SPRINGHILL
TWEEDMOUTH
NORTHUMBERLAND

~ ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION ~

OCTOBER 2019

Prepared for: *Michael Guthrie Developments*	By: *The Archaeological Practice Ltd.*

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REPORT ON AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Prepared by:

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***Frontispiece**: Aerial view of the trench layout following excavation in October 2019*

Grid Reference:	NU 00169 50753
Date of fieldwork:	October 2019
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SUMMARY

This document, prepared by the Archaeological Practice Ltd. has been commissioned by Michael Guthrie to report on an archaeological evaluation carried out in October 2019 to evaluate the impact, upon potential archaeological remains, of a proposed housing development on a previously undeveloped site at Springhill, Spittal (centred on Grid Reference: NU 00169 50753*). The report has been requested by Northumberland County Council as the first stage in the invasive archaeological investigation of the site which may subsequently lead to further exploratory or mitigation excavations.*

The excavation of 13 trenches revealed no archaeological features of high importance and only one of any real note, namely a circular feature of likely modern industrial origin, perhaps an in filled bell pit, in Trench 13. Another circular feature, too wide to be a bell pit, so perhaps the result of subsidence (like a feature still visible in the field to the east) was exposed in plan in Trench 12 and the possible, ploughed-out remains of rig and furrow cultivation features were noted in Trench 11.

It was notable that, while most trenches encountered shallow deposits of top-soil above natural boulder clay, bed-rock was encountered in several trenches as well as outcropping in the form of a ridge in the north part of the site. Topsoil deposits overlying natural boulder clay and bedrock were universally shallow, except at the northern and southern edges of the field, seen in trenches 1 and 13, where deeper deposits were encountered, partly made up of mixed deposits which may have been deliberately deposited as infill.

The remains encountered through excavation at Springhill do not suggest that significant archaeological remains survive there, other than those of coal-mining and related activities which are known to have been practiced in Tweedmouth, Spittal, Scremerston and surrounding areas from the medieval period to 20th century. Most significant was the absence of any trace of features potentially related to Scheduled site of a suggested enclosure late prehistoric or Roman enclosure occupying the hill top. Whilst it is cautioned that the absence of finds or features associated with this purported settlement site does not conclusively prove its absence, the presence of bedrock close to the surface in several trenches, some of it clearly lying in stepped or ridged profile, suggests the possibility that the features interpreted in the 1950s as cropmarks of a Roman or iron age camp, may instead have been derived from geological or later industrial activity.

Since there remains some reasonable potential for the survival of archaeological remains on the site of evaluation, notably with respect to the Scheduled enclosure site occupying the elevated ground, it is recommended that groundworks carried out within a 30 metres of the boundaries of the Scheduled site should be monitored archaeologically. The preferable means of carrying out such monitoring is by means of a 'strip, map and sample' process, but the final decision in this regard will be made by the assistant county archaeologist when details of the working methods involved in site preparation and foundation works are agreed.

1. INTRODUCTION - PURPOSE OF EVALUATION

1.1 Planning Background

This document, prepared by the Archaeological Practice Ltd. has been commissioned by Michael Guthrie to report on an archaeological evaluation carried out in October 2019 to evaluate the potential impact upon potential archaeological remains of a proposed housing development, comprising new build dwellings and related roads, pathways and services.

The proposed site of development covers an area of approximately *10 hectares* which is currently under arable cultivation and bordered by hedge lines, with a single hedged sub-division running east-west from the main A 1167 road which borders the site to the west. The area covered by the evaluation reported in this document is only a small proportion of the total site, however, occupying some 0.9 ha at the extreme west side of the site, the bulk of it having been evaluated during an earlier phase in 2009.

Subsequent to a pre-application enquiry, Historic England advice provided to NCC in a letter dated May 14th, 2019 [ref: P01067580] noted that the development application surrounds a scheduled monument known as "Springhill Camp" (National Heritage List for England HA 1003655). This is a cropmark site which has had no previous archaeological investigation and is tentatively identified as a possible "Roman camp". It was noted in the planning advice that this clearly has significance through its potential to yield archaeological information about the Romano-British period in the Tweedmouth area of Northumberland. The evaluation works done in 2009 in support of the outline application did not find significant archaeological remains in the areas outwith the monument and the monument itself was not evaluated.

Subsequent advice to the developer, provided by Sarah Winlow, Assistant County Archaeologist at Northumberland County Council, on 20th May, 2019 [19/01095/REM] recommended carrying out exploratory evaluation excavation on the parts of the site not investigated as part of the 2007 works, and incorporating those results in a Heritage Statement to assess the impact of the development on the physical remains and setting of Springhill Scheduled Monument.

Thus, Northumberland County Council planning advice was that archaeological evaluation by excavation was appropriate in this case in order to determine the level of archaeological potential of the site and any constraints upon development.

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by The Archaeological Practice Ltd. was agreed with Northumberland Conservation in advance of fieldwork. This document (see *Appendix 2*, below), summarised the aims of the evaluation work, which were to determine the character, extent, age and degree of survival of archaeological remains in order to evaluate their importance and, if necessary, formulate an appropriate mitigation strategy for the next phase of development.

It was agreed with Northumberland Conservation (NC) to carry out the field investigation using mechanical excavation of thirteen trenches in the positions specified in *Illus. 03*, followed by full excavation by hand and monitoring by the NC archaeologist.

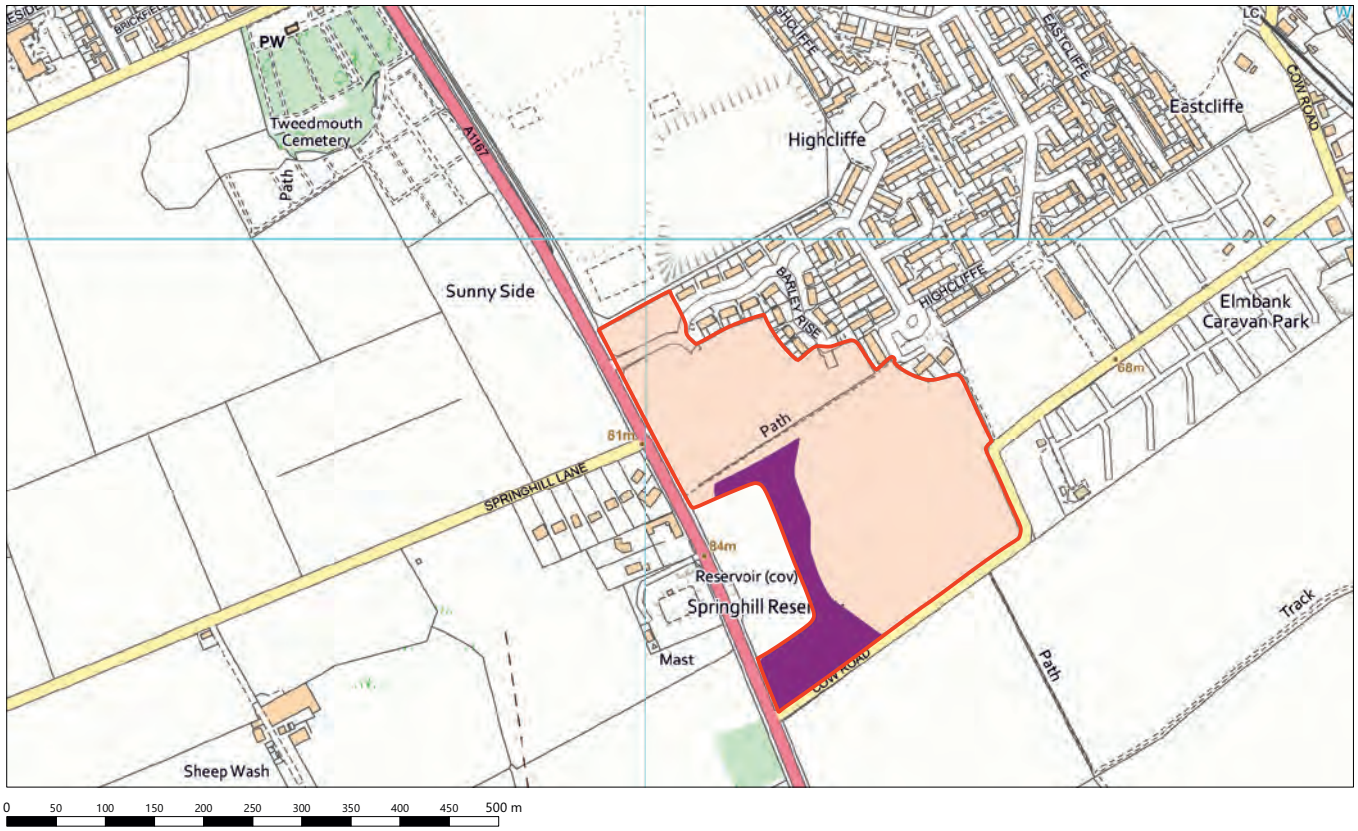
The report has been requested by Northumberland County Council as the first stage in the invasive archaeological investigation of the site which may subsequently lead to further exploratory or mitigation excavations.

1.2 Geology and Topography

The solid geology of the area is typical of the Northumberland Coalfield, being underlain by coal measures of the Upper Carboniferous age. These consist mainly of mudstones and sandstones with numerous coal seams. These bedrocks are heavily mantled by glacial debris up to 20m thick, mainly boulder clay or till, deposited from ice sheets which covered the area during the last glacial period. These deposits typically give rise to a relatively featureless till plain landscape.

Topographically, the site is situated within of the coastal lowlands of north-east Northumberland and slopes gently towards a hill top at 000 m.

