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MAP Archaeological Practice

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Land off Soothill Lane  
Batley  
West Yorkshire

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Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching  
2018/94189

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*Summary*

*An Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching was carried out by MAP Archaeological Practice Ltd., on land off Soothill Lane, Batley, West Yorkshire, prior to the commencement of a residential development with associated infrastructure.*

*Cropmarks of pre- modern field systems have been identified in the immediate vicinity of the site which also lies within an area of historical coal mining activity.*

*The Evaluation by Trial Trenching, which followed a Desk Based Assessment and Geophysical Survey, revealed no significant archaeological finds, features or deposits.*

## 1. Introduction

1.1 This report sets out the results of an Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching, carried out by MAP Archaeological Practice Ltd. on land off Soothill Lane, Batley, West Yorkshire in March 2021.

1.2 Outline planning permission has been granted, by Kirklees Council, for residential development on the site (planning reference 2018/94189). Condition 24 attached to the permission states that;

*The development authorised by this permission shall not commence (with the exception of the offsite highway works) until a Written Scheme of Archaeological Investigation (WSI) identifying land to be investigated, has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.*

*The WSI shall include:*

- 1. The statement of significance and research objectives;*
  - 2. The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording and the nomination of (a) competent person(s) or organisation to undertake the agreed works; and*
  - 3. The programme for post-investigation assessment and subsequent analysis, publication and dissemination and deposition of resulting material.*
- Thereafter the development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details in relation to b) and c) above.*

*Reason: To ensure any unidentified important archaeological evidence is identified and the full implications of any archaeological discoveries can be taken account of when forming the layout of the site in accordance with Policy LP35(2) of the Kirklees Local Plan and the National Planning Policy Framework.*

*This is a pre-commencement condition to ensure that the full implications of any archaeological discoveries can be taken account of when forming the layout of the site.*

- 1.3 In accordance with the recommendations of the National Planning Policy Framework (February 2019) on 'Archaeology and Planning' a staged scheme of archaeological work is proposed. The results of the Trial Trenching, which follows a Desk Based Assessment and Geophysical Survey, will be summarised and an appropriate mitigation strategy will be formulated if necessary.
- 1.4 The work was carried out in accordance a Written Scheme of Investigation which was prepared by West Yorkshire Advisory Service (WYAAS, appendix 2).
- 1.5 MAP adhered to the general principles of both the ClfA (2019) 'Code of Conduct' and 'Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation' (2020) throughout the project.
- 1.6 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, Licence No. AL 50453A.
- 1.7 All work was funded by Keepmoat Homes.

## 2. Site Description

2.1 The site, which measures approximately 11.9ha, is located approximately 1.6km east of Batley, to the south of Soothill Lane and north-east of Mill Forest Way.

