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MAP Archaeological Practice

Land West of Hard Lane
Harthill
Rotherham
South Yorkshire

RB2019/1474

Archaeological Evaluation by Trail Trenching
05.08.21

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Version	Written/Revision by:	Date:	Checked by:	Date:
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South Yorkshire

Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching

RB2019/1474
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Non-technical Summary

An Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching was carried out by MAP Archaeological Practice Ltd., on land West of Hard Lane, Harthill, Rotherham, South Yorkshire in November 2022. The evaluation was undertaken to inform South Yorkshire Archaeology Service of the archaeological potential of the site, prior to the commencement of a residential development. The work was undertaken on behalf of Newett Homes.

The Evaluation by Trial Trenching, which consisted of four trenches revealed no archaeological activity across the Proposed Development Area. It is suggested that no further archaeological work is necessary on the site as high levels of modern disturbance would have likely truncated, obscured or removed any potential archaeological finds or features.

1. Introduction

1.1 This report sets out the results of an Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching which was carried out by MAP Archaeological Practice Ltd. on land West of Hard Lane, Harthill, Rotherham, South Yorkshire (centred on SK 4926 8122) in November 2022.

1.2 The work was undertaken in order to inform South Yorkshire Archaeology Service, of the archaeological potential of the site and to mitigate the impact of a residential development with associated infrastructure (RB2019/1474).

1.3 Planning permission has been granted, by Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council, for residential development on the site (RB2019/1474). South Yorkshire Archaeology Services noted that the Heritage Impact Assessment prepared by Solstice Heritage (2019) highlighted the need for archaeological investigation in the form of Evaluation by Trial Trenching which should be carried out prior to a decision being made on a planning application. Condition 26 attached to the planning permission states that

Part A (pre-commencement)

No development, including any demolition and groundworks, shall take place until the applicant, or their agent or successor in title, has submitted a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) that sets out a strategy for archaeological investigation and this has been approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The WSI shall include:

- The programme and method of site investigation and recording.*
- The requirement to seek preservation in situ of identified features of importance.*
- The programme for post-investigation assessment.*
- The provision to be made for analysis and reporting.*
- The provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the results.*
- The provision to be made for deposition of the archive created.*
- Nomination of a competent person/persons or organisation to undertake the works.*
- The timetable for completion of all site investigation and post investigation works.*

Part B (pre-occupation/use)

Thereafter the development shall only take place in accordance with the approved WSI and

the development shall not be brought into use until the Local Planning Authority has confirmed in writing that the requirements of the WSI have been fulfilled or alternative timescales agreed.

1.4 The work was carried out in accordance with the recommendations of the National Planning Policy Framework (2021) on 'Archaeology and Planning' and according to the Written Scheme of Investigation that was prepared by MAP Archaeological Practice Ltd.

1.5 MAP adhered to the general principles of both the ClfA 'Code of Conduct' (2022) and 'Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation' (2020) throughout the project.

1.6 The site code for the project was MAP 05.08.2021.

1. All maps within this report have been produced with permission of the Controller of His Majesty's Stationary Office (© Crown copyright. License AL50453A). With additional mapping data derived from OpenStreetMap. (<https://www.openstreetmap.org/copyright>).

1.8 All work was funded by Newett Homes.

2. Site Description (SK 4926 8122)

2.1 The site is allocated within the Rotherham Local Plan (site H94) as a residential development site, having been subjected to unfinished development during the 1990's

2.2 The village of Harthill is a village located 1km west of Worksop, 17.7km south of Rotherham and 25km south-east of Sheffield in South Yorkshire. The Development Area is located on the west side of Hard Lane, on the north-west of the village (Fig. 1).

2.3 The Proposed Development Area's land use at the time of evaluation was a partially developed brownfield site. The total area of the Proposed Development Area is 1.5 Ha; on land at heights between c. 94m AOD and 102m AOD.

2.4 The site stands on soils derived from Soilscape, described as '*freely draining slightly acid loamy soils*' (2022), overlaying geology of Pennine Middle Coal Measures (BGS 2022).

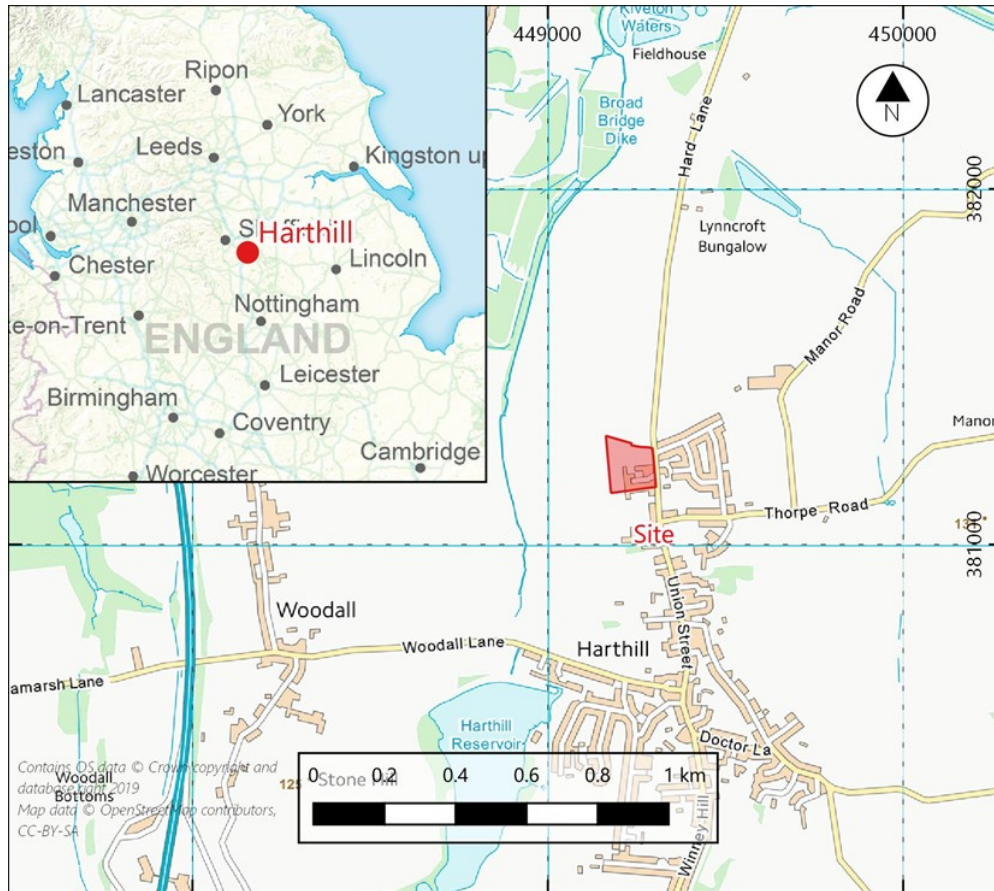


Figure 1. Site Location.