Illus. 01: *Regional view, showing the location of the evaluation site (circled in red), south of Berwick-upon-Tweed near the Anglo-Scottish Border.*



Illus. 02: *Street view, showing the location of the evaluation site (purple area) within the broader proposed development area (bound in red), immediately to the east of Springwell Reservoir.*

2. CULTURAL HERITAGE BACKGROUND

5.1 *Prehistoric*

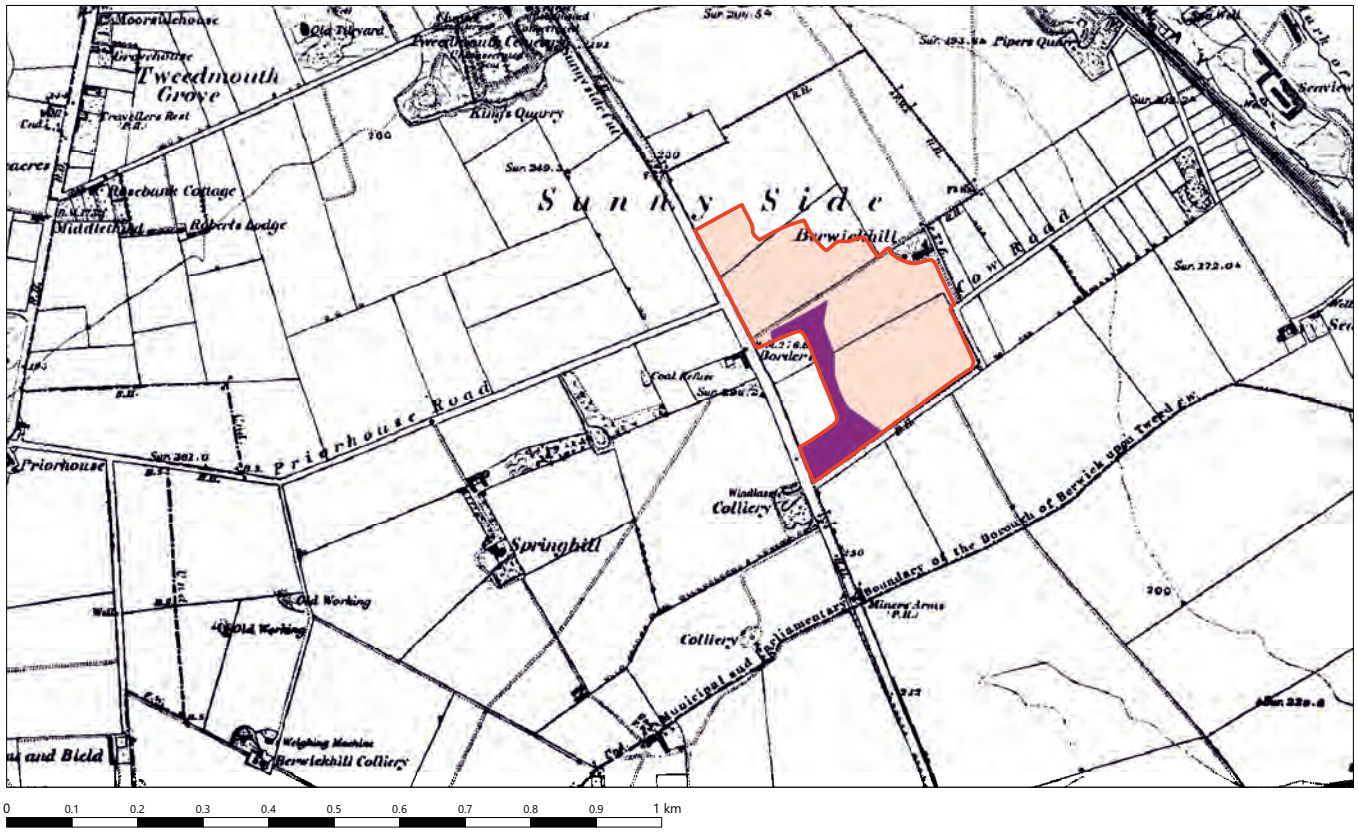
There is no known artefactual evidence for human activity within the bounds of the assessment area from the Mesolithic or Neolithic periods (c 8000-4000BC and c 4000-2500BC, respectively), but it should be assumed that some level of activity, whether involving periods of permanent settlement or sporadic land-use for hunting and low-intensity farming occurred within the assessment site over the several millennia of known human presence in the area dating from the recolonisation of northern England after the last Ice Age. The lack of evidence for such activity is not unexpected, since it is not usually marked by substantial structures or dense scatters of material and, in this case, the site is heavily developed with deep medieval and later overburden over any earlier remains, which have not been explored by archaeological field investigation in the area. The earliest attested indication of early land-use in the vicinity of the assessment include a possible circular cropmark enclosure (Site no. 08), cropmarks and a series of large pits excavated at Elmbank Caravan Park (Sites no. 17 & 35) and possible ring ditches SE of the site (Site nos. 25 & 26), while the site of a possible later prehistoric sub-rectangular enclosure has been identified on land south of Cemetery Lane (Site no. 18). Several HER entries are listed for prehistoric features and artefacts in the wider area, notably a Bronze Age cist (HER no. NT 95 SE 17) excavated in 1927 close to the southern end of Berwick bridge, earthworks SW of the site (NGR NT968515) and a cup marked stone in the same vicinity (NGR NT965504).

The nature and density of landholding within this lowland area during the later prehistoric and Roman periods is unknown and settlement within the assessment area undocumented, although it may be assumed that the immediate locality, as an agriculturally resource-rich environment, was farmed, and that the seasonal exploitation of wild resources continued. Aerial photographs provide evidence of discrete late prehistoric or Romano-British farmsteads locally, representative of a class of settlement found in the coastal lowlands of north-east England and the Borders (Jobey 1982, 1- 23). Surviving remains of enclosures at Halidon Hill (SAM no.591; NGR NT 968 548) and Camphill (SAM no. 592; NGR NT 975 547) provide evidence for larger, defensible late prehistoric settlements in the vicinity, while smaller sites may include Springhill and the sub-rectangular enclosure noted above as Site no. 18.

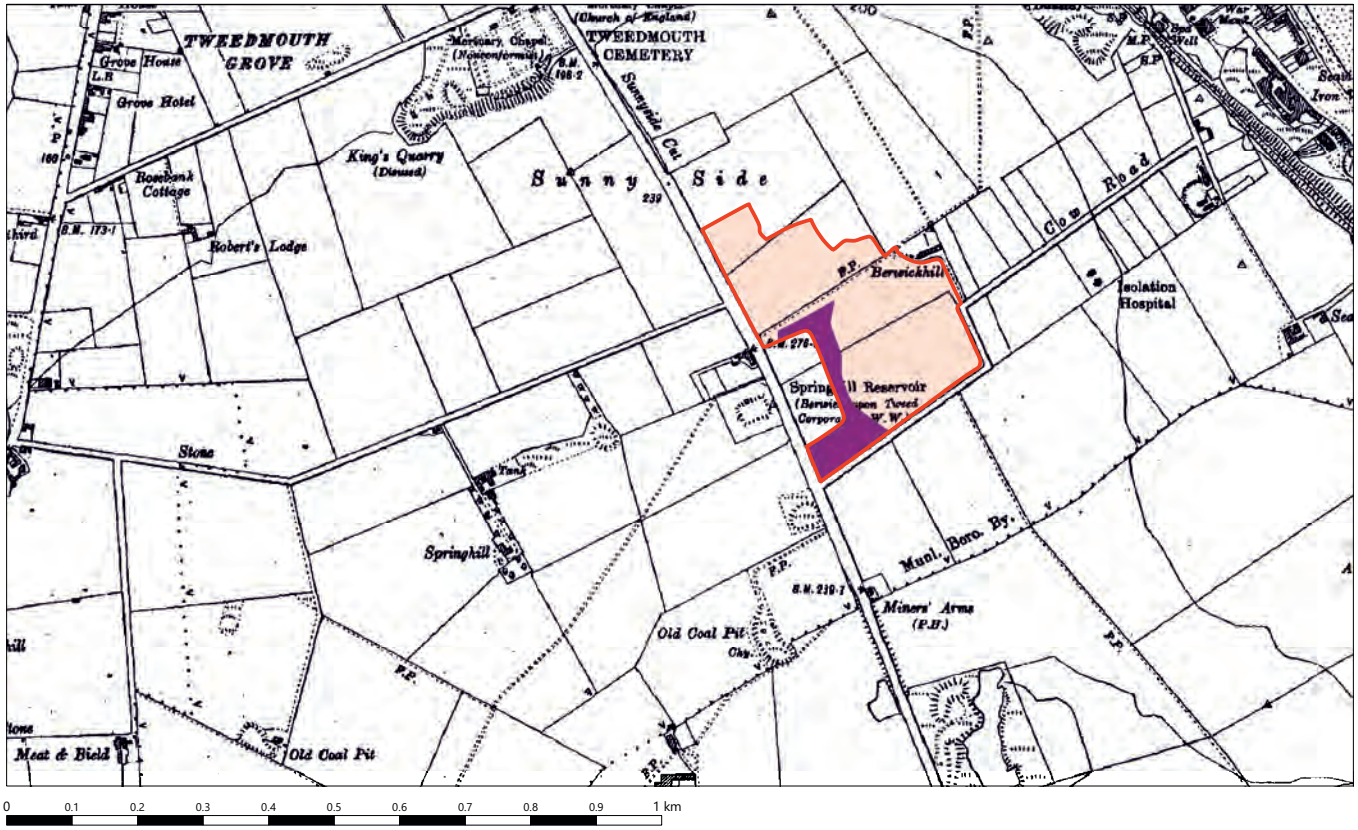
5.2 The Roman Period

The enigmatic question of Roman occupation, or at least a Roman military presence in the area, has remained a matter of some debate since MacLauchlan (1864a & 1864b) mapped the course of the Devil's Causeway Roman Road to a point within two kilometres of Tweedmouth (ending at NGR NU 9985 5060), west of Scremerston, where Springhill 'Roman Camp' (SAM no.341; NGR NU 000 506) lies in close association.