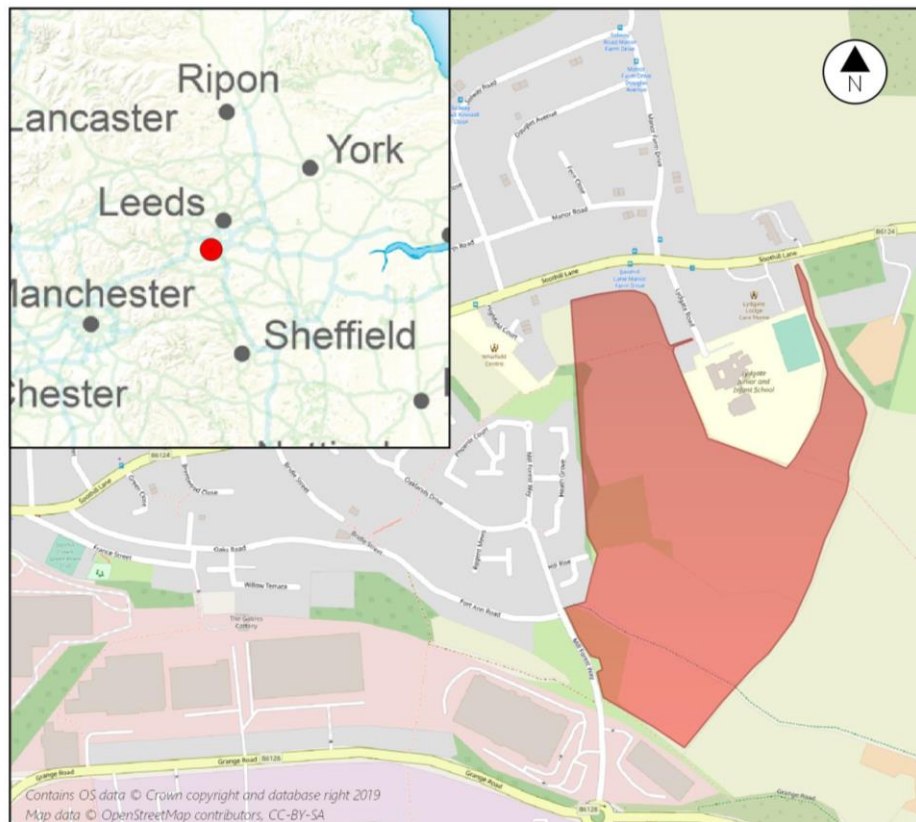


Figure 1. Site Location

2.2 The site lies on a south facing slope, bisected by steep east to west lynchets and hedgerows. A bridleway runs east to west separating the southern most parcel of land from that to the north.

2.3 The geology of the majority of the site consists of deposits of the Pennine Middle Coal Measures (BGS. 2021).

### 3. Archaeological and Historical Background

- 3.1 Cropmarks identified in areal photographs taken immediately east of the site represent a pre-modern field system (West Yorkshire Historic Environment Record ID PRN4060)
- 3.2 Cropmarks in the wider area (including PRN 4542 and 4543, some 900m from the site) highlight evidence of late prehistoric activity and Castle Hill at Almondbury is visible from the northern portion of the site.
- 3.3 The 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map of 1854 shows the site as consisting of a number of sub-rectangular fields with a manor house to the north of Soothill Lane and a coal pit is recorded as being present within the site. Soothill Colliery, which operated between 1854 and 1930 was located to the west of the site.
- 3.4 A Desk Based Assessment was carried out in by Savills in 2019. The assessment concluded that the archaeological potential of the site was moderate, owing to the presence of cropmarks in the adjacent field to the east. A Geophysical Survey was recommended.
- 3.5 A Geophysical Survey was carried out across the site in 2020 (Phase Site Investigations. 2020). The results of the survey identified evidence of ridge and furrow in the eastern portion of the site and fragmented and discontinuous linear anomalies which were suggestive of former field systems.



#### 4. Aims and Objectives

- 4.1 The aim of the Archaeological Trial Trenching was 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 Forty-four trial trenches were excavated, all measuring 50m x 2m. Due to ground conditions on site Trench 42 was not excavated. The trenches were positioned across the site to investigate geophysical anomalies but also areas which appear void of archaeology in the results of the survey.

- 5.1.2 All trial trenches and associated spoil were scanned both visually and with a metal detector to aid finds retrieval.

- 5.1.3 Topsoil was removed by a tracked excavator fitted with a toothless bucket, operating under close archaeological supervision. Machining ceased at the top of either archaeological or naturally formed deposits, depending upon which was located first. The exposed surfaces were cleaned appropriately, and any subsequent excavation was carried out by hand.

- 5.1.4 All work was carried out in line with both the Chartered Institute of Field Archaeologists Code of Conduct (2019) and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (CIfA 2020). Metal detecting was carried out in line with Historic England's 'Our Portable Past- Guidance for Good Practice (2018)

## 5.2 On-site Recording

5.2.1 All forty-four trenches were recorded on MAP's *pro forma* trench sheets. The photographic record comprised forty four black and white 35mm film photographs and one hundred and thirty-nine digital photographs taken in jpeg and RAW. The photographic record included film registers, shot number, location of shot, direction of shot and brief description (Appendix 1).