3. Archaeological and Historical Background

3.1 Flints dating to the Neolithic to Early Bronze Age and Roman coins have been found in Harthill (Snowden 2019, 63-64). There is an aerial photographic cropmark on Hunger Hill interpreted as a prehistoric/Roman enclosure.

3.2 The place-name Harthill was first documented in the Domesday Book in 1086 and derives from the Old English meaning Stag Hill (Key to English Place-Names, 2022).

3.3 The Domesday Survey documents Harthill had 12 households listed in 1086 with 11 villagers and 13 freemen and land for 12 ploughs under the Land of William of Warenne. A 10th century brooch and medieval cross base was located in Harthill.

3.4 Previous archaeological work in Harthill included a watching brief undertaken in 2013 to the rear of 4 Union Street, Harthill and an archaeological evaluation undertaken in 2017 on land adjacent to Common Road, Harthill. No archaeological features or pre-modern finds were encountered during the watching brief. The evaluation trenches revealed several linear boundary ditches for rectangular enclosures dating to the prehistoric, Romano-British, and medieval periods (Snowden 2019, 12).

4. Aims and Objectives

4.1 The aim of the Archaeological Trial Trenching is to determine the presence/absence, nature, date, quality of survival and importance of archaeological deposits to enable an assessment of the potential and significance of the archaeology to be made.

5. Methodology

5.1 Excavation

5.1.1 Five trial trenches were proposed, positioned in order to assess potential archaeology in the areas of the proposed development (Fig. 2). On arrival to the site, it was noted that all five trenches would not be able to be positioned in their proposed locations due to the presence of demolition rubble, spoil heaps and heavy ground disturbance in relation to Trenches 1, 2, 3 and 5 and the presence of the site compound, car park and site entrance in regard to Trench 4. Using a Trimble GPS Rover Trenches 1, 2, 3 and 5 were positioned and levelled as close to their proposed position (Fig. 2). Trench 4 however was unable to be relocated and therefore not excavated, in consultation with South Yorkshire Archaeology Service.

5.1.2 Once positioned the trenches were excavated using a 360° tracked mechanical excavator, fitted with a toothless bucket. In Trenches 2 and 3 the topsoil and in the case of Trench 2 subsoil was excavated down to the level of natural geology, operating under close archaeological supervision. As Trenches 1 and 5 had been already reduced down to the natural the mechanical excavator cleaned the surface of modern material. The exposed surfaces were cleaned appropriately and recorded.

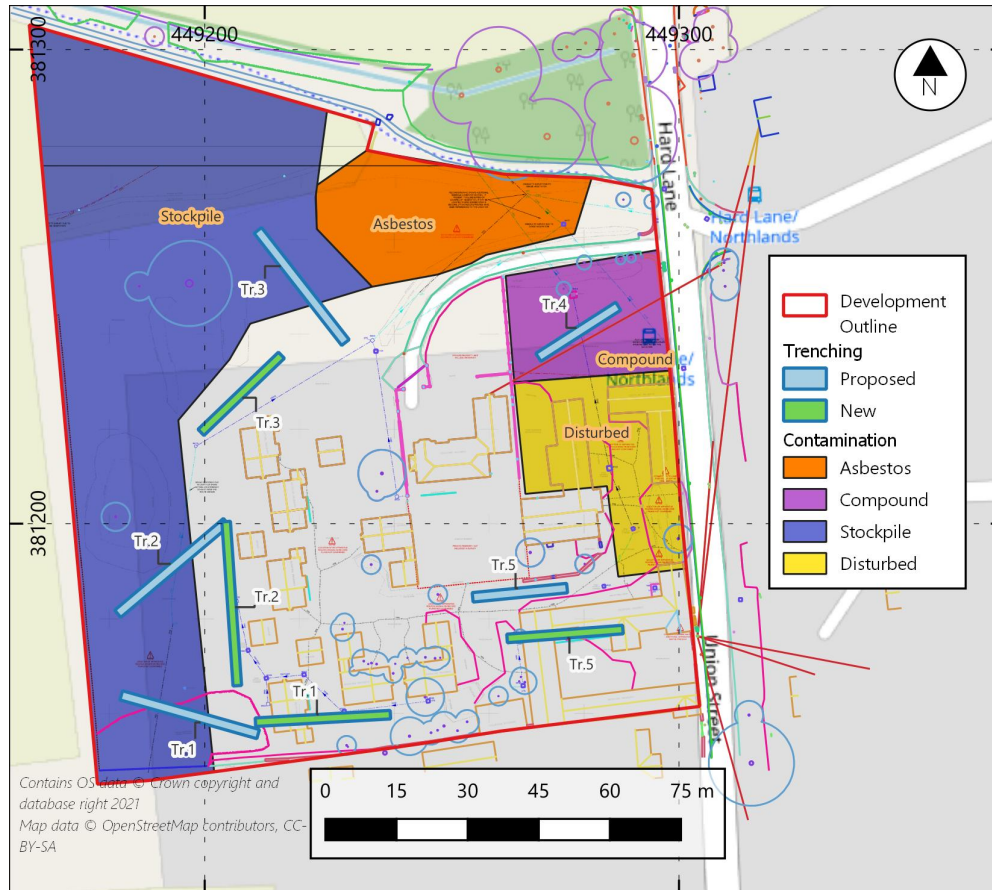


Figure 2. Trench Location.

5.2 Recording

5.2.1 All deposits were recorded according to correct principles of stratigraphic excavation using DiggIt Archaeology, a digital recording system which is compatible with the MOLA recording system. All indices were produced using MAP's pro forma sheets. A total of nine contexts were recorded all of which were none archaeological in nature.