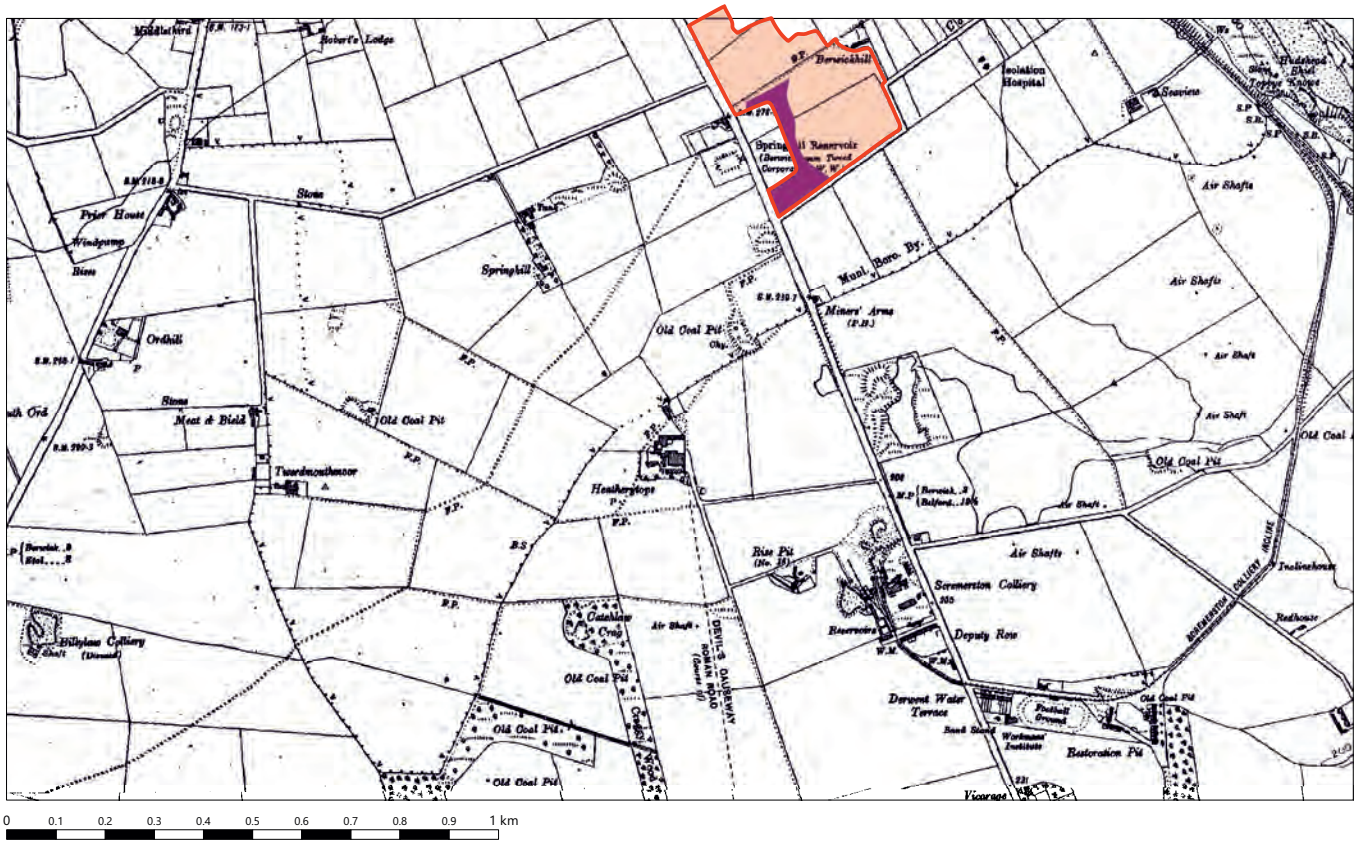
Springhill Camp, an enclosed site, previously thought to be a Roman fortlet and scheduled as a marching camp (Scheduled Monument 1003655), is known only from historic aerial photographs, on which basis it appears to comprise the subsurface remains of two large and roughly concentric ditches c. 3 m wide, separated by c. 2 m. It has been noted that if the line of the ditches, photographed in 1945 by J K S St Joseph (see *Illus. 00*), are extrapolated, they



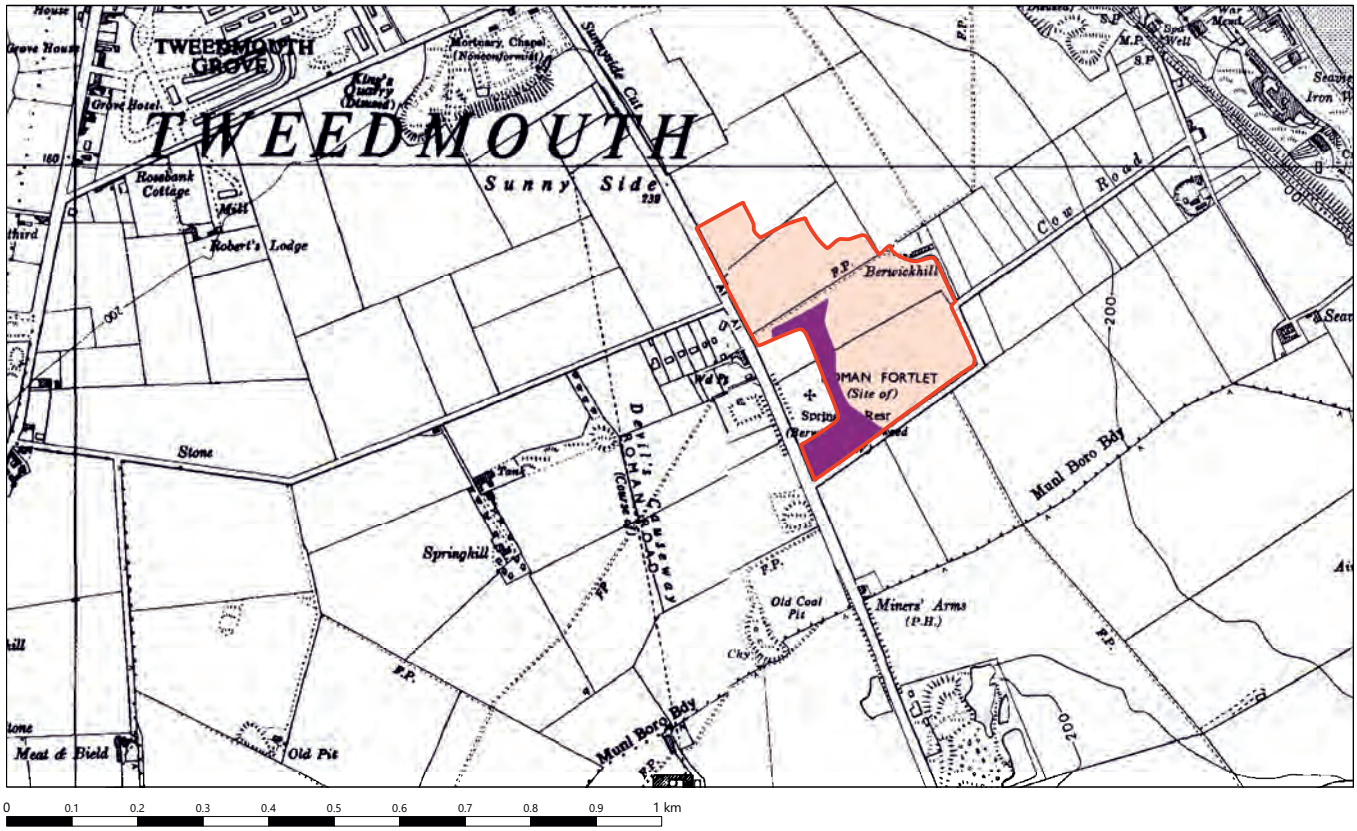
Illus. 03: *Extract of the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey Plan c.1860s, showing the evaluation site (purple area) within the broader proposed development area (outlined in red).*



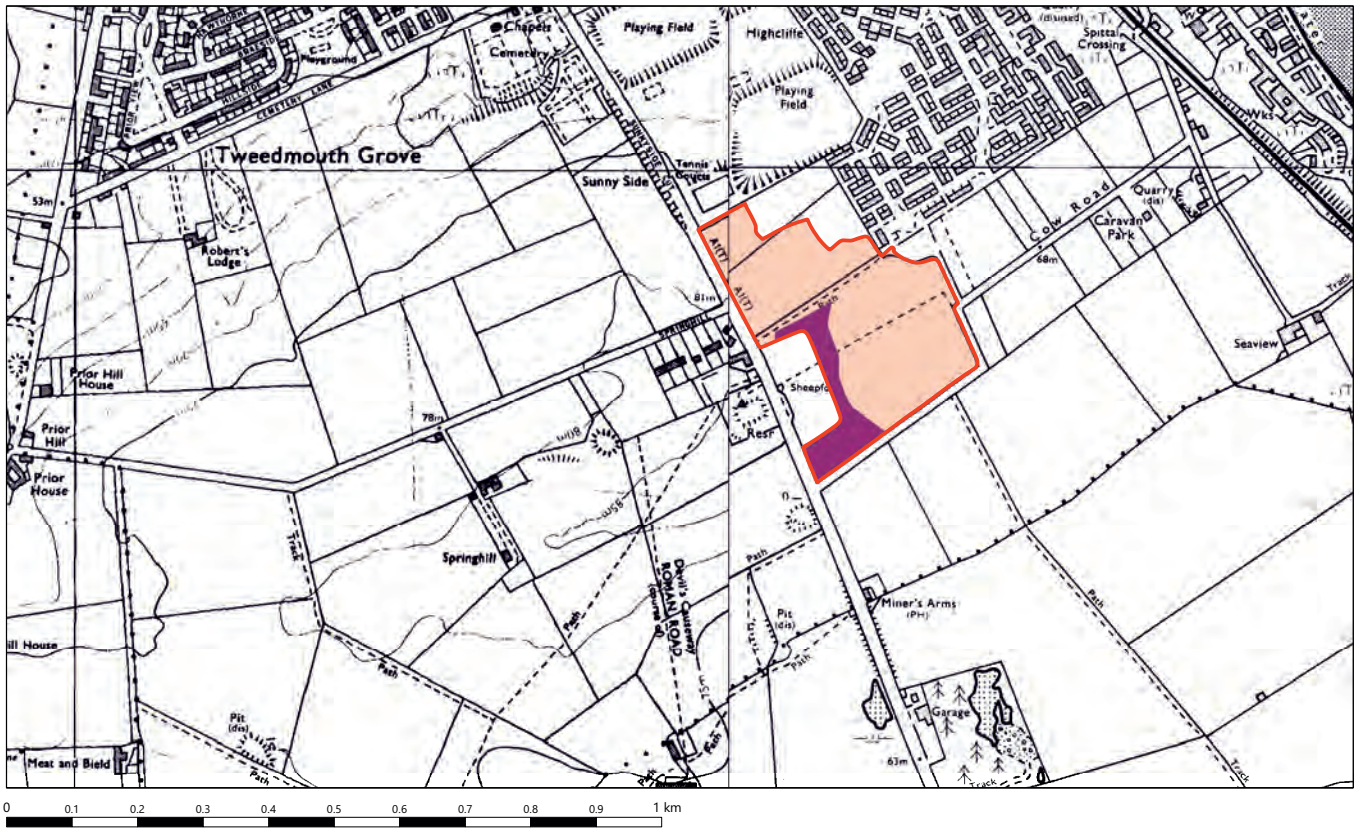
Illus. 04: *Extract of the 3rd Edition Ordnance Survey Plan c.1920s, showing the evaluation site (purple area) within the broader proposed development area (outlined in red).*



Illus. 05: *Additional extract of the 3rd Edition Ordnance Survey Plan c.1920s, showing a wider area, including the route of the Devil's Causeway Roman Road ending at Heatherytops.*



Illus. 06: *Extract of the c.1950s Edition Ordnance Survey Plan, showing the evaluation site (purple area) within the broader proposed development area (outlined in red).*



Illus. 07: *Extract of the c.1970s Edition Ordnance Survey Plan, showing the evaluation site (purple area) within the broader proposed development area (outlined in red). Note the course of the Devil's Causeway ending adjacent to Springhill.*

define the top of a rise. However, the enclosure is more likely to represent an Iron Age or Romano-British defended settlement rather than a Roman marching camp.

