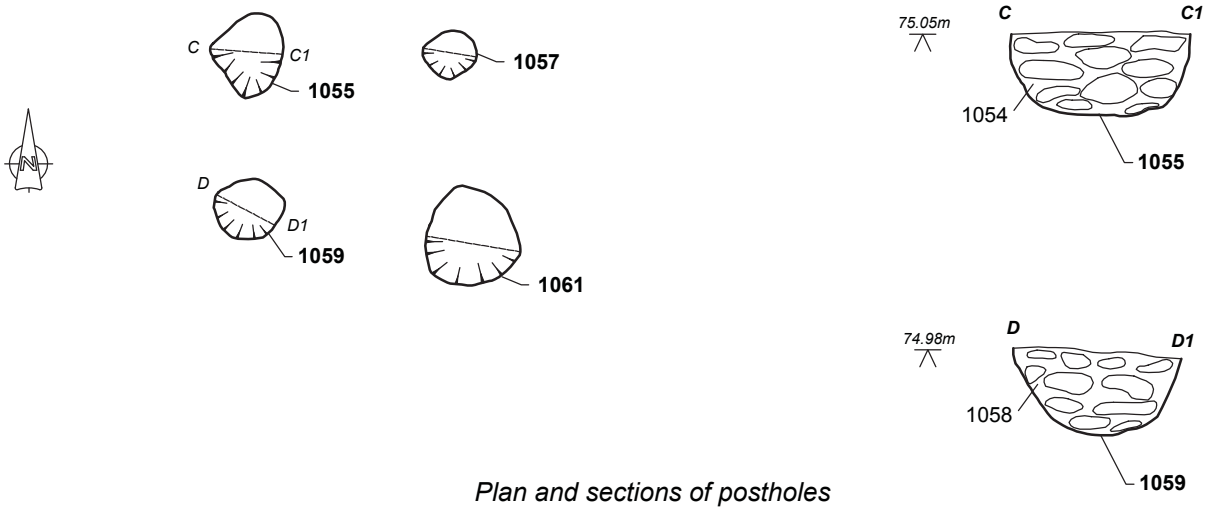
Title: Plan of circular enclosure within Phase 2

Project: Archaeological evaluation and excavation on Land at Ruskin Avenue, Wrenthorpe

Scale at A3: Plan, 1:200



Enclosure ditch sections



Plan and sections of postholes

plan 0 2m

sections 0 1m

Key:

Scale at A4: Plans, 1:50; Sections, 1:20

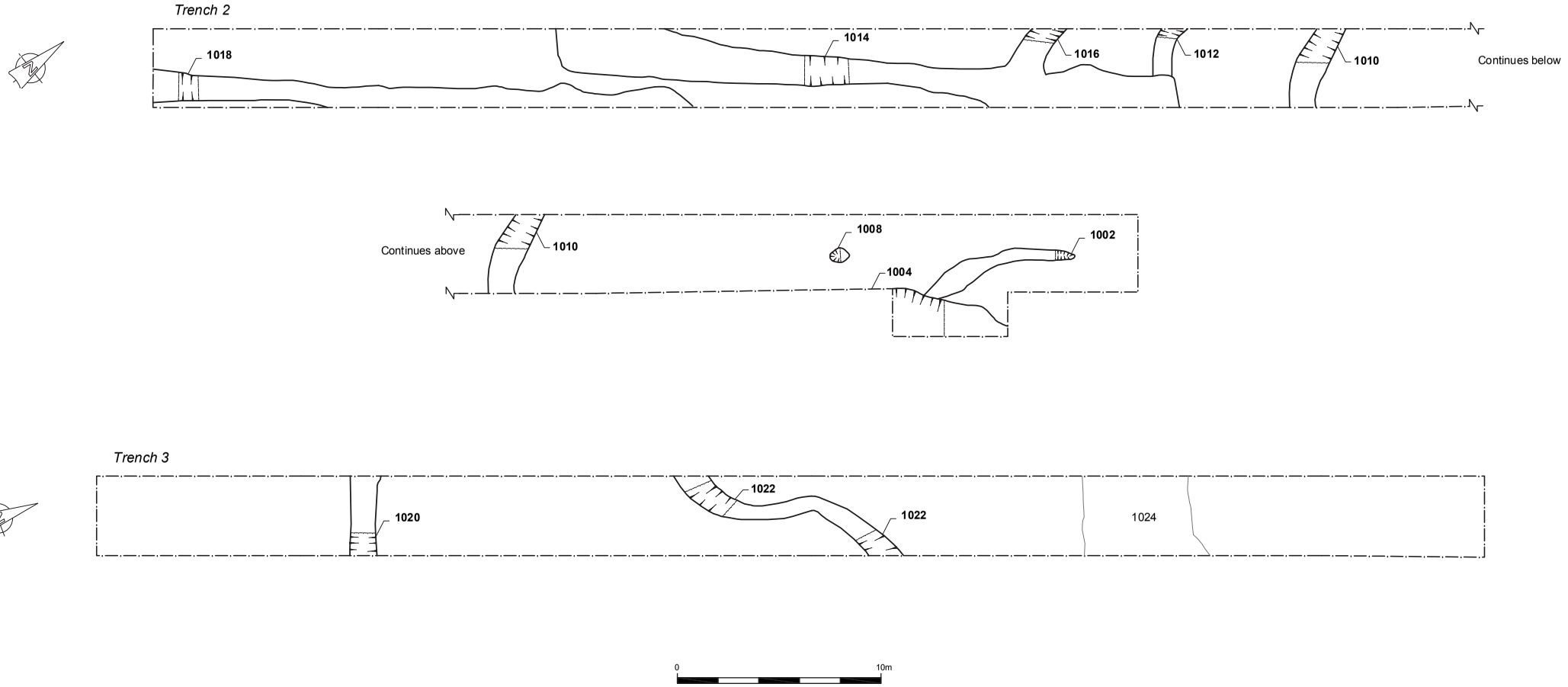
Fig No: 4 | Revision: A | Client: Prospect Archaeology Ltd