5.2.2 Black and white film photographs formed the basis of the photographic archive with a total of seven photographs. This was supplemented with a high-resolution digital image archive of thirteen photographs taken in both RAW and JPG formats, recording all deposits encountered.

6. Results

6.1 Trenches 1 and 5 were located in areas that had already been excavated down to the natural mid-reddish-pink clay. Trenches 2 and 3 were observed to have a topsoil of mid-greyish-brown clayey silt and only 2 was seen to have a subsoil of light-pinkish-brown located at the southern end of the trench. The total depths of excavation, depths of the topsoil and elevations of all four trial trenches are displayed in the below table along with their orientation within the site.

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Elevation</i>	<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	<i>Depth of Subsoil</i>
<i>Tr.1</i>	East – 102.33m AOD	0.16m-	-	-
	West – 102.8m AOD	0.30m	-	-
<i>Tr.2</i>	North – 101.21m AOD	0.12m-	0.10m-	0.30m
	South – 101.67m AOD	0.40m	0.12m	
<i>Tr.3</i>	North-East – 100.22m AOD	0.13m-	0.13m-	-
	South-West – 100.85m AOD	0.23m	0.23m	-
<i>Tr.5</i>	East – 101.95m AOD	0.07m-	-	-
	West – 102.22m AOD	0.13m	-	-

6.2. Trenches 1 and 5 were cleaned back using the mechanical excavator to remove any modern debris that had been compacted into the natural. Both trenches were absent of all archaeological features and deposits and Trench 1 only contained modern disturbance and services.

6.3 Trench 2 was observed to be absent of all archaeological features and deposits with more modern disturbance and services present.

6.4 Trench 3 again was seen to have no archaeological features or deposits within it however most of the trench, especially the north-eastern end, had been heavily truncated by large modern demolition material and services.

7. Conclusions

7.1 The archaeological evaluation has illustrated an absence of archaeological finds and features on land west of Hard Lane, Harthill, Rotherham, South Yorkshire.

7.2 The results confirm an absence of significant archaeological potential for the site. It is suggested that no further archaeological work is necessary on site as the high levels of disturbance observed on site as a result of the original development, including demolition material from the old house footings, services, and heavy intrusion of modern material into the natural, would have likely truncated, obscured or removed any potential archaeological finds or feature.

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9. List of Contributors

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Plate 1: General View of Site, facing North-east.



Plate 2: General View of Site, facing South.



Plate 3: General View of Site, facing North.



Plate 4: General View of Trench 1, facing West.



Plate 5: General View of Trench 2, facing South.



Plate 6: General View of Trench 3, facing North-east.



Plate 7: General View of Trench 5, facing West.



IMG_0107



IMG_0108



IMG_0109



IMG_0110



IMG_0111



IMG_0112



IMG_0113



IMG_0114



IMG_0115



IMG_0116



IMG_0117



IMG_0118



IMG_0119

APPENDIX 1

Context Listing

Context no.	Type	Description	Interpretation
101	Layer	Other context of trench 1. Colour: mid reddish pink. Composition: sandy clay. Compaction: moist, malleable. Inclusions: none. Reliability: fair.	Cleaning deposit of natural of trench 1
102	Layer	Natural of trench 1. Colour: mid reddish pink. Composition: sandy clay. Compaction: moist, malleable. Inclusions: none. Reliability: fair.	Natural of trench 1
201	Layer	Topsoil of trench 2. Colour: mid greyish brown. Composition: clayey silt. Compaction: moist, malleable. Inclusions: none. Reliability: good.	Topsoil of trench 2
202	Layer	Subsoil of trench 2. Colour: light pinkish brown. Composition: sandy clay. Compaction: moist, malleable. Inclusions: none. Reliability: good.	Subsoil of trench 2
203	Layer	Natural of trench 2. Colour: mid reddish pink. Composition: sandy clay. Compaction: moist, malleable. Inclusions: none. Reliability: good.	Natural of trench 2
301	Layer	Topsoil of trench 3. Colour: mid greyish brown. Composition: clayey silt. Compaction: moist, malleable. Inclusions: none. Reliability: good.	Topsoil of trench 3
302	Layer	Natural of trench 3. Colour: light orangey yellow. Inclusions: inclusion. Reliability: fair.	Natural of trench 3
501	Layer	Other context of trench 5. Colour: mid reddish pink. Composition: sandy clay. Compaction: moist, malleable. Inclusions: moderate medium sub-angular spheroidal limestone, evenly distributed. Reliability: good.	Cleaning deposit of natural of trench 5
502	Layer	Natural of trench 5. Colour: mid reddish pink. Composition: sandy clay. Compaction: moist, malleable. Inclusions: moderate medium sub-angular spheroidal limestone, evenly distributed. Reliability: good.	Natural of trench 5

APPENDIX 2

Black and White Photographic Archive Listing

Frame	Film	Context	Scale	Facing	Description
30	1	-	1m	South	General view of Trench 2
31	1	-	1m	West	General view of Trench 1
32	1	-	1m	North-east	General view of Trench 3
33	1	-	1m	West	General view of Trench 5
34	1	-	-	North-east	General view of site
35	1	-	-	South	General view of site
36	1	-	-	East	General view of site

APPENDIX 3

Digital Photographic Archive Listing

Frame	Context	Scale	Facing	Description
0107	-	1m	South	General view of Trench 2
0108	-	1m	North	General view of Trench 2
0109	-	1m	West	General view of Trench 3
0110	-	1m	East	General view of Trench 3
0111	-	-	East	General view of site
0112	-	-	North-west	General view of site
0113	-	-	North-east	General view of site
0114	-	1m	North-east	General view of Trench 3
0115	-	1m	South-west	General view of Trench 3
0116	-	-	South	General view of site
0117	-	-	South-west	General view of site
0118	-	1m	East	General view of Trench 5
0119	-	1m	West	General view of Trench 5

RB2019/1474

Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching on land west of Hard Lane, Harthill, is to be carried out by MAP Archaeological Practice in November 2022. MAP will adhere to a Written Scheme of Investigation (Land West of Hard Lane, Harthill, Rotherham, South Yorkshire, Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching) which was produced by MAP in 2021 and approved by the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service.

Variation to Trench Location Plan.

