

Bradfield School, Kirk Edge Road, Worral, Sheffield, South Yorkshire: An Archaeological Evaluation



On behalf of Vinci Construction UK Ltd

CS Archaeology
August 2010

On behalf of: VINCI CONSTRUCTION UK LIMITED
Omnia One
125 Queen Street
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National Grid Reference (NGR): SK 3026 9204

Project Number: 56

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Frontispiece: general view of Trench 2

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1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 An Archaeological Evaluation was undertaken, following a desk-based assessment recommendation (CS Archaeology 2008) within the footprint of proposed new buildings associated with Building Schools for the Future programme at Bradfield, School, Kirk Edge Road, Worrall, Sheffield.
- 1.2 The evaluation consisted of two trenches; no significant archaeology was revealed.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report has been commissioned by Vinci Construction UK Ltd. as part of the delivery of Building Schools for the Future Project (BSF Sheffield). At Bradfield School a new wing is to be built to the west and a series of temporary classrooms constructed to the north of the existing school buildings.
- 1.2 The school lies 7.7kms northwest of Sheffield west of the Stocksbridge Road (A6102) and is centred on SK 3026 9204. It lies in the civil parish of Bradfield within the Sheffield District (Figure 1). Historically Worrall (and neighbouring Wadsley) were manors within the Chapelry of Bradfield (Hunter 1875, 459).
- 1.3 The school and associated grounds extend over 8.1 hectares. During the later half of the 20th century this area was largely redeveloped into a series of terraced building platforms and playing fields.
- 1.4 Because of site constraints, the evaluation trenches were excavated on two separate days, 28th June 2010 (Trench 2) and 8th August 2010 (Trench 2).

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1 No previous archaeological field work has been carried out at Bradfield School. There are no statutory sites (Scheduled Monuments or Listed Buildings) within the school's boundary.
- 3.2 The Proposed Development Area (PDA) comprises a historic field system which was formed of Worrall's agricultural base and dates to at least the Post Medieval period. These historic field systems provided the village and manor with its economic base and are fundamental to Worrall's economic development.
- 3.3 Within the PDA some elements of this field system are still extant, but have been severely affected by the construction of Bradfield School during the late 20th century. In tandem with this destructive episode, the enclosure of the school may have allowed partial preservation of archaeological sites. Ridge and furrow earthworks **[11]**, were visible within the school in 1962 (AP1, Plate 5). This site was affected by the construction of a running track (AP2, Plate 6), but emphasises the potential for both known and unknown archaeological sites within the PDA. Apart from this field system and associated earthworks, no further archaeological sites were identified from the desk-based assessment (CS Archaeology 2008).
- 3.4 The desk-based assessment recognised that there is a potential for unknown archaeological sites to be revealed within 'islands' of archaeological potential, which were not developed during initial and subsequent school building phases.
- 3.5 The archaeological survival of these fields within the PDA has been affected by Bradfield School's construction and development, to such a degree that the evaluation trenches failed to reveal evidence for field divisions.

4. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 4.1 The objectives of this programme of archaeological work are to gather sufficient information to establish presence/absence, character, extent, state of preservation and date of any archaeological deposits within the area's new build within the Proposed Development Area (PDA: **Figure 2**).

5. METHODOLOGY

- 5.1 This has been carried out in accordance with the Project Design issued by CS Archaeology in June 2010 (Appendix1).
- 5.2 Written records of the contexts were made on *pro-forma* recording cards and have been summarised in Appendix 2. Negative evaluation results have meant that trench plans and sections have not been reproduced in the report. A photographic record was made of all deposits in Black and White silver based film using a 35mm single lens reflex camera. Colour digital and print images were taken in order to illustrate the report. All the photographs will be included in the site archive.
- 5.3 It is proposed to carry out an evaluation of the PDA with strategically placed trenches in order to fully sample the archaeological resource (**Figure 2**). The areas of new build have a combined foot print of 1400m². A 5% sample was undertaken which mounts to a total of c. 70m² divided into two trenches. The proposed archaeological trenches in the Project Design were adhered to but on site design changes of the temporary classrooms resulted in Trench 2 being moved to the west in order to sample the larger of the classrooms:
- Trench 1 (20m x 2m) examined the northern arm of the proposed new build in an area of archaeological potential;
 - Trench 2 (20m x 2m) examined the temporary classrooms.
- 5.4 The Project Design was sent to Mr J McNeil of South Yorkshire Archaeology who was kept informed of the evaluation dates and results. The planned 10% contingency option was not required.