Title: Plans and sections of features

Project: Archaeological evaluation and excavation on Land at Ruskin Avenue, Wrenthorpe

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD
Unit 22
Moorland's Business Centre
Balme Road, Cleckheaton
West Yorkshire, BD19 4EZ
T: 01274 864245
F: 01274 878494
yorkshire@cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Drawn by: TB | Checked: ML | Report No: Y115/13



CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD Unit 22 Moorland's Business Centre Balme Road, Cleckheaton West Yorkshire, BD19 4EZ T: 01274 864245 F: 01274 878494 yorkshire@cfa-archaeology.co.uk	Fig. No: 5	Revision: A	Drawn by: TB	Checked: ML	Report No: Y115/13	Client: Prospect Archaeology Ltd
	Title: Plans of Trenches 2 and 3			Project: Archaeological evaluation and excavation on Land at Ruskin Avenue, Wrenthorpe		Scale at A3: Plans, 1:100

Plates 1- 8

Plate. 1 - Trench 2, taken facing north-east

Plate. 2 - Trench 2, 1002 and 1004, taken facing east

Plate. 3 - Trench 3, taken facing south

Plate. 4 - Trench 3, 1029, taken facing south

Plate. No: 1-4		Revision: A	Project:	Archaeological evaluation and excavation on Land at Ruskin Avenue, Wrenthorpe
Drawn by: TB	Checked: ML	Report No: Y115/13	Client:	Prospect Archaeology Ltd

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD
Unit 22
Moorland's Business Centre
Balme Road, Cleckheaton
West Yorkshire, BD19 4EZ

T: 01274 864245
F: 01274 878494
yorkshire@cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Plate. 5 - Photo of enclosure ditch, taken facing north-east

Plate. 6 - North-facing section of enclosure ditch (1033)

Plate. No: 5-6		Revision: A	Project: Archaeological evaluation and excavation on Land at Ruskin Avenue, Wrenthorpe
Drawn by: TB	Checked: ML	Report No: Y115/13	Client: Prospect Archaeology Ltd

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Unit 22
Moorland's Business Centre
Balme Road, Cleckheaton
West Yorkshire, BD19 4EZ
T: 01274 864245
F: 01274 878494
yorkshire@cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Plate. 7 - West-facing section of enclosure ditch (1046)

Plate. 8 - Pre-excavation shot of small pits (1055, 1057, 1059 and 1061)

Plate. No: 7-8		Revision: A	Project:	Archaeological evaluation and excavation on Land at Ruskin Avenue, Wrenthorpe
Drawn by: TB	Checked: ML	Report No: Y115/13	Client:	Prospect Archaeology Ltd

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD
Unit 22
Moorland's Business Centre
Balme Road, Cleckheaton
West Yorkshire, BD19 4EZ

T: 01274 864245
F: 01274 878494
yorkshire@cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Site name/ Address: Ruskin Avenue, Wrenthorpe	
Township: Wrenthorpe	**District:** Wakefield
National Grid Reference: SE 3205 2304 (centred)	
Contractor: CFA Archaeology	
Date of Work: September 2013	
Title of Report: Land at Ruskin Avenue, Wrenthorpe, Archaeological Evaluation and Excavation Phase 2	
Date of Report: 25/06/2014	

SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:

A programme of archaeological works consisting of evaluation trenching and open-area excavation was undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd prior to the development of land at Ruskin Avenue, Wrenthorpe, near Wakefield, West Yorkshire. This followed on from an earlier phase of works (Moore 2012).

An enclosure identified from geophysical survey (GSB 2012) and dated in the previous phase of works was shown to continue, though it was heavily truncated by agricultural activity and disturbed by relict cultivation furrows and land drainage. No structural features or entrances to the enclosure were identified and apart from five small undated pits or post holes, there were no internal features.

In addition to the open area excavation, seven evaluation trenches were excavated. Relict cultivation furrows were recorded, as was post-medieval field drainage and deposits associated with the construction of a nearby railway. No other archaeological features were identified.

Most of the pottery recovered was from the post-medieval contexts and dated from the 17th to 18th century. A single sherd of Romano-British pottery from the enclosure ditch was recovered from environmental samples, though the material was too abraded to date closely.
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Author of summary: Martin Lightfoot	**Date of summary:** 25/06/2014