## 6. Results.

6.1 The total depths and elevations of all forty-four trial trenches are displayed in the below table.

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Elevation</i>	<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>
<i>Tr.1</i>	North-West- 125.47m AOD	0.38m-	0.38m-
	South-East- 125.41 AOD	0.25m	0.25m
<i>Tr.2</i>	North-West-125.45m AOD	0.46m-	0.46m-
	South-East-123.66m AOD	0.37m	0.37m
<i>Tr.3</i>	North-East- 123.62m AOD	0.24m-	0.24m-
	South-West- 126.66 AOD	0.37m	0.37m
<i>Tr.4</i>	North-West- 126.74m AOD	0.34m-	0.34m-
	South-East- 128.67m AOD	0.30m	0.30m
<i>Tr. 5</i>	North- 12.2.42m AOD	0.29m-	0.29m-
	South- 116.89m AOD	0.19m	0.19m
<i>Tr. 6</i>	North-West- 123.86m AOD	0.34m-	0.34m-
	South-East- 125.14m AOD	0.09m	0.09m
<i>Tr. 7</i>	North-West-126.38 m AOD	0.27m-	0.27m-
	South-East- 125.81 m AOD	0.24m	0.24m
<i>Tr.8</i>	North- 128.18 m AOD	0.34m-	0.34m-
	South- 125.95 m AOD	0.27m	0.27m
<i>Tr.9</i>	North-East- 126.12 m AOD	0.4m-	0.4m-

	South-West- 123.24 m AOD	0.24m	0.24m
<b>Tr.10</b>	North-East-122.66 m AOD	0.19m-	0.19m-
	South-West- 115.03 m AOD	0.33m	0.33m
<b>Tr.11</b>	North-East- 116.98 m AOD	0.16m-	0.16m-
	South-West- 109.23 m AOD	0.36m	0.36m
<b>Tr.12</b>	North-East- 124.90 m AOD	0.28m-	0.28m-
	South-West- 124.90 m AOD	0.23m	0.23m
<b>Tr.13</b>	North-West- 121.58 m AOD	0.26m-	0.26m-
	South-East- 120.52 m AOD	0.18m	0.18m
<b>Tr.14</b>	North-East- 111.13 m AOD	0.31m-	0.31m-
	South-West- 120.80 m AOD	0.18m	0.18m
<b>Tr.15</b>	North-East- 119.89 m AOD	0.23m-	0.23m-
	South-West- 116.36 m AOD	0.12m	0.12m
<b>Tr.16</b>	North-East-123.74 m AOD	0.41m-	0.41m-
	South-West- 120.93 m AOD	0.26m	0.26m
<b>Tr.17</b>	North-West- 122.69 m AOD	0.26m-	0.26m-
	South-East- 123.05 m AOD	0.19m	0.19m
<b>Tr.18</b>	North-West- 123.13 m AOD	0.23m-	0.23m-
	South-East-123.05 m AOD	0.21m	0.21m
<b>Tr.19</b>	North-East-122.69 m AOD	0.40m-	0.40m-
	South-West- 120.04 m AOD	0.13m	0.13m
<b>Tr.20</b>	North-West- 119.03 m AOD	0.31m-	0.31m-
	South-East- 118.72 m AOD	0.24m	0.24m
<b>Tr.21</b>	North-East- 120.46 m AOD	0.23m-	0.23m-
	South-West- 117.15 m AOD	0.37m	0.37m
<b>Tr.22</b>	North-West- 122.86 m AOD	0.39m-	0.39m-
	South-East- 120.15 m AOD	0.26m	0.26m
<b>Tr.23</b>	North-East- 121.55 m AOD	0.36m-	0.36m-
	South-West- 118.40 m AOD	0.31m	0.31m
<b>Tr.24</b>	North-East- 131.73 m AOD	0.3m-	0.3m-
	South-West- 131.77 m AOD	0.4m	0.4m
<b>Tr.25</b>	East- 130.82 m AOD	0.32m-	0.32m-
	West- 125.79 m AOD	0.4m	0.4m
<b>Tr.26</b>	North-West- 118.41 m AOD	0.28m-	0.28m-
	South-East- 117.69 m AOD	0.21m	0.21m
<b>Tr.27</b>	North- 116.51 m AOD	0.23m-	0.23m-
	South- 111.20 m AOD	0.34m	0.34m