6. RESULTS

- 6.1 Trench 1, was excavated and recorded with no archaeological features evident. The stratigraphy had been affected by a series of shallow intrusions, which represented modern foundations for the temporary classrooms which recently stood across the surrounding area. The underlying stratigraphy consisted of a shallow layer of historic plough soil that featured a notable proportion of charcoal through the deposit. There was an absence of a developed top soil. Artefact recovery was limited to a typical modern school assemblage from the upper layer [100] comprising of an assortment of: modern coins, pens, glue tubes and aluminium ring pulls. The lower level [102] featured two clay pipe stems.
- 6.2 Trench 2, was not as disturbed as Trench 1, and featured a deeper historic plough soil directly above natural clays with occasional rounded stones (Glacial till). Artefact recovery was similar to Trench 1 apart from the clay pipe stems. No artefacts will be retained in the site archive.
- 6.3 A watching brief during excavation of the service road (**Figure 2**) was also carried out in two sections and the stratigraphy evident in the exposed section examined, but again no significant archaeological deposits were observed.

7. CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1 The evaluation has demonstrated that in the areas of the two trenches no significant archaeology was revealed. The historic plough soil was recorded at varying depths. Across trench 1 some truncation of the historic plough soil had taken place resulting in a clayey silt up to 0.12m in depth, but across trench 2 this was 0.3m deep and demonstrated a less disturbed area.
- 7.2 Areas of archaeological potential, which were identified in the earlier desk-based assessment (CS Archaeology 2008), have proved to have a low/negative potential for surviving archaeology in the two areas selected from the evaluation.
- 7.3 Further archaeological mitigation is therefore not recommended.

8. BIBLIOGRAPHY

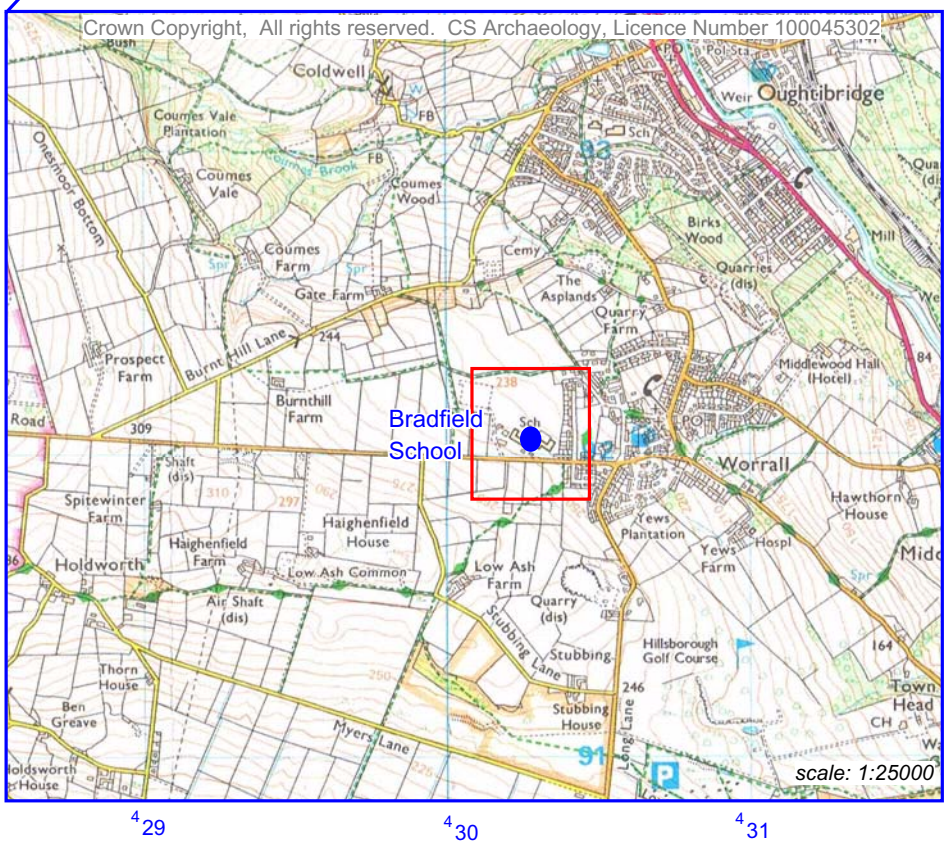
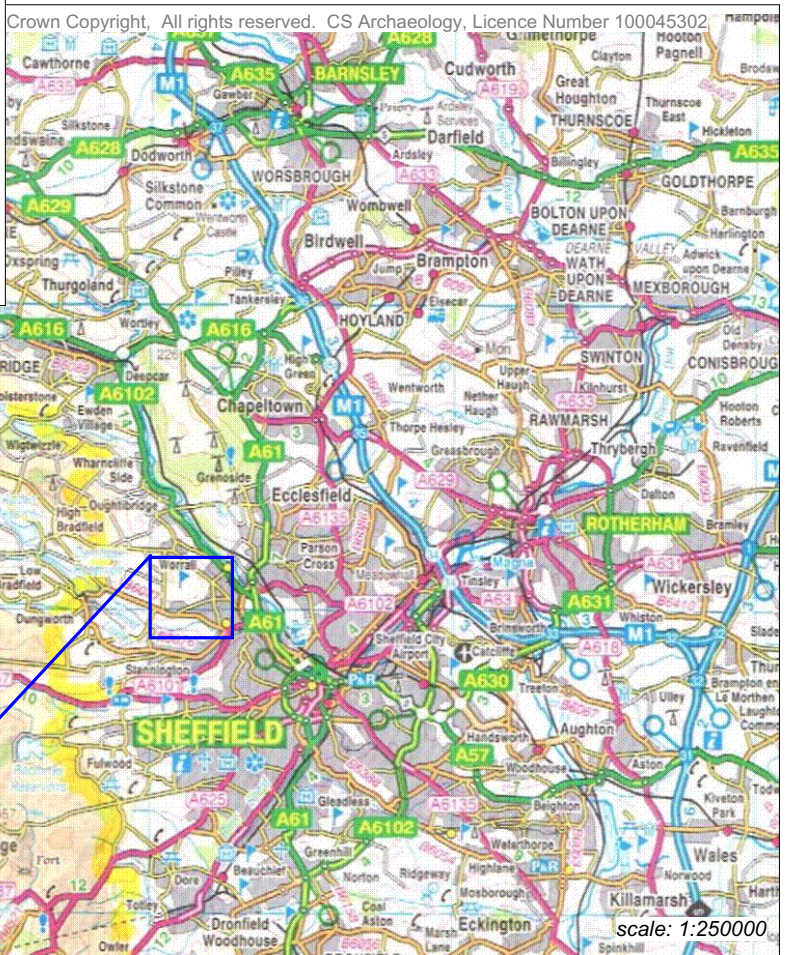
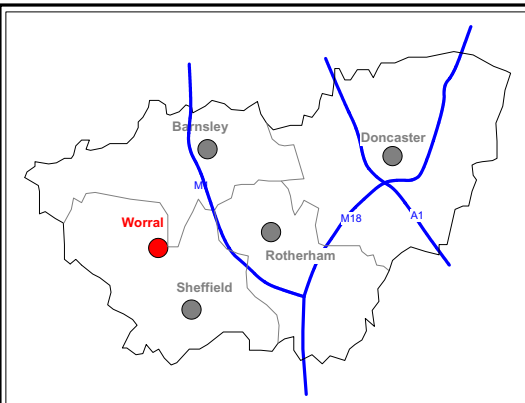
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9. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to Ms J Baxter (Vinci Construction UK Ltd) for commissioning this archaeological work, and to Mr A West (Vinci Construction UK Ltd) for facilitating site access. Thanks also to Mr J McNeil of South Yorkshire Archaeological Service and to Mr D Bailey (Galebest Ltd.) for his on site mechanical excavation skills.