Illus. 08: Aerial photograph from 1945 showing possible cropmarks of parallel enclosure ditches south of the Springhill water tower *(Cambridge University CU B40 1945)*

It is interesting to note that different historic editions of the Ordnance Survey map series show the Devil's Causeway extending northward to varying degrees. Until the 1920s it was shown extending as far at Heathertops, some 300-400 m south-west of Springhill, but by the 1950s, when the Scheduled 'Roman Camp' had been found at Springhill, the projected course of the Devil's Causeway had been extended northwards by some 600 m to Sunnyside on the southern outskirts of Tweedmouth. By the 1970s, however, its northernmost extent had retreated back to a point adjacent to the Springhill water tower. Thus, it appears that the discovery of the 'Roman Camp' in the 1940s came about as a result of the positive desire to find sites on the projected course of the Devil's Causeway (which in the area north of Lowick is difficult or impossible to trace as a cropmark). And, having been discovered, it was immediately assigned a Roman date because of its presumed association with the road. The later realisation that many native settlements lie on the course of this and other Roman roads in Northumberland – notably around the Devil's Causeway crossing of the Hartburn further south in Northumberland – perhaps caused rethinking about its possible origins which, in turn, led to the retreat of the Devil's Causeway on Ordnance Survey mapping from the 1970's.

It is often assumed that the Devil's Causeway continued its course towards the present Berwick Bridge (Margary 1973, 480), site of earlier, medieval bridges of wooden construction, but it is uncertain whether the river was bridged in the Roman period or if the road continued north of the Tweed, as suspected by Bishop (2014 and pers. com.). The

balance of evidence suggests that a Roman road ran towards the mouth of the Tweed at or east of the current Tweed Dock, where landing facilities and perhaps a bridge may have been provided, or just around the coast at Spittal, from where the ascent and descent to and from the waterfront would have been more manageable. Supporting artefactual evidence for a Roman presence at Tweedmouth is limited to the find of a single coin.

Springhill Camp has not been subject to any archaeological investigation but, in 2009, Rathmell Archaeology carried out a 6% field evaluation of the area to the west, incorporating a large part of the current development site. Apart from a small semi-circular feature defined by a relatively shallow gully discovered in Trench 2, the evaluation did not reveal significant archaeological remains. However, the evaluation did not include the area immediately adjacent to the Scheduled Monument, or the southern corner of the development site, between the Scheduled Monument, Cow Road and trial trench 37 (see Figure 3b, Rathmell Archaeology RA9041 – copy retained by the County HER).

5.3 *The Medieval Period*

No direct archaeological evidence of early medieval (Anglo-Saxon or Viking) activity has been found within or close to the evaluation site, but it is likely that the area was farmed at this time, and several important early medieval settlement sites associated with Bernicia, or the Kingdom of Northumbria are known in what is now north Northumberland and southern Scotland. Cropmarks of possible features of early medieval date have been suggested in the form of pits, ditches and possible grubenhaus at NGR NU 00335044 (Site no. 24), while. Further evidence for pre-Conquest activity in the vicinity may be inferred on the basis of place-name evidence and several important early medieval settlement sites associated with Bernicia, or the Kingdom of Northumbria, notably at Lindisfarne.

The first documentary evidence of settlement within, or close to, the south bank of the Tweed dates to the 12th century. The Norman church of St Boisilius at Tweedmouth, built in 1143, was probably on the site of an earlier Saxon church, however, and it is likely that settlement grew up around this church site from an early period, probably extending the short distance to the riverside. Trading activity documented at Tweedmouth from 1292 is of a nature suggesting that it was by this time already high in volume and well-established. Bridges linking Tweedmouth with Berwick are attested on or around the present site of Berwick bridge from the twelfth century but much earlier structures may have existed; one of the predecessors of the present bridge was swept away in a flood of 1199 in the reign of Malcolm IV of Scotland. The site of Spittal medieval village (*Site no. 23),* suggestive of a medieval two-row village with central green, is on or close to the current village and it is unlikely that medieval settlement spread as far as the Springhill site.

5.4 *Post-Medieval and Modern*

Until the middle of the nineteenth century it is reasonable to regard Berwick and Tweedmouth – the latter free from the physical constraints of defensive walls - as separate entities, socially, administratively and economically. This situation changed fundamentally with the incorporation of Tweedmouth (along with Spittal) in the old Borough of Berwick in 1835 and the dissolution of the detached portion of County Durham called Islandshire, within which Tweedmouth, but not Berwick, was formally included until 1844.

In broad terms, Tweedmouth village and parish, which included Spittal, while smaller than Berwick was by no means insubstantial and accounted for 32% of the total population of the three settlements in 1801, rising to 38% by 1911. Tweedmouth evolved as a separate village with different character to its larger neighbour, its residents engaged principally in fishing and farming, later becoming attractive to those wishing to set up large, noisy or polluting industrial enterprises, a tendency accentuated in the 19th century as the scale of industrial activities grew and the developing railway and port infrastructure was concentrated on the Tweed's southern bank. More recently, Tweedmouth and Spittal absorbed much of Berwick's physical expansion as overcrowding within the walls was relieved by the building of housing estates, many of them on the south side of the Tweed.

Extensive deposits of coal lie south of the Tweed, notably on the outskirts of Tweedmouth opposite Berwick, where mining took place continuously from around 1500-1900. While references to the use of sea coal exist from as early as the 14th century, the earliest record of mining as a source of coal is from 1491; indeed, Tweedmouth's Berwick Hill Colliery was probably the earliest and certainly most-long lived of all the collieries in north Northumberland. Early use of coal was principally for domestic fires and the supply of salt pans, but it is notable that as early as 1560 coals were being brought in from Newcastle to supplement local coals in the supply of fuel to lime kilns during the repair of Berwick Castle walls. Amongst numerous sites of coal-mining activity shown on historic Ordnance Survey maps, the following are included on the county HER within 1km of the Springhill site: Scremerston Wagonway (Site no. 45) which operated until 1938, Scremerston Old Level (Site no. 04) Berwickhill Colliery (Site no. 05), 'Old' Berwickhill Pit (Site no. 06) and Engine Pit (Site no. 07), which may also have been the site of a brickworks. Other brickworks and sites of wider ceramic production, including tiles and earthenware pottery manufactories operated on a small-scale at several locations in and around Tweedmouth, particularly during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

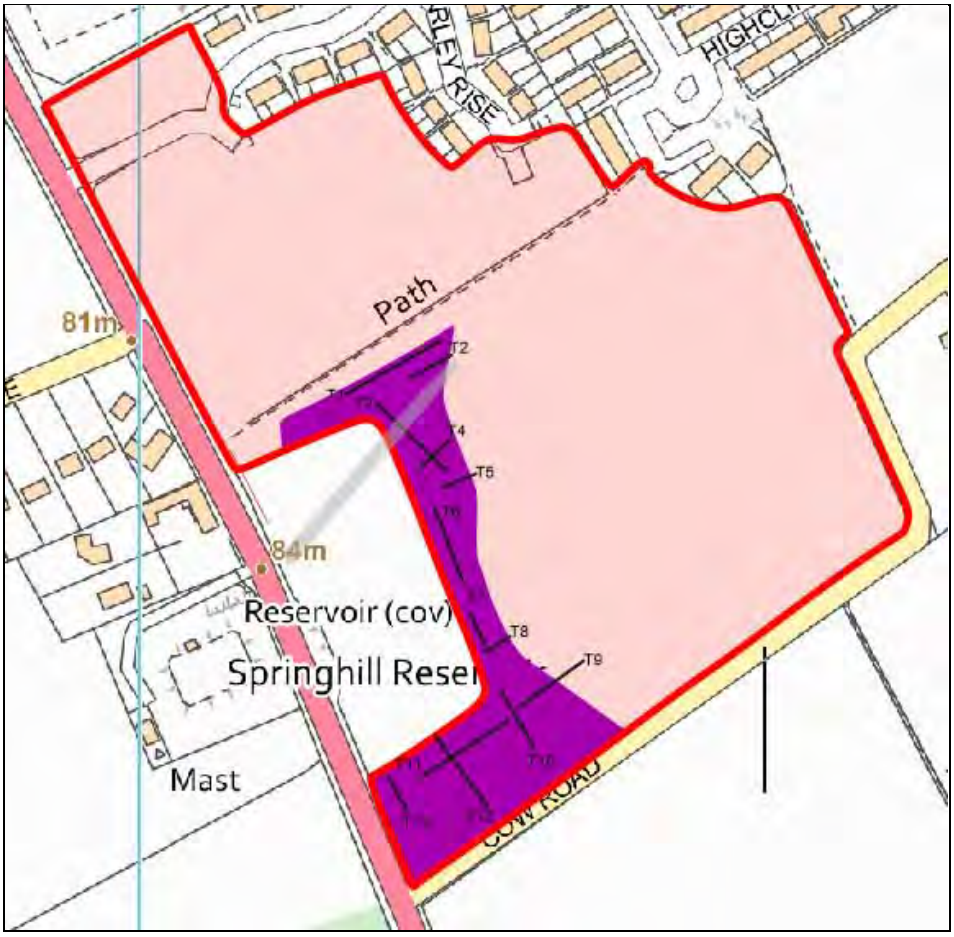
3. EVALUATION PROGRAMME

3.1 Aims

Archaeological ground evaluation was carried out in previously uninvestigated parts of the site at 6% sampling ratio. Since the un-investigated area (i.e. not covered in the Rathmell (2009) Investigations) was 948 square metres, a total of 615 square metres represented by 410 m of linear trenching, distributed across the site by means of 13 trenches (see *Illus. 09*), was carried out in order comfortably to comply with the 6% sampling requirement.