Since the submission of the WSI, the location of the Trial Trenches have moved, owing to contaminated land and the presence of demolition rubble within the site boundary. The locations of all Trial Trenches are displayed in figure 1.

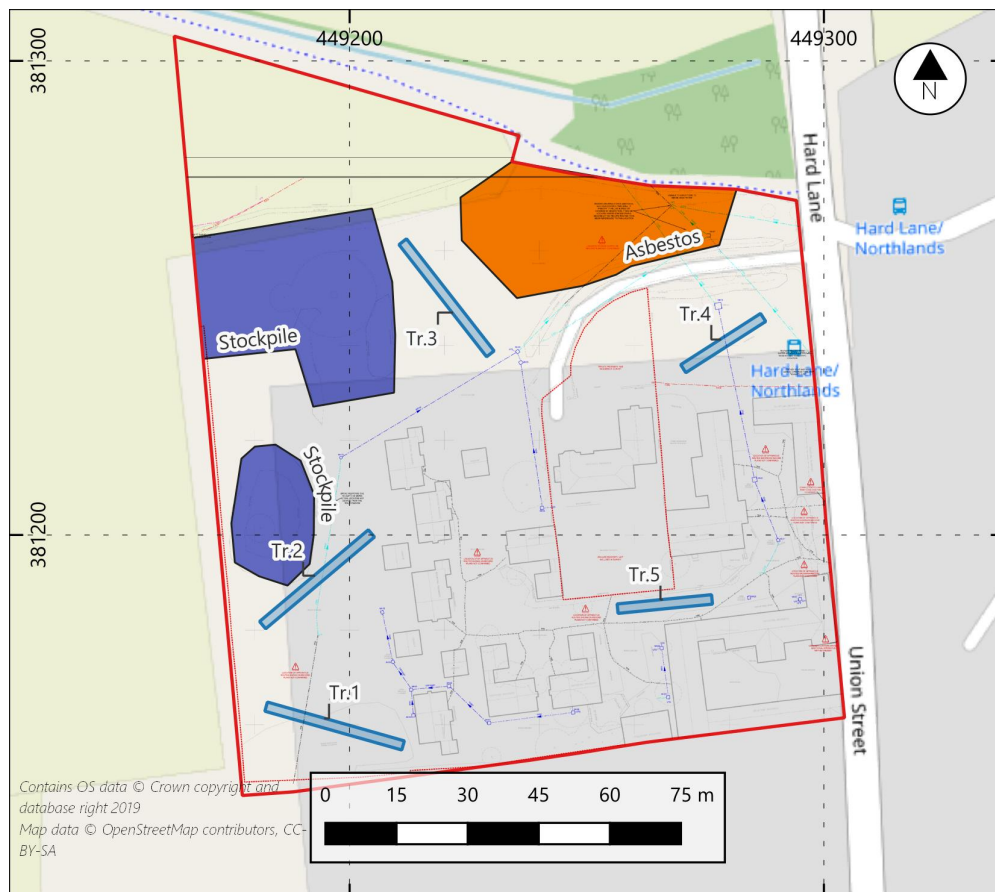


Fig 1. Trench Location Plan

Trenches 1, 2 and 3 measure 30m x 2m whilst trenches 4 and 5 measure 20m x 2m.

Variation to Recording Strategy.

All archaeological deposits and features will be recorded using DiggIt Archaeology, a digital recording system which is compatible with the MoLAS recording system. All indices will be produced using MAP's pro forma sheets. The MAP recording manual will be used on site where necessary.



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Land West of Hard Lane
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Written Scheme of Investigation:
Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching
SK 4926 8122

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION BY TRIAL TRENCHING

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2. Trench Location. Scale 1:1,000.

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Appendices

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1 Introduction

1.1 This document is a Written Scheme of Works (WSI) for Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching, which sets out the details for the archaeological work required at the Land West of Hard Lane, Harthill, Rotherham, South Yorkshire in order to inform South Yorkshire Archaeology Service of the archaeological potential of the site and to mitigate the impact of the residential development.

1.2 The Written Scheme of Works has been commissioned by the developer (Newett Homes) and in compliance with the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service *'Model Brief for Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching'*.

1.3 In accordance with the recommendations of the National Planning Policy Framework (February 2019) on *'Archaeology and Planning'*, an Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching has been proposed, the results of which will be summarised in a report for an appropriate mitigation strategy to be formulated if necessary.

2. Planning Background and Site Description

2.1 The site is allocated within the Rotherham Local Plan (site H94) as a residential development site, having been subject to unfinished development during the 1990's. In respect to a previous allocation (RB2019/1474) South Yorkshire Archaeology Services recommended that the Heritage Impact Assessment prepared by Solstice Heritage (2019) highlighted the need for archaeological investigation in the form of

Evaluation by Trial Trenching which should be carried out prior to a decision being made on a planning application.

2.2 The village of Harthill is a village located 1km west of Worksop, 17.7km south of Rotherham and 25km south-east of Sheffield in South Yorkshire. The Development Area is located on the west side of Hard Lane Lane, on the north-west of the village (Figs. 1 & 2).

2.3 The Proposed Development Area's current land use is partially developed brownfield site (Fig. 2: Pls. 1-40). The total area of the Proposed Development is 1.5 Ha; on land at heights between c. 94m AOD and 102m AOD.