FIGURES



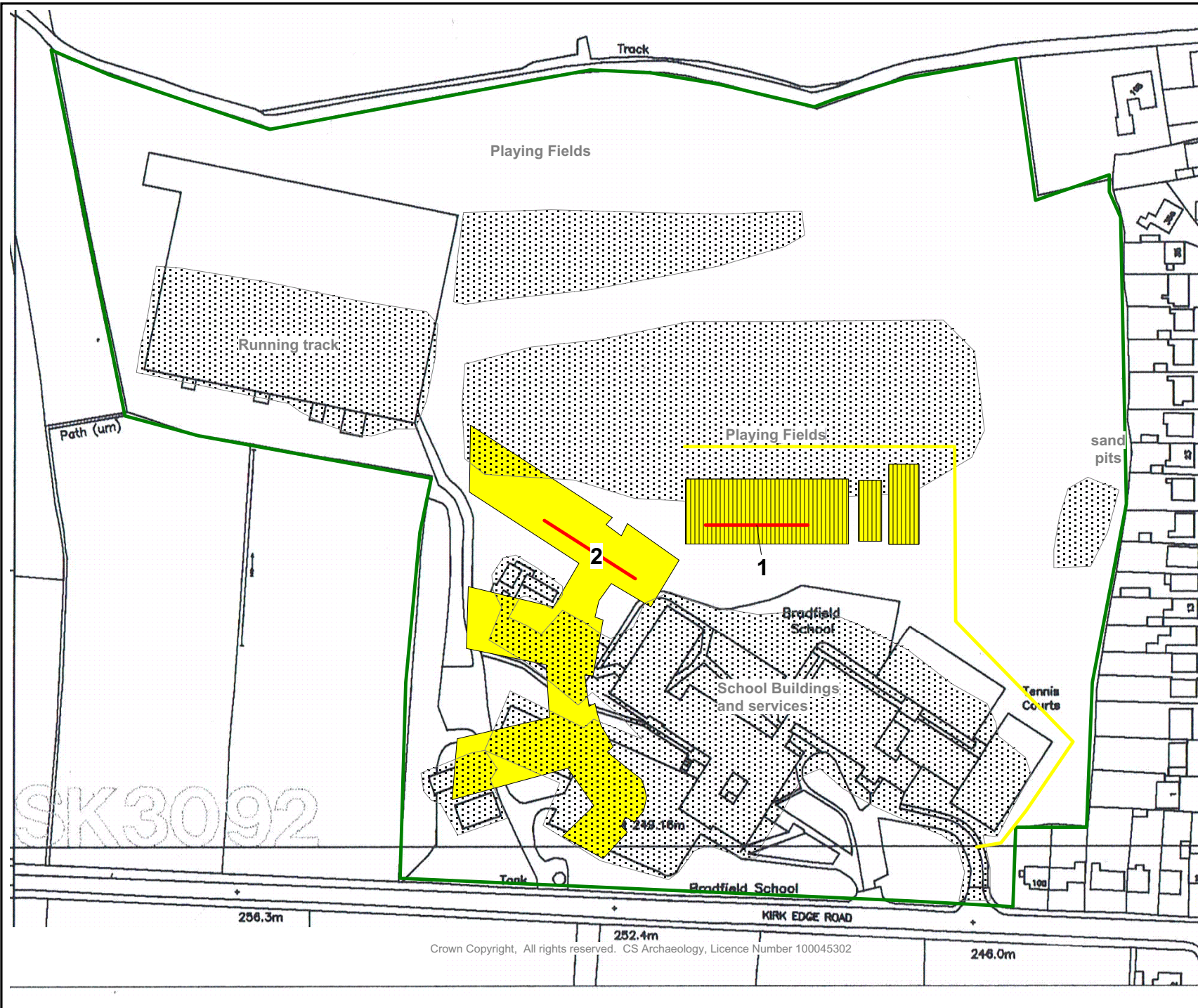
for inset see Figure 2

Bradfield School, Kirk Edge Road,
Worrall, Sheffield, South Yorkshire:
An Archaeological Evaluation







Figure 1: Location Map

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August 2010

Bradfield School, Kirk Edge Road, Worrall, Sheffield, South Yorkshire:
An Archaeological Evaluation



key

-  PDA boundary
-  low archaeological potential
-  proposed new buildings
-  new temporary classrooms
-  service road
-  archaeological trenches
- trench 1 (20 x 2m)
- trench 2 (20 x 2m)



scale 1:10000

Figure 1: Evaluation Trench Location Plan

CS Archaeology
August 2010

PLATES



Plate 1: trench 1, post-excavation view, from the southeast



Plate 2: trench 1, Detail of the end, northwest facing section, from the northwest



Plate 3, trench 2, post-excitation view of the trench, from the east



Plate 4, trench 2, detail of the south facing section (centre) from the south

Appendices

Appendix 1: Project Design

Appendix 2: Archive Index

**PROJECT DESIGN FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION AT BRADFIELD SCHOOL, KIRK EDGE ROAD,
WORRAL, SOUTH YORKSHIRE**

CS Archaeology

June 2010

0 SUMMARY

- 0.1 This Project Design (PD) is in response to recommendations in the Desk-Based Assessment of the Bradfield School (CS Archaeology 2008, 18, section 10) for a series of targeted evaluation trenches associated with the new build areas.
- 0.2 The areas of new building within the Proposed Development Area (PDA) could impact on unknown archaeological deposits.
- 0.3 The results from these archaeological works will provide a detailed assessment of the PDAs potential heritage assets (archaeological deposits) and inform its future management.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Details

- 1.1.1 *Site Name:* Bradfield School
- 1.1.2 *Location:* Kirk Edge Road, Worrall, Sheffield, South Yorkshire.
- 1.1.3 *Grid reference:* SK 3026 9204
- 1.1.4 *Area of PDA (hectares):* 0.14
- 1.1.5 *Purpose of Record:* To assess the presence/absence, character, extent, state of preservation and date of any archaeological deposits within the areas of new build within the PDA and sample any buried heritage assets.