The purpose of the evaluation was to determine the level of potential constraint upon development by recording any features or archaeological interest found to survive on the site, thus to allow the development of an appropriate mitigation strategy in response.

All 13 trenches were excavated to a depth sufficient to establish either the presence of natural sub-soil or the presence of any archaeological remains. Overburden on the site was removed by mechanical excavator supervised by archaeological staff from The Archaeological Practice Ltd. Hand excavation, including cleaning of the trench faces to reveal changes in context and potential features, was carried out prior to recording by the same, suitably qualified and experienced staff from the Archaeological Practice Ltd.



Illus. 09: The distribution of evaluation trenches excavated at Springhill in October, 2019.

4. RESULTS

A total of 13 trenches were excavated on a proposed development site within farmland on the western fringes of Spital-Tweedmouth, south of Berwick, with the following results.

4.1 Trench 1

4.1.1 ***Location and Dimensions:***
Trench 1 was located in the north part of the site, roughly SW-NE and parallel to the route of a gas main and plot boundary, orthogonal to the main A 1167 road past the site.

Dimensions: 50 m (length) x 1.50 m (width) x 0.70 m (max depth).

4.1.2 ***Stratigraphy and Archaeology:*** (*See Illus. 03, and Photos 1-3*)
The depth of black, sandy loam-based topsoil [101], containing mixed deposits at greatest depth [102] at the west end of the trench was 0.70 m over a pure, fine white sand [103], but its depth rapidly shallowed to 0.40 m in the middle of the trench where, at 19 m from the west, bed rock [104] was encountered at 0.25 m depth. The eastern half of the trench the top soil was only 0.20-0.25 m deep, sitting on eroded dark red - brown sandstone.

4.1.3 ***Interpretation:***
No archaeological remains of any kind were encountered in Trench 1.

4.1.4 ***Context List:***
[101] Loam-based brown topsoil.
[102] Mixed loam-based soil deposit.
[103] Natural fine white sand.
[104] Outcrop of sandstone bedrock.

4.2 Trench 2

4.2.1 ***Location and Dimensions:***
Trench 2 was located in the north part of the site, roughly SW-NE and parallel to Trench 1, orthogonal to the main A 1167 road past the site.

Dimensions: 20 m (length) x 1.50 m (width) x 0.36 m (max depth).

4.2.2 ***Stratigraphy and Archaeology:*** (*See Illus. 03 and Photos 4-6*)
The shallow loam-based topsoil [201] sat to a max. depth of 0.24 m upon a natural deposit of mixed sand [202], probably derived from the weathering of sandstone bedrock immediately underlying.

4.2.3 ***Interpretation:***
No archaeological remains of any kind were encountered in Trench 1.

4.2.4 ***Context List:***
[201] Loam-based brown topsoil.
[202] Natural sand deposit.

4.3 Trench 3

4.3.1 ***Location and Dimensions:***
Trench 3 was positioned across a spur or ridge of bedrock running NW-SE across the north part of the site and visible on historic aerial views. The trench ran approximately north-south across the ridge, parallel to the route of the main A 1167 road past the site.

Dimensions: 50 m (length) x 1.50 m (width) x 0.22 m (max depth).

4.3.2 ***Stratigraphy and Archaeology:*** (*See Illus. 03 and Photos 7-11*)
On the arable fields north and south of the bedrock ridge the shallow loam-based topsoil [301] sat to a max. depth of 0.22 m upon the natural deposit of sub-soil [302]. The bedrock ridge over which the trench was cut was of unmodified sandstone.

4.3.3 ***Interpretation:***
No archaeological remains of any kind were encountered in Trench 3.

4.3.4 ***Context List:***
[201] Loam-based brown topsoil.
[202] Natural sub-soil.
[303] Ridge of sandstone bedrock outcrop.

4.4 Trench 4

4.4.1 ***Location and Dimensions:***
Trench 4 was positioned SW-NE, orthogonal to the main A 1167 road, south of the spur of bedrock outcrop running SW-NE across the north part of the site.

Dimensions: 20 m (length) x 1.50 m (width) x 0.32 m (max depth).

4.4.2 ***Stratigraphy and Archaeology:*** (*See Illus. 03 and Photos 12-13*)
A shallow loam-based topsoil [401] sat to a max. depth of 0.25 m upon the natural deposit of sub-soil [402].

4.4.3 ***Interpretation:***
No archaeological remains of any kind were encountered in Trench 4.

4.4.4 ***Context List:***
[401] Loam-based brown topsoil.
[402] Natural sub-soil.

4.5 Trench 5

4.5.1 ***Location and Dimensions:***
Trench 5 was positioned WSW-ENE, orthogonal to the main A 1167 road, south of and roughly parallel to trench 4.

Dimensions: 20 m (length) x 1.50 m (width) x 0.21 m (max depth).

4.5.2 ***Stratigraphy and Archaeology:*** (*See Illus. 03 and Photo 14*)
A shallow loam-based topsoil [501] sat to a max. depth of 0.25 m upon the natural deposit of sub-soil [502].

4.5.3 ***Interpretation:***
No archaeological remains of any kind were encountered in Trench 5.

4.5.4 ***Context List:***
[501] Loam-based brown topsoil.
[502] Natural sub-soil.

4.6 Trench 6

4.6.1 ***Location and Dimensions:***
Trench 6 ran approximately NNW-SSE across the central-north part of the site, parallel to the route of the main A 1167 road.

Dimensions: 50 m (length) x 1.50 m (width) x 0.27 m (max depth).

4.6.2 ***Stratigraphy and Archaeology:*** (*See Illus. 03 and Photo 15*)
A shallow loam-based topsoil [601] sat to a max. depth of 0.20 m upon the natural deposit of sub-soil [602].

4.6.3 ***Interpretation:***
No archaeological remains of any kind were encountered in Trench 6.

4.6.4 ***Context List:***
[601] Loam-based brown topsoil.
[602] Natural sub-soil.

4.7 Trench 7

4.7.1 ***Location and Dimensions:***
Trench 7 was positioned NNW-SSE, parallel with the main A 1167 road close to the highest point on the hill in the central part of the site.

Dimensions: 20 m (length) x 1.50 m (width) x 0.31 m (max depth).

4.7.2 ***Stratigraphy and Archaeology:*** (*See Illus. 03 and Photos 16-17*)
A shallow loam-based topsoil [701] sat to a max. depth of 0.30 m upon the natural deposit of sub-soil [702].

4.7.3 ***Interpretation:***
No archaeological remains of any kind were encountered in Trench 7.

4.7.4 ***Context List:***
[701] Loam-based brown topsoil.

[702] Natural sub-soil.

4.8 Trench 8

4.8.1 ***Location and Dimensions:***
Trench 8 was positioned WSW-ENE, orthogonal to the main A 1167 road in the south-east part of the site just below the hill-top upon which the purported Scheduled enclosure site sits.

Dimensions: 20 m (length) x 1.50 m (width) x 0.30 m (max depth).

4.8.2 ***Stratigraphy and Archaeology:*** (*See Illus. 03 and Photo 18-19*)
A shallow loam-based topsoil [801] sat to a max. depth of 0.25 m upon the natural, eroding bedrock [802] which was recorded as a friable surface mixed with some pockets of sub-soil.

4.8.3 ***Interpretation:***
No archaeological remains of any kind were encountered in Trench 8.

4.8.4 ***Context List:***
[801] Loam-based brown topsoil.
[802] Natural bed-rock.

4.9 Trench 9

4.9.1 ***Location and Dimensions:***
Trench 9 ran approximately WSW-ENE across the south part of the site, on the south-facing slope of the hill-top, orthogonal to the route of the main A 1167 road.

Dimensions: 40 m (length) x 1.50 m (width) x 0.25 m (max depth).

4.9.2 ***Stratigraphy and Archaeology:*** (*See Illus. 03 and Photos 20-22*)
A shallow loam-based topsoil [901] sat to a max. depth of 0.20 m upon the natural deposit of sub-soil [902] within which were some narrow bands of darker fill containing coal dust, probably natural features (potentially animal burrows and/or pipe trenches) but of no archaeological significance.

4.9.3 ***Interpretation:***
No archaeological remains of any kind were encountered in Trench 9.

4.9.4 ***Context List:***
[901] Loam-based brown topsoil.
[902] Natural sub-soil.

4.10 Trench 10

4.10.1 ***Location and Dimensions:***
Trench 10 ran approximately NNW-SSE across the south part of the site, on the south-facing slope of the hill-top, parallel to the route of the main A 1167 road.

Dimensions: 40 m (length) x 1.50 m (width) x 0.46 m (max depth).

4.10.2 ***Stratigraphy and Archaeology:*** (*See Illus. 03 and Photos 23-24*)
The deposit of loam-based topsoil [1001] sat to a max. depth of 0.46 m at the south end of the trench, shallowing to 0.25 m 9 metres from the south end. Underlying was the natural glacial till comprising boulder clay with outcrops of fine coal in the south part of the trench, and clean yellow silty clay in the north part [1002].

4.10.3 ***Interpretation:***
No archaeological remains of any kind were encountered in Trench 10.

4.10.4 ***Context List:***
[1001] Loam-based brown topsoil.
[1002] Natural sub-soil.

4.11 Trench 11

4.11.1 ***Location and Dimensions:***
Trench 11 ran approximately WSW-ENE across the south part of the site, on the south-facing slope of the hill-top, parallel with the southern boundary of the Scheduled site and orthogonal to the route of the main A 1167 road.