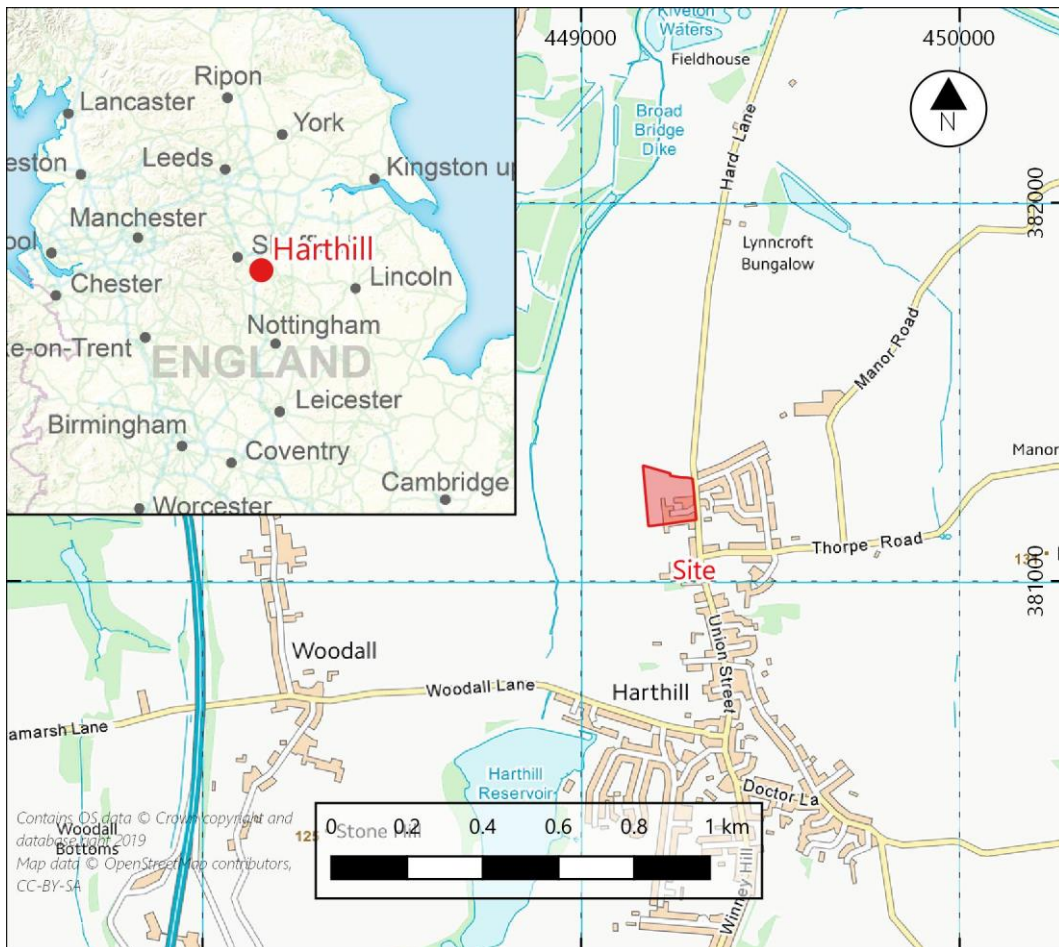


Figure 1. Site Location. Scale 1:25,000.

2.4 The site stands on soils derived from Soilscape 6 described as '*freely draining slightly acid loamy soils*' (landis.org.uk/soilscapes), overlying geology of Pennine Middle Coal Measures (www.bgs.ac.uk).

3. Archaeological and Historical Background

3.1 Flints dating to the Neolithic to Early Bronze Age and Roman coins have been found in Harthill (Snowden 2019, 63-64). There is a aerial photographic cropmark on Hunger Hill interpreted as a prehistoric/Roman enclosure.

3.2 The place-name Harthill was first documented in the Domesday Book in 1086 and derives from an Old English meaning Stag Hill from ([key to English place-names on nottingham.ac.uk](http://key.to.english.place-names.on.nottingham.ac.uk)).

3.3 The Domesday Survey documents Harthill had 12 households listed in 1086 with 11 villagers and 13 freemen and land for 12 ploughs under the Land of William of Warenne. A 10th century brooch and a medieval cross base was located in Harthill.

3.4 Previous archaeological work in Harthill included a watching brief undertaken in 2013 to the rear of 4 Union Street, Harthill and an archaeological evaluation undertaken in 2017 on land adjacent to Common Road, Harthill. No archaeological features or pre-modern finds were encountered during the watching brief. The evaluation trenches revealed several linear boundary ditches for rectangular enclosures dating to the prehistoric, Romano-British, and medieval periods (Snowden 2019, 12).

4. Aims and Objectives

- 4.1 The aim of the Archaeological Trial Trenching is to determine the presence/absence, nature, date, quality of survival and importance of archaeological deposits to enable an assessment of the potential and significance of the archaeology to be made.

5. Compliance

- 5.1 MAP will adhere to the general principles of the ClfA Code of Conduct (ClfA 2019) throughout the project and to the ClfA 'Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations' (CIFA 2020a).
- 5.2 All work will be carried out in accordance with chapter 16 of the National Planning Policy Framework (2019) on 'Archaeology and Planning'.
- 5.3 The work will be monitored under the auspices of South Yorkshire Archaeology Service who will be consulted before the commencement of site works.
- 5.4 All maps within this report have been produced from the Ordnance Survey with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, Crown Copyright. License No. AL 50453A and also data derived from Open Street Map (<https://www.openstreetmap.org/copyright>).
- 5.5 If human remains are encountered during the course of this evaluation it is considered best practice to not remove the remains at this stage, however, this should be considered at a site-specific level. If it is deemed necessary to

remove human remains, this will be carried out under the conditions of licences for the removal of human remains (issued by the Ministry of Justice) and in accordance with the Burial Act (1857) and 'Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains' (Brickley & McKinley. 2004) to ensure that they are treated with due dignity. The preferred option would be for them to be adequately recorded before lifting, and then carefully removed for scientific study, and long-term storage with an appropriate museum; however, the burial licence may specify reburial or cremation as a requirement.

5.6 MAP Archaeological Practice is an ISO 9001 accredited organisation (certificate number GB2005425). The award of the ISO 9001 certificate, independently audited by the British Standards Institution (BSI), demonstrates MAP's commitment to providing a quality service to our clients. ISO (the International Organisation for Standardisation) is the most recognised standards body in the world, helping to drive excellence and continuous improvement within businesses.

6 Fieldwork Methodology

6.1 Excavation and Recording

6.1.1 Five trial trenches are proposed, positioned in order to assess potential archaeological in the areas of the proposed development (Fig 2). Three measure 40m by 2m and two 20m by 2m in length. An additional 10% of trenching may be required as a contingency. The results of the evaluation may lead to further archaeological mitigation work and a revised WSI.