1.2 Archaeological Background

- 1.2.1 No previous archaeological work has been carried out in either the PDA or study area. There are no statutory sites (Scheduled Monuments or Listed Buildings) within the PDA boundary.
- 1.2.2 The PDA occupies a section of Worrall's historic field systems which could have origins in the medieval period, but the precise date is unknown. These historic field systems provided the village and manor with its economic base and are fundamental to village development. The archaeological survival of these fields within the PDA has been affected by Bradfield School's construction and development.
- 1.2.3 The archaeological potential of encountering known and unknown archaeology is represented in **Figure 1**. It has been estimated that up to 50% of the PDA has been affected by recent school development. These 'historic' impacts to the PDA have taken the form of cut and fill operations associated with building foundations and the extensive truncation of the natural topography to create playing fields.
- 1.2.4 In tandem with these potentially destructive episodes, the modern enclosure of the school may have allowed partial preservation of archaeological sites. Ridge and furrow earthworks, were visible within the PDA in aerial photographs dating to 1962 (CS Archaeology 2008). These features were affected by the construction of a running track truncating and covering the hillside. This patchy spread of archaeological potential emphasises the potential for both known and unknown archaeological sites within the PDA.
- 1.2.5 Potential impacts have been identified to the known heritage assets namely the dating and possible construction techniques of the historic field boundaries identified in the desk-based assessment. In addition there will be potential impacts to the unknown archaeological resource.

1.3 Planning Background

- 1.3.1 This PD represents a summary of the broad archaeological requirements to both mitigate and enable an assessment of the impact of development proposals on the archaeological resource of the PDA. This is in accordance with local plan policies and the National Planning Policy PPS5, 2010. This PD has been written in response to recommendations set out in the Desk-based Assessment of the school (CS Archaeology 2008, 18 section 10.1).
- 1.3.2 Sheffield City Council is the Local Planning Authority, who will be advised by South Yorkshire Archaeology Service (Mr J McNeil).

2 OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The objectives of this programme of archaeological work are to establish presence/absence, character, extent, state of preservation and date of any archaeological deposits within the new build areas (PDA: **Figure 1**).

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Trial Trenching

- 3.1.1 No excavation will take place until a permit to dig has been issued by the Principal Contractor, Vinci Construction UK Ltd.
- 3.1.2 Vehicular access is provided via an unsurfaced track way after which access is across grass playing fields. Access ways will be checked for people and obstructions prior to use.
- 3.1.3 All CS Archaeology staff have been trained in site safety training and are CSCC accredited. CS Archaeology's subcontractor Galebest Ltd. will be also be fully accredited and qualified to driver the appropriate excavation machine.
- 3.1.4 It is proposed to carry out an evaluation of the PDA with strategically placed trenches in order to fully sample the archaeological resource (**Figure 1**). The areas of new build have a combined foot print of 1400m². A 5% sample is proposed which will amount to total c. 70m² over two trenches:
- Trench 1 (20x 2m) will examine the footprint of the northwest arm of the proposed new build;
 - Trench 2 (20x2m) will examine the footprint of the northern new building;
- 3.1.5 There will be a 10% contingency (4 x 2m trench) to further investigate the site if significant assets are revealed.
- 3.1.6 The project will be undertaken in a manner consistent with the guidance of MAP2 (English Heritage 1991) and professional standards and guidance (IFA, 2001).

- 3.1.7 CS Archaeology will ensure that services are located prior to excavation by means of site plans, surface examination and hand held scanners.
- 3.1.8 The overburden such as turf, topsoil, made ground, rubble or other superficial fill materials will be removed by a mechanical excavator using a toothless or ditching bucket. Mechanical excavation will be used extremely judiciously, under constant archaeological supervision down to the top of the archaeological deposits (if present) or the top of the sub-soil. The Topsoil will be kept separate from the subsoil. Thereafter, hand excavation of any archaeological deposits will be carried out.
- 3.1.9 Archaeological investigation will be carried out over the full area of each trench, either by area excavation or sectioning of features in order to fulfil the evaluation objectives. Sondages or slit trench will be used only to facilitate the recording of the trench. Where excavation below a safe working depth constrains investigation, consideration will be given to stepping back or shoring the excavation.
- 3.1.10 Lifting of human skeletal remains will be kept to the minimum which is compatible with an adequate recording brief. At sites known in advance to be cemeteries, provision will be made for site-inspection by a recognised specialist. CS Archaeology will be aware of, and comply with, provisions of Section 25 of the Burial Act of 1857, and pay due attention to requirements of Health and Safety.
- 3.1.11 All deposits will be fully recorded on standard context sheets, photographs and conventionally-scale plans and sections. Each trench will be recorded to show the horizontal and vertical distribution of contexts. All trenches will be planned at 1:20, with individual features being planned at 1:10 where additional detail is required. One representative long section will be produced, at an appropriate scale. All feature sections sampled will be drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 depending on the size of the feature. The elevation of the underlying natural where encountered will also be recorded. Even if no archaeology is recorded the stratigraphy will be recorded. The limits of excavation will be shown in all plans and sections, including where these limits are coterminous with context boundaries.
- 3.1.12 All anthropomorphic features will be investigated – discrete features will initially be half-sectioned; linear features will be excavated to 20% of their extent, not less than 1m in extent. Archaeological contexts at junctions or interruptions in linear features will be sufficiently excavated for the relationship between components to be established.
- 3.1.13 All finds that are 'treasure' will be reported to the coroner in accordance with the Treasure Act Code of Practice (1997).
- 3.1.14 Attention will be paid to artefact retrieval and conservation, ancient technology, dating of deposits and the assessment of potential for the scientific analysis of soil, sediments, biological remains, ceramics and stone.
- 3.1.15 All artefacts and ecofacts visible during the excavations will be collected and processed, unless variations to this are agreed by the archaeological monitor (SYAS). In some cases sampling may be most appropriate.
- 3.1.16 Finds will be appropriately packaged and stored under optimum conditions, as detailed in First Aid for finds (Watkins and Neal, 1998). In accordance with the procedures of MAP2 (English Heritage 1991), all iron objects, a selection of non-ferrous artefacts (including all coins) and a sample of any industrial debris relating to metallurgy should be X-radiographed before assessment. Where there is evidence for industrial activity, large