<b>Tr.28</b>	East- 115.22 m AOD West- 115.70 m AOD	0.27m- 0.29m	0.27m- 0.29m
<b>Tr. 29</b>	North-West- 117.40 m AOD South-East- 115.89 m AOD	0.37m- 0.33m	0.37m- 0.33m
<b>Tr.30</b>	North-East-104.65 m AOD South-West- 98.05 m AOD	0.2m- 0.24m	0.2m- 0.24m
<b>Tr.31</b>	East- 111.97 m AOD West- 103.78 m AOD	0.23m- 0.32m	0.23m- 0.32m
<b>Tr.32</b>	North-West- 93.15 m AOD South-East- 97.88 m AOD	0.25m- 0.31m	0.25m- 0.31m
<b>Tr.33</b>	North-East- 103.80 m AOD South-West- 96.27 m AOD	0.31m- 0.34m	0.31m- 0.34m
<b>Tr.34</b>	North-East-109.60 m AOD South-West- 104.27 m AOD	0.23m- 0.28m	0.23m- 0.28m
<b>Tr.35</b>	North-West- 98.49 m AOD South-East- 101.35 m AOD	0.22m- 0.25m	0.22m- 0.25m
<b>Tr.36</b>	North-West- 105.84 m AOD South-East- 101.48 m AOD	0.26m- 0.37m	0.26m- 0.37m
<b>Tr.37</b>	North-West- 109.01 m AOD South-East- 107.99 m AOD	0.19m- 0.25m	0.19m- 0.25m
<b>Tr.38</b>	North-East- 108.26 m AOD South-West- 103.19 m AOD	0.44m- 0.24m	0.44m- 0.24m
<b>Tr.39</b>	North-West-106.45 m AOD South-East105.23 m AOD	0.2m- 0.42m	0.2m- 0.42m
<b>Tr.40</b>	North-East- 104.08 m AOD South-West- 102.75 m AOD	0.19m- 0.32m	0.19m- 0.32m
<b>Tr.41</b>	North-West- 101.83 m AOD South-East- 101.37 m AOD	0.2m- 0.3m	0.2m- 0.3m
<b>Tr.43</b>	North-East- 94.82 m AOD South-West- 94.42 m AOD	0.36m- 0.27m	0.36m- 0.27m
<b>Tr.44</b>	North-West- 91.30 m AOD South-East- 93.42 m AOD	0.32m- 0.27m	0.32m- 0.27m
<b>Tr.45</b>	North-West- 94.34 m AOD South-East-94.00 m AOD	0.36m- 0.31m	0.36m- 0.31m

6.2 A bell pit relating to localised coal mining activity was identified in Trench 25 and investigated by Sirius Geotechnical at the request of Keepmoat Homes.

6.3 Natural deposits were observed throughout each trench. No archaeological finds, features or deposits were identified.

## **7. Conclusion**

7.1 The archaeological evaluation has illustrated an absence of archaeological finds and features on land off Soothill Lane, Batley. Discontinuous and fragmentary linear anomalies identified in the results of the Geophysical Survey are likely to have been caused by changes in the underlying geology.

7.2 The results confirm an absence of significant archaeological potential for the site and judging by the negative results of the evaluation, it is unlikely that any work within the development area would encounter or disturb any archaeological features, finds or deposits. WYAAS have stated that no further archaeological work is necessary on the site.