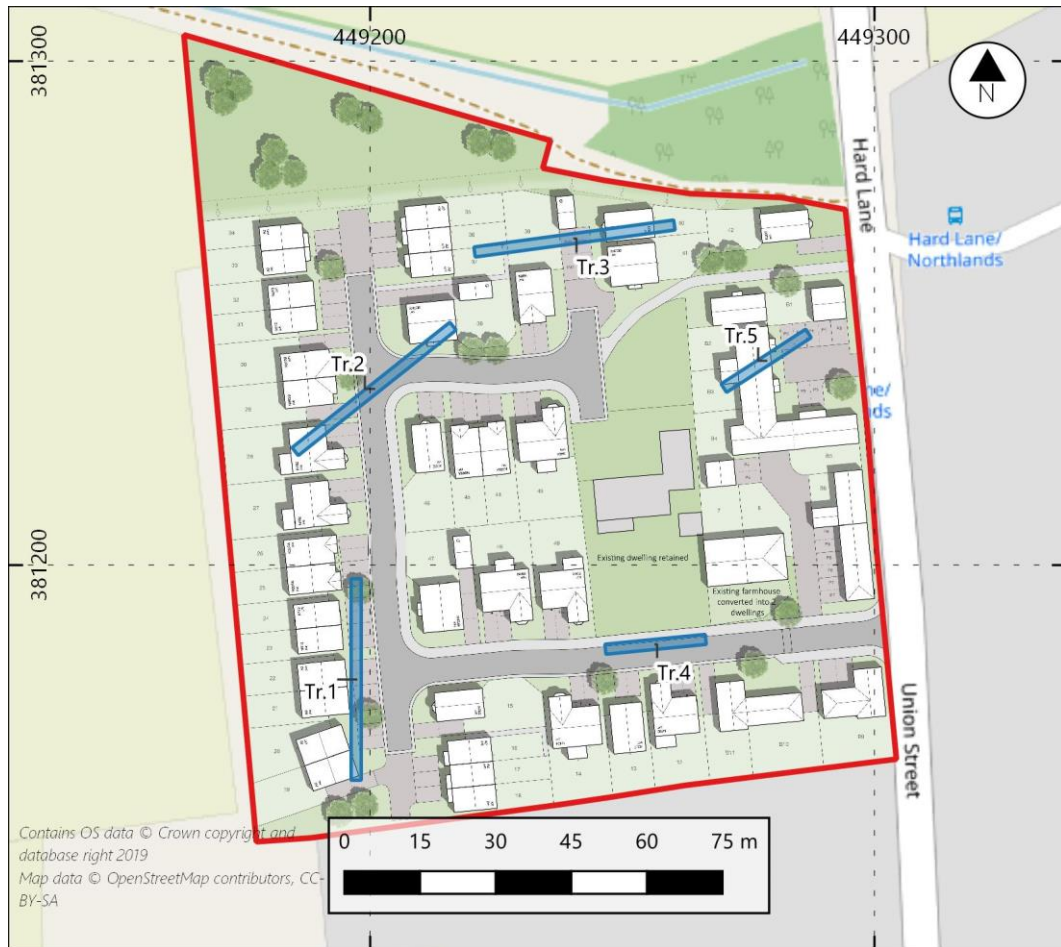


Figure 2. Trench Location

- 6.1.2 A minimum of one week's notice of the commencement of fieldwork will be given to the SYAS.
- 6.1.3 All overburden, topsoil and any subsoils will be carefully removed by mechanical excavator using a wide toothless blade (ditching bucket), under archaeological supervision, to the top of archaeological features or layers, thereafter all excavation will be by hand. Areas of intensive modern disturbance will be given a low priority in excavation. Where practicable, the fills of these features will be removed by mechanical excavator.

6.1.4 Context recording methodologies and systems will be used. All archaeological deposits will be recorded according to principles of stratigraphic excavation on MAP's *pro forma* sheets, which are compatible with the MoLAS recording system. The MAP recording manual will be used on site where necessary. The stratigraphy of trenches will be recorded even if no archaeology is found.

6.1.5 The excavation sampling policy is:

- a. A 100% sample of stakeholes
- b. An initial 50% sample should be taken of all postholes, but where they are part of a building these should be 100% excavated
- c. A 50% sample of pits with a diameter up to 1.5m (where justified, these should be 100% excavated,
- d. A minimum 25% sample of all pits over 1.5m in diameter, but this should include a complete section across the pit to record a full profile (where justified, these should be 100% excavated)
- e. All junctions/intersections and corners of linear features will be investigated and their stratigraphic relationships determined – if necessary, using box sections and all ditch terminals will be examined,
- f. All funerary contexts, all buildings and all industrial features will be subject to 100% excavation. As noted above, postholes and the enclosing ditches around barrows and roundhouses would be first subject to sample excavation, sectioning and recording, but then should be fully excavated

6.1.6 In certain cases, the use of mechanical excavation equipment may also be appropriate for removing deep intrusions (e.g modern brick and concrete floors or footings), or for putting sections through major features after

partial excavation (e.g ditches), or through deposits to check that they are of natural origin

6.1.7 A full written, drawn and photographic record will be made of all material revealed during the course of the Trial Trenching. Plans should be completed at a scale of 1:50 or 1:20 (as appropriate), whilst section drawings should be at a scale of 1:10. Black and white film photographs will form the basis of the photographic archive, with colour slides where necessary. Digital photography will only be used to supplement the record.

6.1.8 A sampling strategy for the recovery for environmental remains has been formulated in accordance with an Environmental Strategy written by an Environmental Consultant (Diane Aldritt, appendix 1) and also follows the guidance of the Association for Environmental Archaeology (1995) and Historic England (2011).

6.1.9 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. Where features allow between 40 and 60 litres will be taken although entire contexts will be sampled if the volume is low, and specialist samples, such as for General Biological Analysis (GBA) or column samples, will be of the order of 20 litres. Positive features will also be sampled; retention of structural material such as bricks will be implemented where necessary. Sampling will also be considered for those features where dating by other methods (for example pottery and artefacts) is uncertain. Animal bones will be hand collected, and bulk samples collected from contexts containing a high density of bones. Spot finds of other material will be recovered where

applicable. Flotation samples and samples taken for coarse-mesh sieving from dry deposits will be processed at the time of the fieldwork wherever possible, partly to permit variation of sampling strategies if necessary, but also because processing at a later stage could cause delays.