technological residues should be collated by hand, with separate samples collected for micro-slugs. In these instances, the guidance of Bayley *et al* (2001) will be followed.

- 3.1.17 Analysis of the samples will be carried out by a suitably qualified subcontractor who will adhere to the sampling strategy fully outlined in Appendix 1.
- 3.1.18 In the event of positive archaeological results a desk-based assessment will be undertaken in order to place the archaeology in context. This will include as a minimum early map evidence, SMR information, libraries and archival and museum information.

3.2 Sampling Strategy

- 3.2.1 For palaeoenvironmental research different sampling strategies will be employed according to established research targets and the perceived importance of the strata under investigation. CS Archaeology conventionally recovers three main categories of sample;
- i) Routine Soil Samples; a representative 500g sample from every excavated soil context on site. This sample is used in the characterisation of the sediment, potentially through pollen analysis, particle size analysis, pH analysis, phosphate analysis and loss-on-ignition;
 - ii) Standard Bulk Samples; a representative 50-60 litre sample from every excavated soil context on site, in accordance with English Heritage Guidelines (2002). This sample is used, through floatation sieving, to recover a sub-sample of charred macroplant material, faunal remains and artefacts;
 - iii) Purposive or Special Samples; a sample from a sediment which is determined, in field, to either have the potential for dating (wood charcoal for radiocarbon dating or in situ hearths for magnetic susceptibility dating) or for the recovery of enhanced palaeo-environmental information (waterlogged sediments, peat columns, etc).
- 3.2.2 Samples will be taken for scientific dating, principally radiocarbon (C14) and archaeomagnetic dating, where dating of artefacts is insecure and where dating is a significant issue for the development of subsequent mitigation strategies.
- 3.2.3 Environmental samples will be collected from primary and secondary contexts, where applicable, from a range of representative features, including pit and ditch fills, postholes, floor deposits, ring gullies and other negative features. Positive features should also be sampled. Sampling will also be considered for those features where dating by other methods (e.g. pottery and artefacts) is uncertain. Animal bones will be hand collected, and from bulk samples collected from contexts containing a high density of bones.
- 3.2.4 Standard Bulk Samples of 30-40 litres or more will be recovered from every archaeologically significant soil context as part of a comprehensive environmental sampling strategy.
- 3.2.5 Within each significant archaeological horizon a minimum number of features required to meet the aims of the project will be hand excavated. Pits and postholes normally will be sampled by half-sectioning although some features may require complete excavation. Linear features will be sectioned as appropriate. No deposits will be entirely removed unless this is unavoidable. As the objective is to define remains it will not necessarily be the intention to fully excavated all trenches to natural stratigraphy. However, the full depth of archaeological deposits across the entire site will be assessed. Even in the case where no remains have been located the stratigraphy of all evaluation trenches will be recorded.

3.2.6 Any excavation, whether by machine or by hand, will be undertaken with a view to avoiding damage to any archaeological features or deposits which appear to be demonstrably worthy of preservation in situ.

3.2.7 For full details of potential post-excavation analyses see Appendix 1.

3.3 Site Monitoring

3.3.1 SYAS will be responsible for monitoring the evaluation. A minimum of one week's notice of the start of the field work will be given by CS Archaeology to the SYAS so that arrangements for monitoring can be made.