## 8. Bibliography

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## 9. List of Contributors

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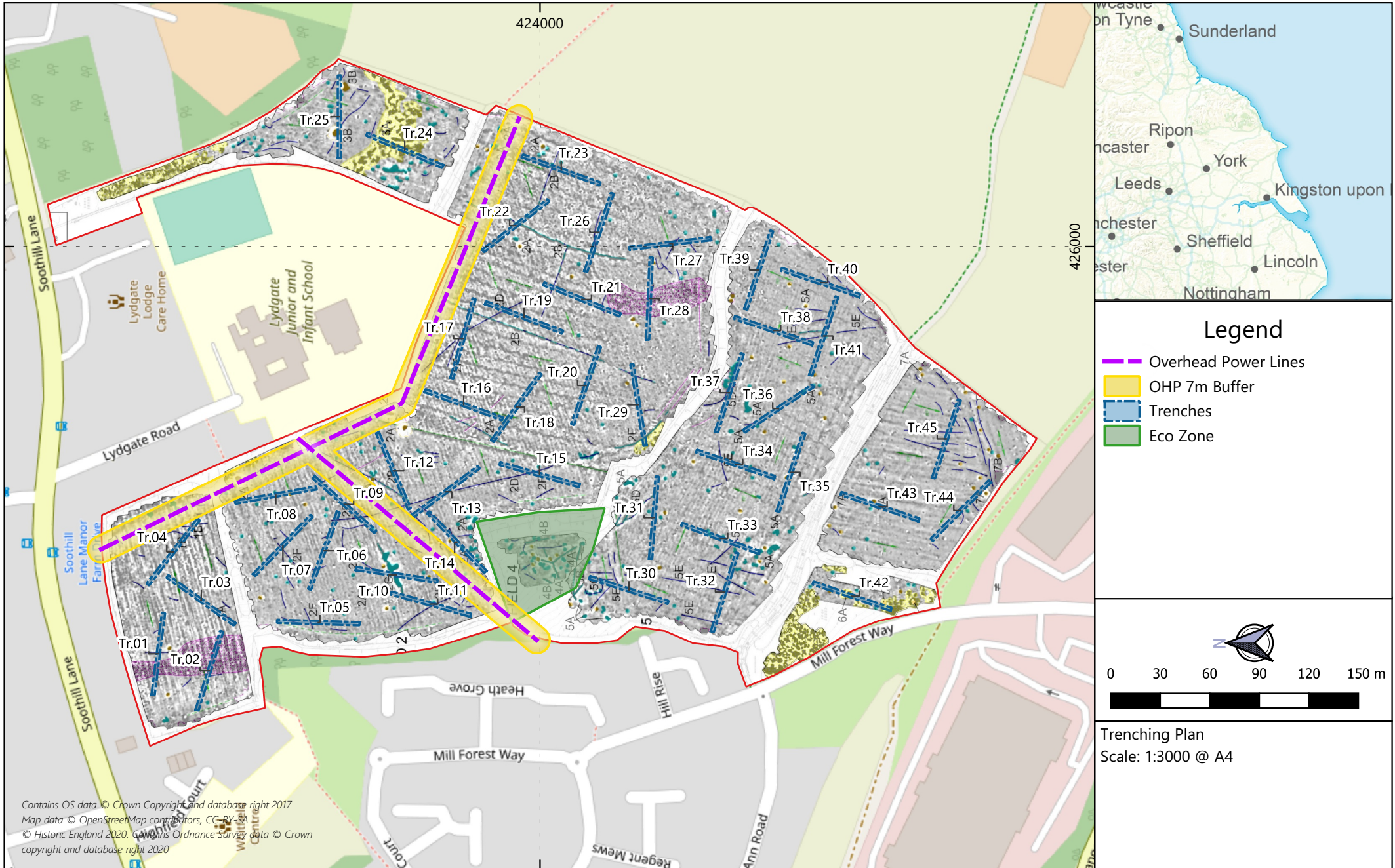
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Plate 1. General View of site (IMG\_0035)



Plate 2. General View of Site (IMG\_0038)





Plate 3. General View of Site (IMG\_0041)



Plate 4. Trench 25. Facing West (IMG\_0044)



Plate 5. Trench 27. Facing North-West (IMG\_0054)



Plate 6. Trench 28. Facing West (IMG\_0055)



Plate 7. Trench 21. Facing South (IMG\_0057)



Plate 8. Trench 17. Facing West (IMG\_0062)



Plate 9. Trench 20. Facing South-East (IMG\_0067)



Plate 10. Trench 13. Facing North-West (IMG\_0076)



Plate 11. Trench 12. Facing South-West (IMG\_0079)



Plate 12. Trench 45. Facing East (IMG\_0083)



Plate 13. Trench 44. Facing South- East (IMG\_0085)



Plate 14. Trench 43. Facing South-West(IMG\_0088)