6.1.10 All finds (artefacts and ecofacts) visible during excavation will be collected and processed, unless variations in this principle are agreed with the Local Authority. Finds will be appropriately packaged and stored under optimum conditions, as detailed in the RESCUE/UKIC publication First Aid for Finds. In accordance with the procedures outlined in MoRPHE, all iron objects, a selection of non-ferrous artefacts (including all coins), and a sample of any industrial debris relating to metallurgy will be X-radiographed before assessment. Any recording, marking and storage, materials will be of archive quality. We have made an allowance for a minimum three boxes and a contingency for a small finds box in calculating estimates for museums storage grant.

6.1.11 We will make provision within our excavation strategies, where necessary, for use of shoring, pumps or artificial lighting. Such strategies will also follow for sampling for radiocarbon, archaeomagnetic and/or dendrochronological determinations, as appropriate: where in situ timbers are found to survive in good condition, samples should be taken for dendrochronological assay.

6.1.12 Arrangements for site access and reinstatement are to be agreed with the commissioning body.

6.1.13 Health and safety will take priority over archaeological matters. Archaeologists undertaking fieldwork must observe safe working practices;

the Health and Safety arrangements must be agreed and understood by all relevant parties before work commences. Risk assessments must be carried out and documented in accordance with Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1992. The Contractor should determine whether this project is covered by Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 1994 and ensure that all requirements under the regulations are met. All archaeologists and visitors to site will comply with necessary precautions regarding COVID-19 as outlined in the RAMS for the site and sign a declaration to declare they are not infectious, adhere to social distancing and approved safety measures. Should stepping of the trenches be required, where depths exceed safe dimensions (in depth), the trench width of 2m should be measured at the base of the trench.

- 6.1.14 Necessary precautions should be taken over underground services and overhead lines.
- 6.1.15 All on site staff hold valid CSCS cards. All Project Officers and Project Managers hold a valid First Aid at Work Certificate and Site Supervisor Safety Training qualifications.
- 6.1.16 MAP will provide evidence of all necessary insurances, including Employer's Liability, Professional Liability and Public Liability Cover.
- 6.1.17 Site inspections will be arranged with SYAS, so that the general site stratigraphy can be assessed in the initial stage of trial trenching and/or so that the site can be inspected when fieldwork is near to completion but before any trenches have been backfilled. Site visits with the Historic England Yorkshire Region Science Advisor will be arranged if necessary.

7. Post Excavation Analysis and Report

7.1 Upon completion of the evaluation, the artefacts, soil samples and stratigraphic information will be assessed as to their potential and significance for further analysis.

7.2 A report will be prepared to include the following:

- a) A non-technical summary of the results of the work, Introduction and aims and objectives.
- b) An introduction which should include
 - the site code/project number
 - planning reference number and SMR Casework number
 - dates when fieldwork took place
 - grid reference
- c) An account of the methods and results of the evaluation, describing structural data and associated finds and/or environmental data recovered.
- d) Interpretation, including phasing of the site sequence and spot-dating of ceramics (Descriptive material should be clearly separated from interpretive statements). This shall be supported by the use of photographs and drawings, to include an overall plan of the site accurately identifying the location of trenches; individual trench plans as excavated indicating the location of archaeological features, with at least one section detailing the stratigraphic sequence of deposits within each trench.
- e) A specialist assessment of the artefacts recovered with a view to their potential for further study. Allowance should be made for preliminary conservation and stabilisation of all objects and an assessment of long-term conservation and storage needs.

Assessment of artefacts must include inspection of X-radiographs of all iron objects, a selection of non-ferrous artefacts (including coins), and a sample

of any industrial debris relating to metallurgy. A rapid scan of all excavated material should be undertaken by conservators and finds researchers in collaboration. Material considered vulnerable will be selected for stabilisation after specialist recording. Where intervention is necessary, consideration will be given to possible investigative procedures (e.g glass composition studies, residues in or on pottery, and mineral preserved organic material). Once assessed, all material will be packed and stored in optimum conditions, as described in First Aid For Finds. Waterlogged organic materials should be dealt with, following Historic England documents, Guidelines for the care of waterlogged archaeological leather, and guidelines on the recording, sampling, conservation and curation of waterlogged wood.

- f) A specialist assessment of environmental samples taken, with a view to their potential for subsequent study.

Processing of all samples collected for biological assessment, or sub-samples of them, will be completed. Bulk and site-riddled samples from dry deposits should have been processed during excavation, where possible. The preservation state, density and significance of material retrieved must be assessed, following methods presented in Environmental Archaeology and archaeological evaluations, or existing local guidelines, until national guidelines are available. Unprocessed sub-samples must be stored in conditions specified by the appropriate specialists.

Assessments for any technological residues will be undertaken. Samples for dating must be submitted to laboratories promptly, so as to ensure that results are available to aid development of specifications for subsequent mitigation strategies.

- g) The results from investigations in archaeological sciences will be included in the Site Archive and presented in the Evaluation Report. Reports must

include sufficient detail to permit assessment of potential analysis. They will include tabulation of data in relation to site phasing and contexts, and must include non-technical summaries. The objective presentation of data must be clearly separated from interpretation. Recommendation for further investigation (both on samples already collected, and at future excavations) must be clearly separated from the results and interpretation.

- h) An assessment of the archaeological significance of the deposits identified, in relation to other sites in the region.
- i) A conclusion with recommendations for further post-excavation work, if required.
- j) Detailed archive location and destination.
- k) Appendices and figures, as appropriate, including a copy of the specification and/or project design.
- l) References and bibliography of all sources used

7.3 Copies of the report will be submitted to the commissioning body, the Local Planning Authority and South Yorkshire Archaeology Service within an agreed timetable and subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality (see 8.2 below).

7.4 We will provide a digital copy of the report in PDF format to the South Yorkshire Historic Environment Record.

7.5 A Brief, interim report may be required shortly after the completion of fieldwork.

7.6 The following Specialists have been contacted as are available to work on the project:

Pottery - T G Manby (Prehistoric),
M R Stephens (Medieval and Post-medieval)
P A Ware/P Mills (Roman)
Flint - P Makey
Animal Bone – J Richardson
Environmental Sampling – D Alldritt
Conservation – York Archaeological Trust
Human Remains – York Osteology
Ceramic Building Material – P Mills
Clay Tobacco Pipe - M R Stephens

7.7 A final report will comprise both the building recording and all below ground investigation and mitigation work.

8. Copyright, Confidentiality and Publicity

8.1 Unless the individual/organisation commissioning the project wishes to state otherwise, the copyright of any written, graphic or photographic records and reports rests with MAP.