3.3.2 Site inspections will be arranged so that the general site stratigraphy can be inspected when field work is near completion, but before any trenches have been backfilled.

3.4 Health and Safety

3.4.1 CS Archaeology will operate with due regard to health and safety and a copy of the risk assessment will be sent for approval to the archaeological monitor (SYAS).

3.5 Post –Recording Work and Report Preparation

3.5.1 Once the field recording work has been completed, a full and appropriate programme of analysis and publication of the results of the evaluation will be completed, in the event that no further excavation takes place. The post-excavation assessment of material will be undertaken in accordance with the guidance of MAP2 (English Heritage, 1991). The report will include: background information, methods, detailed results, grid references, conclusion and discussion.

3.5.2 The report will integrate and update the results of the desk-based assessment.

3.5.3 The evaluation report will include a phased interpretation of the site, if possible.

3.5.4 The evaluation report will also consist of a detailed context index to the archive.

3.5.5 The results of the palaeo-environmental assessment by an appropriate specialist will outline the potential of the samples taken and will be included in the evaluation report.

3.5.6 The report will provide an interpretation of the results, placing them in local and regional context.

3.5.7 A copy of the PD will be included as an appendix to the final report.

3.6 Report Submission

3.6.1 Copies of the completed report will be submitted to:

- The client, Vinci Construction UK Ltd;
- SYAS Sites and Monuments Record in both hard and digital formats.

- 3.6.2 A summary report of an appropriate length, accompanied by illustrations, will be prepared and submitted in digital format (word/jpg >300dpi), for publication in *Archaeology in South Yorkshire*.

3.7 Submission and Deposition of the Archive

- 3.7.1 The archive will be prepared according to *Procedures for the Transfer of Archaeological Archives* to South Yorkshire Museums' will be adhered to. However the museum of record for this area is Weston Park, Sheffield. Weston Park is not currently accepting archaeological archives or issuing accession numbers. The archive will therefore be retained by CS Archaeology in an ordered manner until museum deposition is possible.

3.8 Publicity

- 3.8.1 Provision will be made for publicising the results of the work locally, and an OASIS form will be completed for the project.
- 3.8.2 CS Archaeology is aware that this work may lead to further archaeological dissemination.

3.9 References

Bayley J, Dungworth D and Paynter S, 2001, *Archaeometalurgy*, Centre for Archaeology Guidelines, English Heritage

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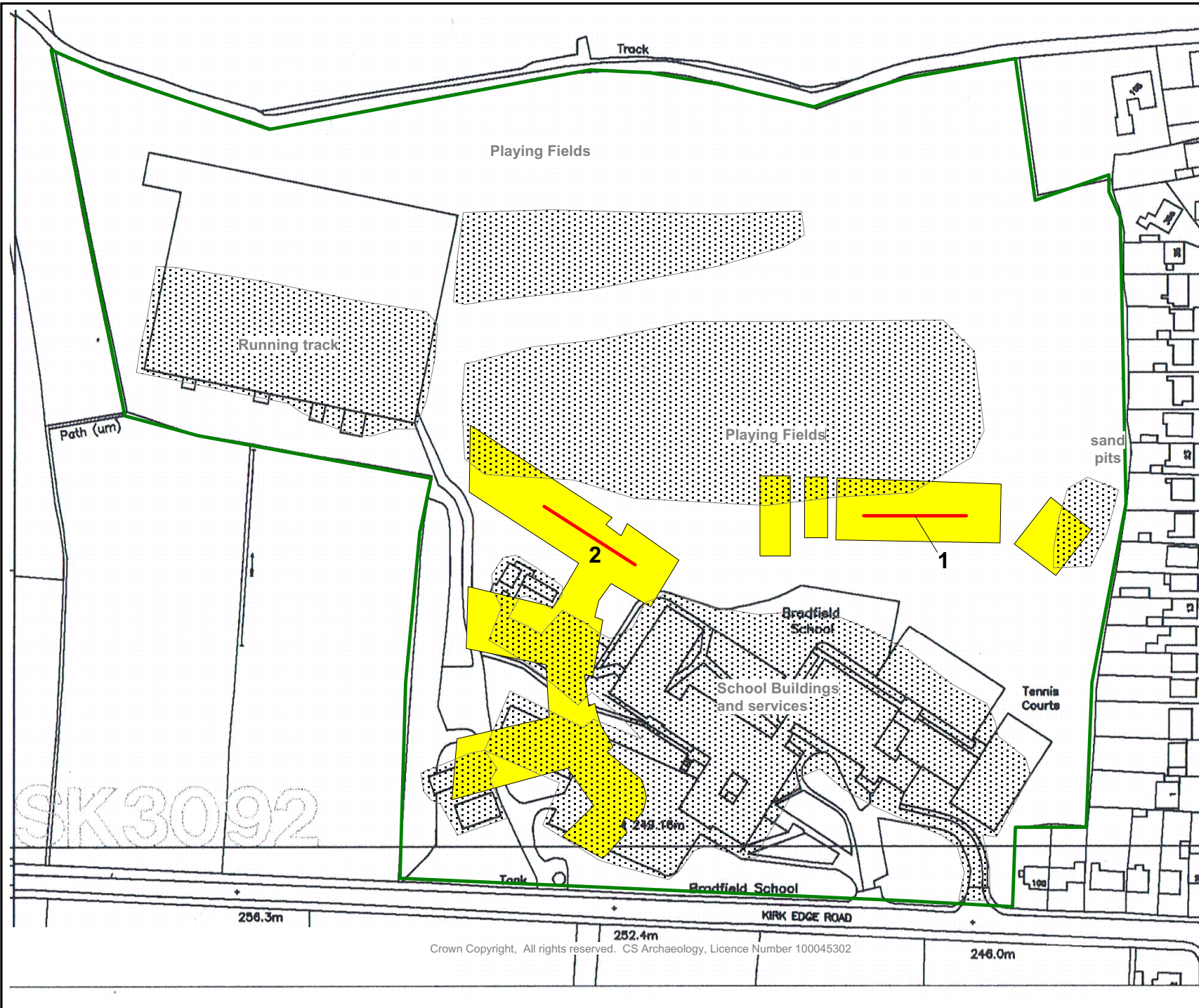
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Bradfield School, Kirk Edge Road, Worrall, Sheffield