Dimensions: 50 m (length) x 1.50 m (width) x 0.25 m (max depth).

4.11.2 ***Stratigraphy and Archaeology:*** (*See Illus. 03 and Photos 25-27*)
A shallow loam-based topsoil [1101] sat to a max. depth of 0.27 m upon the natural deposit of sub-soil [1102]. Some bands of darker fill, evenly spaced and running N-S may be the remnants of rig and furrow cultivation features.

4.11.3 ***Interpretation:***
No archaeological remains were encountered in Trench 11 other than the possible ploughed-out remnants of medieval or post-medieval rig and furrow cultivation features

4.11.4 ***Context List:***
[1101] Loam-based brown topsoil.
[1102] Natural sub-soil.

4.12 Trench 12

4.12.1 ***Location and Dimensions:***
Trench 12 ran approximately NNW-SSE across the south part of the site, on the south-facing slope of the hill-top, parallel to the route of the main A 1167 road.

Dimensions: 40 m (length) x 1.50 m (width) x 0.25 m (max depth).

4.10.2 ***Stratigraphy and Archaeology:*** (*See Illus. 03 and Photos 28-31*)
The deposit of loam-based topsoil [1201] sat to a max. depth of 0.25 m. Underlying was the natural glacial till comprising boulder clay with outcrops of fine coal [1202]. Between 17 and

23 metres from the south end, projecting from the western baulk, was a 0.90 m wide deposit of mixed clay and coal waste [1203], including coal dust and finings, probably resulting from coal workings on that site or in the locality.

4.12.3 ***Interpretation:***
No archaeological remains of were encountered in Trench 12 other than those likely associated with modern coal working, represented by a sub-circular cut feature containing a fill of modern industrial origin.

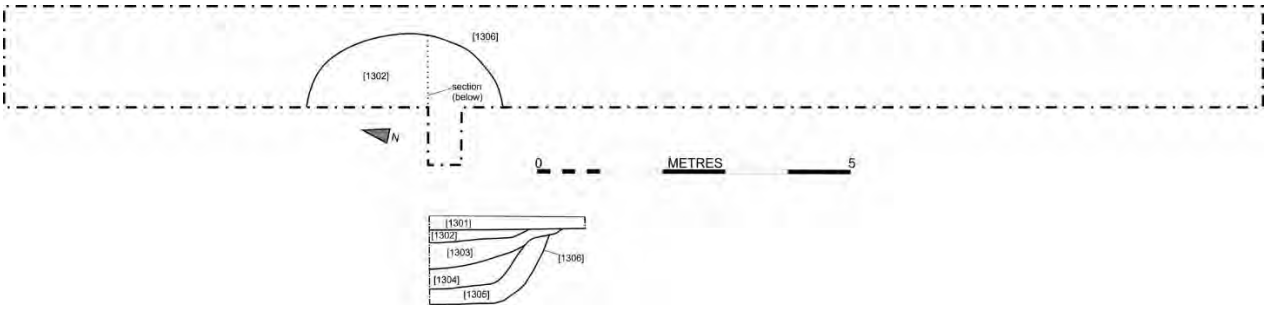
4.12.4 ***Context List:***
[1201] Loam-based brown topsoil.
[1202] Natural sub-soil.
[1203] Dark deposit of mixed clay and coal waste including coal dust and finings, filling a probable cut of up to est. 10 m diameter.

4.13 Trench 13

4.13.1 ***Location and Dimensions:***
Trench 13 ran approximately NNW-SSE in the south-west part of the site, below the south-facing slope of the hill-top, parallel to the route of the main A 1167 road.

Dimensions: 20 m (length) x 1.50 m (width) x 0.54 m (max depth).

4.13.2 ***Stratigraphy and Archaeology:*** (*See Illus. 03 & 10 and Photos 32-35*)
The deposit of loam-based topsoil [1301] sat to a max. depth of 0.54 m at the south end of the trench and stepped up to become shallower at 5 m and 9 m from the south end so that its depth at the north end was 0.21 m. Underlying was the natural glacial till comprising boulder clay with outcrops of fine coal [1307]. Between 4.7 and 8.1 m from the north end was the cut of a circular intrusion [1305] occupying part of the west side of the trench, projecting 1.2 m from the west baulk and extending outwith the bounds of the trench to the west. The cut [1306] was filled with deposits of loam giving way with depth to silty and clay-based deposits, including, uppermost, a soft, friable, light grey brown sandy loam [1302] with rare yellow clay lenses to a max. depth 0.20 m, then a darker deposit of similar fill [1303] to max. depth 0.34 m, and below this a moderately plastic, mid-grey sandy clay with very rare limestone cobbles, red sandstone pieces and coal inclusions up to 0.20 m deep. The lowest deposit encountered in [1306[was a firm, plastic mixed yellow brown clay containing common, well-sorted concentrations of coal confined to the outside edge of the cut [1306], encountered to a maximum depth of 1.10 m.



Illus. 10: Plan and south-facing section of a circular cut feature recorded in eval. Trench 13.

4.13.3 ***Interpretation:***

No archaeological remains of were encountered at the north and south ends of Trench 13 but in the middle part was a deep, circular cut feature likely associated with modern coal working, since the lowest deposits reached contained fairly abundant coal finings. This feature is interpreted as a bell pit, likely associated with workings on the south side of the Tweed in this area which extended from medieval times into the 20th century and are well-represented on historic maps of the area.

4.13.4 ***Context List:***

[1301] Loam-based brown topsoil.

[1302] Deposit of soft, friable, light grey-brown sandy loam, with rare yellow clay lenses (fill of [1306]).

[1303] Deposit of soft, loose, mid-grey sandy loam, with very rare dark brown sand lenses (fill of [1306]).

[1304] Deposit of soft, moderately plastic, mid-grey sandy clay, with very sparse limestone cobbles, red sandstone pieces and coal inclusions (fill of [1306]).

[1305] Deposit of firm, plastic mixed yellow-brown silty-clay, containing common small, apparently well-sorted concentrations of coal finings confined to the outside edge of the cut [1306].

[1306] Cut of circular intrusion on the west side of trench 4.7 to 8.1 m. from its north end, projecting 1.2 m from the west baulk and extending west of it, describing a circular feature c. 4 metres in diameter.

[1307] Natural boulder-clay sub-soil.

5. SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Summary

The excavation of 13 trenches revealed no archaeological features of high importance and only one of any real note, namely a circular feature of likely modern industrial origin in Trench 13. Another circular feature, perhaps the product of subsidence, appeared in Trench 12 and the possible, ploughed-out remains of rig and furrow cultivation features were reported in Trench 11. It was notable that, while most trenches encountered shallow deposits of top-soil above natural boulder clay, bed-rock was encountered in several trenches (trenches 1-3 in the north part of the site and Trench 8 on the south) and the character of a linear mound projecting north-east from close to the western boundary of the site, visible as an area of rough ground and appearing on historic aerial views, was ascertained as a ridged outcrop of bedrock rising up to a metre or so from the surrounding farmland. Topsoil deposits overlying natural boulder clay and bedrock were universally shallow, except at the northern and southern edges of the field, seen in trenches 1 and 13, where deeper deposits were encountered. Mixed deposits found underlying the topsoil in trench 1, in particular, hint at deliberate deposition in the modern period.

5.2 Conclusions

In summary, the remains encountered through excavation at Springhill do not suggest that significant archaeological remains survive there, other than those of coal-mining and related activities which are known to have bee practiced in Tweedmouth, Spittal, Scremerston and surrounding areas from the medieval period to 20th century, leaving abundant records on historic maps and plans as well as traces on the ground.

Most significant, in terms of potential cultural heritage constraints to the current planning process pertaining to the site, was the absence of any trace of features potentially related to Scheduled site of a suggested enclosure late prehistoric or Roman enclosure occupying the hill top immediately adjacent to the evaluation area. The absence of finds or features associated with this purported enclosure does not conclusively prove its absence, however, since late iron age settlements do not produce copious amounts of small finds and not all are associated with field systems, traces of which might have been found in evaluation trenching, while Roman sites may not have been occupied for long enough to generate large number of finds or associated outlying features. However, the presence of bedrock close to the surface in several trenches, some of it clearly lying in stepped or ridged profile (including a large outcropping spur) suggests the possibility that the features interpreted in the 1950s as cropmarks of a Roman or iron age camp, which led to the protection of the site as such, may be derived from geological or later industrial activity rather than early settlement.

Finally, the mixed deposits found underlying the topsoil in trench 1, which hint at deliberate deposition, may have been derived from the various potential sources, including the cut through which the A 1167 runs and/or earthworks related to the water tower and mound on the west side of the road.

5.3 Recommendations

Since there remains some reasonable potential for the survival of archaeological remains on the site of evaluation, notably with respect to the Scheduled enclosure site occupying the elevated ground, groundworks carried out within a 30 metres of the boundaries of the Scheduled site should be monitored archaeologically. The preferable means of carrying out such monitoring is by means of a 'strip, map and sample' process, but the final decision in this regard will be made by the assistant county archaeologist when details of the working methods involved in site preparation and foundation works are agreed.

APPENDIX 1:

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD OF THE EVALUATION EXCAVATION

PHOTO 1. Trench 1 looking west.

PHOTO 2. Detail of trench 1 bedrock, looking west.

PHOTO 3. Trench 1 looking east.

PHOTO 4. Trench 2 from the north-east.

PHOTO 5. West part of Trench 2 looking east.

PHOTO 6. Trench 2 section showing eroded sandstone bedrock below shallow topsoil.

PHOTO 7. Trench 3, south part viewed from the south.

PHOTO 8. Trench 3, south part of top of bedrock ridge, from the south.

PHOTO 9. Trench 3, south part viewed from north.

PHOTO 10. Trench 3, north part viewed from north.

PHOTO 11. Trench 3, north part of ridge top, viewed from north.

PHOTO 12. Trench 4 looking east.

PHOTO 13. Trench 4 north facing section, with pipe trench.

PHOTO 14. Trench 5 looking south-west.

PHOTO 15. Trench 6 looking SSE.

PHOTO 16. Trench 7 looking north.

PHOTO 17. Trench 7 looking south.

PHOTO 18. Trench 8 looking north-east.

PHOTO 19. Detail of bedrock at south side of Trench 8.