Plate 15. Trench 40. Facing South-West (20210311\_100256)



Plate 16. Trench 36. Facing South-East (20210311\_121646)



Plate 17. Trench 33. Facing South-West (20210311\_132503)



Plate 18. Trench 33. Facing North-East 20210311\_133209)





Plate 19. Trench 32. Facing South-West (20210311\_135735)



Plate 20. Trench 30. Facing North-West (20210311\_142737)

## APPENDIX 1

### Photographic Archive Listing (Black & White)

Frame	Context	Scale	Facing	Description
Film A Shot 1		1m	South-East	General Shot of Trench 39
Film A Shot 2		1m	South-West	General Shot of Trench 40
Film A Shot 3		1m	South-West	General Shot of Trench 38
Film A Shot 4		1m	South-East	General Shot of Trench 41
Film A Shot 5		1m	South-East	General Shot of Trench 37
Film A Shot 6		1m	South-East	General Shot of Trench 36
Film A Shot 7		1m	South-East	General Shot of Trench 35
Film A Shot 8		1m	South-West	General Shot of Trench 34
Film A Shot 9		1m	North-East	General Shot of Trench 33
Film A Shot 10		1m	South-West	General Shot of Trench 33
Film A Shot 11		1m	North-West	General Shot of Trench 32
Film A Shot 12		1m	South-East	General Shot of Trench 32
Film A Shot 13		1m	North-East	General Shot of Trench 30
Film A Shot 14		1m	South-West	General Shot of Trench 30
Film A Shot 15		1m	West	General Shot of Trench 31
Film A Shot 16		2 x 1m	West	General Shot of Trench 25
Film A Shot 17		2 x 1m	North-east	General Shot of Trench 24
Film A Shot 18		2 x 1m	North-east	General Shot of Trench 23
Film A Shot 19		2 x 1m	West	General Shot of Trench 26
Film A Shot 20		2 x 1m	North-west	General Shot of Trench 27
Film A Shot 21		2 x 1m	East	General Shot of Trench 28
Film A Shot 22		2 x 1m	North	General Shot of Trench 21
Film A Shot 23		2 x 1m	North-west	General Shot of Trench 22
Film A Shot 24		2 x 1m	West	General Shot of Trench 17
Film A Shot 25		2 x 1m	North	General Shot of Trench 19
Film A Shot 26		2 x 1m	North-west	General Shot of Trench 20
Film A Shot 27		2 x 1m	West	General Shot of Trench 29
Film A Shot 28		2 x 1m	North	General Shot of Trench 16
Film A Shot 29		2 x 1m	North-west	General Shot of Trench 18
Film A Shot 30		2 x 1m	North	General Shot of Trench 15
Film A Shot 31		2 x 1m	North-west	General Shot of Trench 13
Film A Shot 32		2 x 1m	North-east	General Shot of Trench 12
Film A Shot 33		2 x 1m	West	General Shot of Trench 45
Film A Shot 34		2 x 1m	East	General Shot of Trench 45
Film A Shot 35		2 x 1m	South	General Shot of Trench 43
Film A Shot 36		2 x 1m	North	General Shot of Trench 43
Film B Shot 1		2 x 1m	South-east	General Shot of Trench 44
Film B Shot 2		1m	North-East	General Shot of Trench 1
Film B Shot 3		1m	North- East	General Shot of Trench 2
Film B Shot 4		1m	South-east	General Shot of Trench 3
Film B Shot 5		1m	South-west	General Shot of Trench 4
Film B Shot 6		1m	East	General Shot of Trench 5
Film B Shot 7		1m	South-West	General Shot of Trench 6
Film B Shot 8		1m	North-East	General Shot of Trench 7
Film B Shot 9		1m	South-West	General Shot of Trench 8
Film B Shot 10		1m	South-East	General Shot of Trench 9

Film B Shot 11	1m	North-West	General Shot of Trench 10
Film B Shot 12	1m	South-East	General Shot of Trench 11
Film B Shot 13	1m	North-West	General Shot of Trench 14