- key
- PDA boundary
 - low archaeological potential
 - proposed new buildings
 - archaeological trenches layout based on a 5% sample with 10% (14m contingency)
- trench 1 (20 x 2m)
trench 2 (20 x 2m)



scale 1:10000

Figure 1: Proposed Evaluation Trenches

CS Archaeology
June 2010

Appendix 2: Archive Index

PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER A: 35mm Black and White Film (Ilford Delta 400 Professional) and digital photographs 5 and 7MP)

No.	Plate	Location,	Description	From
1		Service road	General view (oblique view of section)	E
2		Service road	View of the truncated topsoil	NW
3		TR2	Pre-excavation view	W
4		TR2	View of the de-turfing	N
5		TR2	Working view of the eastern half of the trench	E
6		TR2	Detail of the east facing end section	E
7	3	TR2	Post excavation view of the trench	E
8		TR2	Post excavation view of the trench	E
9		TR2	Oblique view of the south facing section	SW
10		TR2	Oblique view of the south facing section	SE
11		TR2	Detail of the west facing section	W
12	4	TR2	Detail of the south facing section (centre)	S
13		TR1	Pre-excavation view	SE
14		TR1	Working view of the initial excavation	E
15		TR1	Post excavation view of the trench	SE
16	1	TR1	Post excavation view of the trench	NW
17		TR1	Oblique view of the northeast facing section	E
18		TR1	Oblique view of the northeast facing section	NW
19	2	TR1	Detail of the northwest facing section	NW
20		TR1	Detail of the southeast facing section	SE
21		TR1	Reinstatement view	SE

CONTEXT REGISTER B

No.	Location	Type	Description
100	TR1	deposit	Greyish brown silty clay, mixed deposit up to 0.17m deep. Lies above [101]. Interpreted as the result of recent disturbance after removal of concrete plinth associated with the temporary class room foundations. <i>Artefacts: assortment of modern coins (£0.03) pens, glue tubes and aluminium ring pulls.</i>
101	TR1	deposit	Redeposited buff clay laid down in undulating layers up to 0.09m deep. Underlies [100] overlies [102]. <i>No artefacts.</i>
102	TR1	deposit	Dark grey clayey silt with frequent charcoal flecks, and represents the historic plough soil, 0.12m deep. Underlies [101], overlies [103]. <i>Artefacts: 2 plain clay pipe stems up to 2cm long, small fragments of late post medieval pottery and glass.</i>
103	TR1	natural	Pale yellow and orange clay with occasional large rounded stone up to 0.25m diam. Underlies [102].
200	TR2	deposit	Greyish brown clayey silt up to 0.3m deep. This deposit represents the historic plough soil. Overlies [201] <i>Artefacts: modern coins (£1.40), pens, glue tube and aluminium ring pulls (discarded)</i>
201	TR2	deposit	Dark grey clayey silt with frequent charcoal inclusions. Underlies [201] overlies [203]. <i>Artefacts: transfer decorated pottery (discarded).</i>
202	TR2	natural	Buff clay with rounded stone up to 0.45m diam. Underlies [201].