PHOTO 20. Trench 9 looking north.

PHOTO 21. Trench 9 looking south-west.

PHOTO 22. Detail of trench section showing shallow topsoil above boulder clay.

PHOTO 23. Trench 10 viewed from the north.

PHOTO 24. Trench 10 viewed from the south, showing bands of coal dusk within the boulder clay.

PHOTO 25. Trench 11 viewed from the west.

PHOTO 26. East end of Trench 11 viewed from the west.

PHOTO 27. Trench 11 viewed from the east.

PHOTO 28. Trench 12 from the north.

PHOTO 29. Trench 12 from the south.

PHOTO 30. Trench 12 from the south showing shallow circular feature.

PHOTO 31. North end of Trench 12 viewed from the south.

PHOTO 32. Trench 13 viewed from the north.

PHOTO 33. View to south end of Trench 13 from north-east, including feature [1306] in east side of trench and east-facing section.

PHOTO 34. Circular feature [1306] in Trench 13, viewed from the east.

PHOTO 35. Circular feature [1306] viewed from the south-east.

Photo. 01

Photo. 02

Photo. 03

Photo. 04

Photo. 05

Photo. 06

Photo. 07

Photo. 08

Photo. 09

Photo. 10

Photo. 11

Photo. 12

Photo. 13

Photo. 14

Photo. 15

Photo. 16

Photo. 17

Photo. 18

Photo. 19

Photo. 20

Photo. 21

Photo. 22

Photo. 23

Photo. 24

Photo. 25

Photo. 26

Photo. 27

Photo. 28

Photo. 29

Photo. 30

Photo. 31

Photo. 32

Photo. 33

Photo. 34

Photo. 35

APPENDIX 3:

LAND EAST OF SPRINGHILL, SUNNYSIDE, TWEEDMOUTH, NORTHUMBERLAND - Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation, *Prepared by* The Archaeological Practice Ltd., September 2019.

[Application No. 19/01095/REM]

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 This document is provided as a written scheme of investigation, or project design, for a programme of archaeological work on a site east of Springhill, Tweedmouth, in order to evaluate the impacts of development works associated with new housing, including related service and landscaping works.

Illus. 01:
Location of development site and area of proposed archaeological works (red infill).

1.1.2 Archaeological background

As described in advice provided on 20th May, 2019 [19/01095/REM] by the assistant county archaeologist for Northumberland, the proposed development site is located in a wider archaeological landscape which includes Springhill Camp, an enclosed site, previously thought to be a Roman fortlet and scheduled as a marching camp (Scheduled Monument 1003655). Evidence for the camp comprises the subsurface remains of two large and roughly concentric ditches c. 3m wide and separated by a space of c. 10 m. Whilst the evidence for Springhill Camp is barely visible above ground, and its setting has already been compromised somewhat by the reservoir, existing housing to the north and the A 1167, the monument currently retains a semi-rural and open setting.

It is noted that if the line of the ditches, photographed in 1945 by J K S St Joseph, are extrapolated, they define the top of a rise. However, the enclosure is more likely to represent

an Iron Age or Romano-British hillfort or defended settlement rather than a Roman marching camp. It retains the potential to reveal significant information about these periods in this part of Northumberland and its location, to the immediate east of the Devil's Causeway Roman Road and close proximity to the mouth of the River Tweed, adds to its significance. Springhill Camp has not been subject to any archaeological investigation but, in 2009, Rathmell Archaeology carried out a 6% field evaluation of the area to the west, incorporating a large part of the current development site. Apart from a small semi-circular feature (044) defined by a relatively shallow gully discovered in Trench 2, the evaluation did not reveal significant archaeological remains. The evaluation did not include the area immediately adjacent to the Scheduled Monument, or the southern corner of the development site, between the Scheduled Monument, Cow Road and trial trench 37 (see Figure 3b, Rathmell Archaeology RA9041 – copy retained by the County HER).

1.1.3 Historic England Advice provided in a letter dated May 14th, 2019 [ref: P01067580] is that the development application surrounds a scheduled monument known as "Springhill Camp" (National Heritage List for England HA 1003655). This is a cropmark site which has had no previous archaeological investigation and is tentatively identified as a possible "Roman camp". This clearly has significance through its potential to yield archaeological information about the Romano-British period in the Tweedmouth area of Northumberland. Evaluation works done in 2009 in support of the outline application did not find significant archaeological remains in the areas outwith the monument; however, the monument itself was not evaluated.

1.1.4 It is further commented that all heritage assets have a setting, including buried assets such as this monument which are much harder to appreciate by a casual observer (see Historic England guidance Planning Note 3 (2nd Edition) "The Setting of Heritage Assets" (Historic England 2017). Thus, while the site has the potential to preserve remains of high archaeological importance, in the form of buried deposits, structures or artefacts, the impact of the development on the setting and ultimately the significance of the monument is greater than the potential physical impact of groundworks.

1.1.5 It is suggested in the Historic England response [ref: P01067580] that the potential for impact could be reduced through a sensitive landscaping design and the setting back from the boundary of the monument of the development plots and associated road, lighting, garages and other residential amenities. The potential for physical harm to occur to the protected area could be mitigated by protection to the monument during construction of the houses, but this issue needs to be addressed through a suitably worded condition seeking fencing to be erected, offset to the boundary of the monument, prior to construction commencing.

1.1.6 Further advice provided by Sarah Winlow, Assistant County Archaeologist at Northumberland County Council, on 20th May, 2019 [19/01095/REM] suggests carrying out exploratory evaluation excavation on the parts of the site not investigated as part of the 2007 works, and incorporating those results in a Heritage Statement to assess the impact of the development on the physical remains and setting of Springhill Scheduled Monument.

3 METHOD OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

This is a potentially complex site with a high potential for the survival of archaeological remains adjacent to a Scheduled ancient monument. The following strategy for archaeological work within the site reflects this complexity.

Principally, it is proposed to carry out archaeological ground evaluation in previously uninvestigated parts of the site at 6% sampling ratio. Since the un-investigated area (i.e. not

covered in the Rathmell Investigations) is 948 square metres, it is proposed to excavate 615 square metres in order comfortably to comply with the 6% sampling requirement.

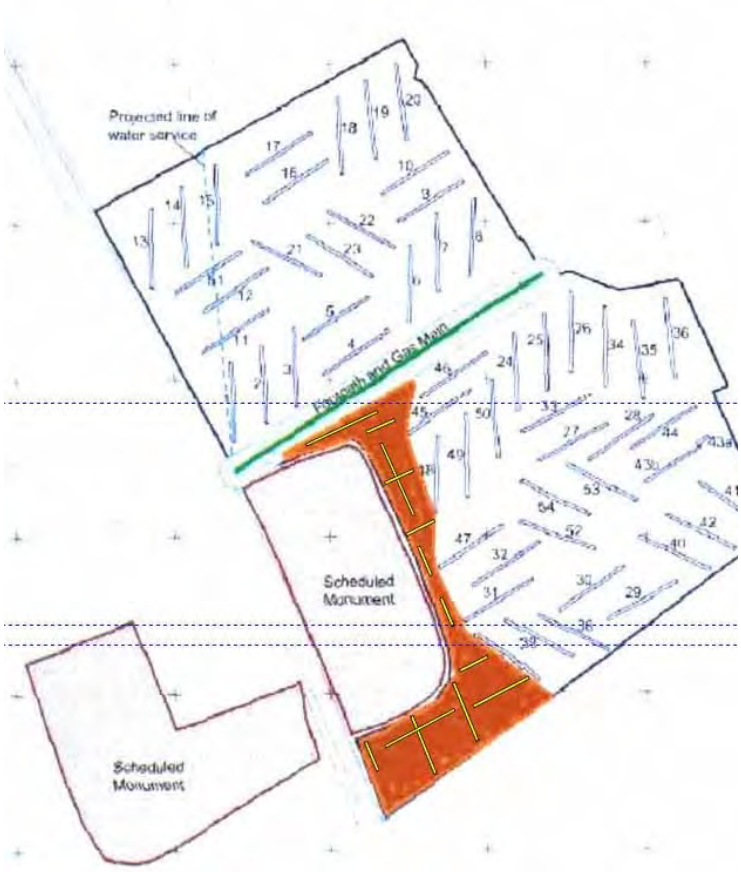
The purpose of the evaluation is to determine the level of potential constraint upon development and to allow the development of an appropriate mitigation strategy in response. Any significant findings from the evaluation may, for example, require mitigation work in the form of record excavation or watching brief, in which case a subsequent WSI document will be required as a Condition of planning consent.

All staff taking part in the fieldwork and recording exercise must be suitably qualified and experienced for the work and curriculum vitae will be supplied, if requested, to Northumberland Conservation for approval prior to work commencing. Furthermore, all staff will familiarise themselves with the archaeological background of the site and with the work required, and must understand the projects aims and methodologies.

All work will be carried out in compliance with the codes of practice of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) and will follow the IFA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavations.

3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

Archaeological evaluation will be carried out by excavating 4 no. trenches each measuring 10 metres in length by 1.5 m wide – a total of 60 square metres - in the area subject to groundworks in the north part of the site adjacent to the Scheduled Monument.



Illus. 02: Indicative trench plan.

An additional CONTINGENCY will be allowed to undertake additional excavation if merited by finds of importance and agreed with the assistant county archaeologist if necessary. In that case the area allowed for contingency investigation will amount to an additional 1% of the site area, or approx.. 100 sq. metres.

Overburden will be removed by mechanical excavator and subsequent excavation of any significant features carried out by hand. The depth of evaluation excavations must be to the depth of natural, undisturbed sub-soil or to the depth of significant archaeological features, whichever is revealed first. Single context recording will be carried out by means of written, drawn and photographic record.

Plant & vehicle movements across the site will be controlled to ensure that plant does not track over the Schedule Monument unless specifically licensed to do so by Historic England.

3.2 Recording

The results of evaluation will be presented in a standalone evaluation report for the HER, but will also contribute to a wider Heritage Statement for the site.

3.2.1 Written Record

The written record will include an objective description which includes measurements of extent and details of colour and composition of contexts; an interpretative estimate of function; at least one absolute height value per context; the identifiers of related contexts and a description of the relationship with such contexts (for preference, executed as a mini Harris matrix) and references to other recording media.