## APPENDIX 1

### Photographic Archive Listing (Digital)

Frame	Context	Scale	Facing	Description
20210311_093348	-	1m	North-west	General Shot of Trench 39
20210311_09244	-	1m	South-East	General Shot of Trench 39
20210311_095724	-	1m	North-East	General Shot of Trench 40
20210311_100256	-	1m	South-West	General Shot of Trench 40
20210311_101600	-	1m	North-East	General Shot of Trench 38
20210311_102344	-	1m	South-West	General Shot of Trench 38
20210311_103842	-	1m	North-West	General Shot of Trench 41
20210311_104456	-	1m	South-East	General Shot of Trench 41
20210311_114700	-	1m	North-West	General Shot of Trench 37
20210311_115012	-	1m	South-East	General Shot of Trench 37
20210311_120810	-	1m	North-West	General Shot of Trench 36
20210311_121646	-	1m	South-East	General Shot of Trench 36
20210311_123518	-	1m	North-West	General Shot of Trench 35
20210311_124241	-	1m	South-East	General Shot of Trench 35
20210311_125742	-	1m	North-East	General Shot of Trench 34
20210311_130309	-	1m	South-West	General Shot of Trench 34
20210311_132503	-	1m	North-East	General Shot of Trench 33
20210311_133209	-	1m	South-West	General Shot of Trench 33
20210311_135155	-	1m	North-West	General Shot of Trench 32
20210311_135735	-	1m	South-East	General Shot of Trench 32
20210311_142337	-	1m	North-East	General Shot of Trench 30
20210311_142737	-	1m	South-West	General Shot of Trench 30
20210311_082103	-	1m	East	General Shot of Trench 31
20210311_082159	-	1m	West	General Shot of Trench 31
IMG_0035	-	-	South-west	General Site Shot
IMG_0036	-	-	North-west	General Site Shot
IMG_0037	-	-	West	General Site Shot
IMG_0038	-	-	South-east	General Site Shot
IMG_0039	-	-	East	General Site Shot
IMG_0040	-	-	North-east	General Site Shot
IMG_0041	-	-	North-west	General Site Shot
IMG_0042	-	-	South	General Site Shot
IMG_0043	-	-	West	General Site Shot
IMG_0044	-	2 x 1m	East	General Shot of Trench 25
IMG_0045	-	2 x 1m	West	General Shot of Trench 25
IMG_0046	-	2 x 1m	South-west	General Shot of Trench 24
IMG_0047	-	2 x 1m	North-east	General Shot of Trench 24
IMG_0048	-	2 x 1m	South-west	General Shot of Trench 23
IMG_0049	-	2 x 1m	South-west	General Shot of Trench 23
IMG_0050	-	2 x 1m	North-east	General Shot of Trench 23
IMG_0051	-	2 x 1m	East	General Shot of Trench 26
IMG_0052	-	2 x 1m	West	General Shot of Trench 26
IMG_0053	-	2 x 1m	South-east	General Shot of Trench 27
IMG_0054	-	2 x 1m	North-west	General Shot of Trench 27
IMG_0055	-	2 x 1m	West	General Shot of Trench 28
IMG_0056	-	2 x 1m	East	General Shot of Trench 28