9. Archive Preparation and Dissemination

9.1 The requirements for archive preparation and deposition must be addressed and undertaken in a manner agreed with the Museums Sheffield, who will be contacted before commencement of fieldwork.

9.2 A site archive should be prepared in accordance with the specification outlined in *Management of Archaeological Projects* (MoRPHE (Lee, E, 2006).

See also *Towards an Accessible Archaeological Archive, the Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Museums: Guidelines for use in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales* Society of Museum Archaeologists 1995.

- 9.3 The site archive, including finds and environmental material, subject to the permission of the relevant landowners, will be labelled, conserved and stored according to the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC)'s. Provision will be made for the stable storage of paper records and their long term storage on a suitable medium, such as microfilm, a copy of which should be deposited with the NMR (Historic England). An index to the contents of the archive together with details of its date and place of deposition should be lodged with the SMR.
- 9.4 Archive deposition will be arranged in consultation with the Clifton Park Museum and South Yorkshire Archaeology Service and in accordance with their deposition policy relating to the preparation and transfer of archives. The timetable for deposition shall be agreed on completion of the site archive and narrative.
- 9.5 The digital archive will be deposited with the ADS.

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APPENDIX 1

Conservation Strategy By Ian Panter of York Archaeological Trust

Artefacts from all categories and all periods will be recovered as a matter of routine during the excavation. When retrieved from the ground finds will be kept in a finds tray or appropriate bags in accordance with **First Aid for Finds**. Where necessary, a conservator may be required to recover fragile finds from the ground depending upon circumstances.

If waterlogged conditions are encountered a wide range of organic materials may be recovered, including wood, leather and textiles. Advice will be sought from a conservator to discuss optimum storage requirements before any attempt is made to retrieve organic finds and structural timbers from the ground.

After the completion of the fieldwork stage, a conservation assessment will be undertaken which will include the X-radiography of all the ironwork (after initial screening to separate obviously modern debris), and a selection of the non-ferrous finds (including all coins). A sample of slag may also be X-rayed to assist with identification and interpretation. Wet-packed material, including glass, bone and leather will be stabilised and consolidated to ensure their long-term preservation. All finds will be stored in optimum conditions in accordance with **First Aid for Finds** and **Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-Term Storage** (Walker, 1990).

Waterlogged wood, including structural elements will be assessed following the English Heritage guidelines, **Waterlogged wood: sampling, conservation and**

curation of structural wood (Brunning 1996). The assessment will include species identification, technological examination and potential for dating.

The conservation assessment report will include statements on condition, stability and potential for further investigation (with conservation costs) for all material groups. The conservation report will be included in the updated project design prepared for the analysis stage of the project.

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APPENDIX 2

Environmental Strategy By Diane Alldrit

The on-site environmental sampling strategy will systematically seek to recover a representative sample of botanical, molluscan (both terrestrial and aquatic), avian and mammalian evidence from the full range of contexts encountered during the excavation. This will enable, at the assessment stage, the possibility for radiocarbon dating material to be obtained, and for an initial analysis of the economic and environmental potential of the site. In order to achieve this, a bulk sample (BS, Dobney *et al* 1992) comprising an optimum size of 40litre of sediment (where possible) should be taken from **every stratigraphically secure and archaeologically significant context**. In practice it may not always be possible to obtain 28l of sediment from certain features during the assessment stage, for instance from partially excavated pits or post-holes, in which case a single bucket sample, c.10 to 14litre should be taken at the site supervisors discretion. Deposits of mixed origin, for instance topsoil, wall fills and obvious areas of modern contamination, should be avoided where possible, as these will contain intrusive material and not provide secure radiocarbon dates.

All buckets and other sampling equipment must be clean and free of adherent soil in order to prevent cross-contamination between samples. If dry soil is to be stored for any length of time it should be kept in cool, dry conditions, and away from strong light sources. However, it is preferable to process samples as soon as possible after excavation.

Bulk soil samples shall be processed using an Ankara-type water flotation machine (French 1971) for the recovery of carbonised plant remains and charcoal. The

flotation tank should contain a >1mm mesh for collection of the retent or 'residue' portion of the sample (which may contain pottery, lithics and animal / bird bone, in addition to the heavier fragments of charcoal which do not float). The 'flot' portion of the sample, which may include carbonised seeds, cereal grain, charcoal and sometimes mollusc shell, should be captured using a nest of >1mm and >300micron Endicot sieves. Flotation equipment, including sieves, meshes, brushes and so forth must be meticulously cleaned between samples in order to prevent contamination of potential radiocarbon dating material. All material resulting from flotation will be dried prior to microscopic examination. Flotation is not suitable for the recovery of pollen or for processing waterlogged samples, which shall be discussed below.

Where there is potential for waterlogged preservation, shown for instance by the presence of wood and other organic or wet material, then a 5 to 10litre size sample should be taken (GBA sample, Dobney *et al* 1992). This material is to be retained for later processing using laboratory methods to enable the recovery of waterlogged plant material and insects. For assessment purposes a 1litre sub-sample of the organic sediment from each potential waterlogged sample shall be processed using laboratory wash-over methods, and once processed **kept wet**. All waterlogged samples awaiting processing should be kept damp, preferably stored in plastic sealable tubs, and in cool conditions. Where large waterlogged timbers are recovered these should be stored under refrigerated conditions and an appropriate conservator consulted.

There is the possibility that the waterlogged deposits may require parasite egg analysis. It is proposed that the 'squash' technique is adapted, this would require small lumps of raw sediment approximately 3mm in diameter taken from three separate points from within the sample and homogenised in a little water by

shaking. After allowing coarse particles to settle for a few moments, a drop of the supernatant was removed. This work would be undertaken by either John Carrott or Harry Kenwood if necessary.

If sediment suitable for pollen analysis is encountered, for instance rich organic peaty deposits, or deep ditch sections with organic preservation, the archaeobotanical specialist is to be consulted prior to any sampling taking place. These deposits would require sampling with large kubiena tins and require the specialist to be on-site. Pollen analysis, even at assessment level, would subsequently impose a considerable cost implication should it be carried out.

The specialist is available to provide consultation and advice on the environmental sampling strategy throughout the course of the excavation and during post-excavation processing if required.

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