3.2.2 Drawn Record

The report will show the form and location of any structural features of historic significance, using scale plans of floor plans if appropriate. Drawn sections should illustrate the vertical relationships within the buildings.

Areas of modern disturbance should be noted on plans and/or elevations as this will help to identify areas where impact on historic fabric can be reduced in future applications within the buildings

Accurate scale plans and section drawings should be drawn at 1:50, 1:20 and 1:10 scales as appropriate.

The recorded buildings should be accurately tied into the National Grid and located on a 1:2500 or 1:1250 map of the area.

3.2.3 The stratigraphy of the excavation will be recorded even when no archaeological deposits have been identified.

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

3.2.5 The excavation will be accurately tied into the National Grid and located on a 1:1250 or 1:500 map of the area, using a total-station-theodolite.

3.2.6 A photographic record of all contexts will be taken in colour transparency and black and white print and will include a clearly visible, graduated metric scale. A register of all photographs will be kept. The location of all photographs will be recorded on a plan base.

3.2.7 Drawings, photography and written records of discrete features, where deemed necessary, will be sufficient to allow interpretation of the material and the preparation of a report on the site.

3.2.8 Photography

3.2.9 Any features of archaeological note will be recorded by digital photography. A system will be used for identifying the archaeological features photographed. The record will include, in addition to detailed views of specific features, the context of the feature and the relationship of the feature and its context to the wider setting and, where appropriate, to other buildings, sites or viewpoints.

3.2.10 All photographs will be in sharp focus, well lit and will include a clearly visible 1 m or 2 m scale.

3.2.11 The positions of the record photographs will be placed in the context of the buildings complex as a whole by providing a plan of their locations and record photographs of the features in relation to other buildings and features.

3.3 Finds Processing

2.3.1 All processing, storage and conservation of finds will be carried out in compliance with the relevant IFA and UKIC (United Kingdom Institute of Conservation) guidelines.

3.3.1 Artefact collection and discard policies will be fit for the defined purpose.

3.3.2 Finds will be scanned to assess the date range of the assemblage with particular reference to pottery. Artefacts will be used to establish the potential for all categories of finds, should further archaeological work be necessary.

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

3.3.4 All small finds will be recorded as individual items and appropriately packaged. Vulnerable objects must be specially packaged, and textiles, painted glass and coins stored in appropriate specialist systems. This process will be carried out within two days of the small find being excavated.

3.3.5 Assessment and analysis of artefacts and environmental samples will be carried out by an approved, named specialist.

3.3.6 The deposition and disposal of artefacts will be agreed with the legal owner and recipient museum prior to the work taking place. Where the landowner decides to retain artefacts, adequate provision will be made for recording them.

3.3.7 During and after the excavation and watching brief, all objects will be stored in the appropriate materials and storage conditions to ensure minimal deterioration and loss of information (this will include controlled storage, correct packaging, regular monitoring of

conditions, immediate selection for conservation of vulnerable material). All storage will have appropriate security provision.

3.4 Environmental Sampling and Dating
The following strategy for environmental sampling has been confirmed with Jacqui Huntley, English Heritage Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science.

3.4.1 If significant archaeological deposits are encountered, selective sampling will be carried out in a manner consistent with *The Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991) and *Archaeological Science at PPG16 Interventions: Best Practice for Curators and Commissioning Archaeologists* (English Heritage 2003).

3.4.2 Deposits/fills with potential for environmental evidence will be assessed by taking up to two bulk samples of 30 litres from any context selected for analysis by the excavator from suitable (i.e. uncontaminated) deposits. Deposits/fills totalling less than 30 litres in volume will be sampled in their entirety. Samples will be taken from all deposits/fills containing charcoal, unless the contexts are evidently subject to modern contamination.

3.4.3 Deposits will be sampled for remains of pollen, food residues, microfossils, small boned ecofacts (e.g. fish & insects/micro-fauna), industrial residues (e.g. micro-slags - hammer-scale and spherical droplets), cloth and timber. Flotation samples and samples taken for coarse-mesh sieving from dry deposits will be processed at the time of fieldwork wherever possible.

3.4.4 Any significant ecofactual assemblages will be assessed by a recognised specialist.

3.4.5 Deposits will be assessed for their potential for radiocarbon, archaeomagnetic and Optically Stimulated Luminescence dating. As well as providing information on construction techniques, timbers will be assessed for their potential for dendrochronology dating, in which case sampling will follow procedures in *Dendrochronology: guidelines on producing and interpreting dendrochronological dates* (Hillam 1998) and *Guidelines on the recording, sampling, conservation and curation of waterlogged wood* (R. Brunning 1996). A maximum of 5 samples of material suitable for dating by scientific means (eg: Radiocarbon, Luminescence, Remnant Magnetism, etc.) will be collected.

3.4.6 Information on the nature and history of the site, aims and objectives of the project, summary of archaeological results, context types and stratigraphic relationships, phase and dating information, sampling and processing methods, sample locations, preservation conditions, residuality/ contamination, etc. will be provided with each sample submitted for analysis.

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

3.4.8 Human remains will be treated with care, dignity and respect, in full compliance with the relevant legislation (essentially the Burial Act 1857) and local environmental health concerns. If found, human remains will be left in-situ, covered and protected, and the police, coroner and County Archaeologist informed. If it is agreed that removal of the remains is essential, the Archaeological Practice Ltd, will apply for a licence from the Ministry of Justice. Analysis of the osteological material will take place according to published guidelines, *Human Remains from Archaeological Sites, Guidelines for producing assessment documents and analytical reports (*English Heritage 2002). This may involve extending the trench to remove a whole skeleton.

3.4.9 If anything is found which could be Treasure, under the Treasure Act 1996, it is a legal requirement to report it to the local coroner within 14 days of discovery. The Archaeological Practice Ltd. will comply with the procedures set out in The Treasure Act 1996. Any treasure will be reported to the coroner and to The Portable Antiquities Scheme

Finds Liaison Officer, Andy Agate (0191 2225076; andy@andyagate.com) for guidance on the Treasure Act procedures.

Treasure is defined as the following:

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

3.4.10 The potential requirement for specialist analyses is an unavoidable risk in all such investigations. Although the evaluation results would suggest that the likelihood of such analyses being required in this case is relatively low, the possibility can not be entirely dismissed, and the investigation of any features/deposits which are considered significant would be undertaken as a non-negotiable part of this specification. Any such analyses would be carried out by specialists and priced to the client on a cost-only basis.

3.5 Production of Site Archive

3.5.1 The site archive will be prepared to the standard specified in MAP 2 and in accordance with the UKIC guidelines. This will include the indexing, ordering, quantification and checking for consistency of all original context records, object records, bulk finds records, sample records, skeleton records (if recovered), photographic records, drawing records, photographs, drawings, level books, site note-books, spot dating records, and conservation records; and ensuring that all artefacts and ecofacts recovered and retained from the site are packed and stored in the appropriate materials and conditions and that all their associated records are complete. This will be completed by the end of the field work. A summary account of the context record will be included and written by the supervising archaeologist.

3.5.2 The archive will be submitted to the Great North Museum in Newcastle upon Tyne within 6 months of the end of the fieldwork. The location of artefacts will be stated in the archive.

5 ANALYSIS AND REPORTING OF RECOVERED DATA

5.1 Following the completion of the Field Investigation and before any of the post-excavation work is commenced, an archive (the Site Archive) containing all the data gathered during fieldwork will be prepared. This material will be quantified, ordered, indexed

and rendered internally consistent. It will be prepared according to the *project management guidance provided in MoRPHE (EH 2006) and the accompanying Project Planning Note 3: Archaeological Excavation*

5.2 An interim report of no less than 200 words, containing preliminary recommendations for any further work required, will be produced within two weeks of completion of the field investigation for the commissioning client and the English Heritage Inspector of Ancient Monuments and Northumberland County Archaeologist.

5.3 Following completion of the Field Investigation, a full report will be prepared collating and synthesizing the structural, artefactual and environmental data relating to each agreed constituent part of the evaluation works.

6. PRODUCTION OF FINAL REPORT

6.1 Copies of the report will be provided within two months of the completion of fieldwork to the Client, the English Heritage Inspector of Ancient Monuments and Northumberland County Archaeologist (for consideration and deposition in the HER). An additional digital copy of the report will be lodged with the Northumberland County HER.

6.2 Three bound and collated copies of the report will be provided. Each will be bound, with each page and heading numbered. Any further copies required will be produced electronically. The report will include as a minimum the following:

A summary statement of methodologies used.
A location plan of the site and any significant discoveries made.
Plans and sections of any archaeological discoveries of note.
A summary statement of results.
Conclusions
Recommendations
A table summarizing the deposits, features, classes and numbers of artefacts encountered and spot dating of significant finds.

6.5 Following completion of the analysis and publication phase of the work, arrangements will be made to deposit the Site Archive (including Finds) and the Research Archive with the designated repository within 6 months of the end of the fieldwork. Additionally, a copy shall be offered to the National Monuments Record (NMR).

6.7 Should the results of the work merit full publication, a paper on the findings of excavation will be offered to an appropriate regional or national journal, such as *Archaeologia Aeliana*, while summary reports of the project will be prepared for inclusion in the appropriate Notices, Annual Reviews, Northumberland Archaeology (the Northumberland County Council Annual Reports Series), etc.

6.8 An entry for inclusion in the Northumberland County Heritage Environment Record will be prepared and submitted.

7. OASIS

7.1 The Archaeological Contractor will complete the online form for the Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations Project (OASIS), following consultation with the Northumberland County Archaeologist. The Contractor agrees to the procedure whereby the information on the form will be placed in the public domain on the OASIS website, following submission to or incorporation of the final report (see 3.4) into the HER.

8. TIMESCALE & PERSONNEL

8.1 Timescale

The Archaeological Practice will require advance notice of at least five working days in order to ensure attendance on site.

8.2 Following the completion of on-site work, further time will be required to produce an appropriately illustrated report on the work, as detailed above.

8.3 Personnel

The excavation work will be carried out by staff of The Archaeological Practice under the direction of Richard Carlton.

APPENDIX 3:

PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT SPRINGHILL: PLAN BY *YEOMAN ARCHITECTURE* FOR *MICHAEL GUTHRIE DEVELOPMENTS LTD*., AUGUST 2019.