IMG_0057	-	2 x 1m	South	General Shot of Trench 21
IMG_0058	-	2 x 1m	North	General Shot of Trench 21
IMG_0059	-	2 x 1m	North-west	General Shot of Trench 22
IMG_0060	-	2 x 1m	North-west	General Shot of Trench 22
IMG_0061	-	2 x 1m	South-east	General Shot of Trench 22
IMG_0062	-	2 x 1m	West	General Shot of Trench 17
IMG_0063	-	2 x 1m	East	General Shot of Trench 17
IMG_0064	-	2 x 1m	North	General Shot of Trench 19
IMG_0065	-	2 x 1m	South	General Shot of Trench 19
IMG_0066	-	2 x 1m	North-west	General Shot of Trench 20
IMG_0067	-	2 x 1m	South-east	General Shot of Trench 20
IMG_0068	-	2 x 1m	West	General Shot of Trench 29
IMG_0069	-	2 x 1m	East	General Shot of Trench 29
IMG_0070	-	2 x 1m	North	General Shot of Trench 16
IMG_0071	-	2 x 1m	South	General Shot of Trench 16
IMG_0072	-	2 x 1m	North-west	General Shot of Trench 18
IMG_0073	-	2 x 1m	South-east	General Shot of Trench 18
IMG_0074	-	2 x 1m	North	General Shot of Trench 15
IMG_0075	-	2 x 1m	South	General Shot of Trench 15
IMG_0076	-	2 x 1m	North-west	General Shot of Trench 13
IMG_0077	-	2 x 1m	South-east	General Shot of Trench 13
IMG_0078	-	2 x 1m	North-east	General Shot of Trench 12
IMG_0079	-	2 x 1m	South-west	General Shot of Trench 12
IMG_0080	-	2 x 1m	West	General Shot of Trench 45
IMG_0081	-	2 x 1m	West	General Shot of Trench 45
IMG_0082	-	2 x 1m	East	General Shot of Trench 45
IMG_0083	-	2 x 1m	East	General Shot of Trench 45
IMG_0084	-	2 x 1m	South	General Shot of Trench 43
IMG_0085	-	2 x 1m	South	General Shot of Trench 43
IMG_0086	-	2 x 1m	North	General Shot of Trench 43
IMG_0087	-	2 x 1m	North	General Shot of Trench 43
IMG_0088	-	2 x 1m	North-west	General Shot of Trench 44
IMG_0089	-	2 x 1m	North-west	General Shot of Trench 44
IMG_0090	-	2 x 1m	South-east	General Shot of Trench 44
IMG_0091	-	2 x 1m	South-east	General Shot of Trench 44
IMG_0092	-	1m	South-West	General Shot of Trench 1
IMG_0093	-	1m	North-East	General Shot of Trench 1
IMG_0094	-	1m	South-West	General Shot of Trench 2
IMG_0095	-	1m	North- East	General Shot of Trench 2
IMG_0096	-	1m	North-wWest	General Shot of Trench 3
IMG_0097	-	1m	South-east	General Shot of Trench 3
IMG_0098	-	1m	North-east	General Shot of Trench 4
IMG_0099	-	1m	South-west	General Shot of Trench 4
IMG_0100	-	1m	West	General Shot of Trench 5
IMG_0101	-	1m	East	General Shot of Trench 5
IMG_0102	-	1m	North-East	General Shot of Trench 6
IMG_0103	-	1m	South-West	General Shot of Trench 6
IMG_0104	-	1m	South-West	General Shot of Trench 7
IMG_0105	-	1m	North-East	General Shot of Trench 7
IMG_0106	-	1m	North-East	General Shot of Trench 8
IMG_0107	-	1m	South-West	General Shot of Trench 8

IMG_0108	-	1m	North-West	General Shot of Trench 9
IMG_0109	-	1m	South-East	General Shot of Trench 9
IMG_0110	-	1m	North-West	General Shot of Trench 10
IMG_0111	-	1m	South-East	General Shot of Trench 10
IMG_0112	-	1m	South-East	General Shot of Trench 11
IMG_0113	-	1m	North-West	General Shot of Trench 11
IMG_0114	-	1m	North-West	General Shot of Trench 14
IMG_0115	-	1m	South-East	General Shot of Trench 14



IMG\_0113



IMG\_0114



IMG\_0115



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**WEST YORKSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGY ADVISORY SERVICE: SPECIFICATION  
FOR A POST DETERMINATION ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION BY  
GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY AND TRIAL TRENCHING AT LAND OFF SOOTHILL  
LANE, BATLEY WEST YORKSHIRE (REVISED FEBRUARY 2021)**

**SE 25870 24399**

**Specification prepared on behalf of Kirklees Council at the request of Sophie Coy of MAP Archaeological Practice Ltd. (Showfield Lane, Malton YO17 6BT Tel: 01653 697752) to comply with planning permission (2018/60/94189/E condition 24).**

## **1. Summary**

- 1.1 An evaluation consisting of archaeological trial trenching is proposed to help establish the extent and significance of any archaeological remains at the above site. Any work arising from the results of the evaluation will be covered by a further specification.
- 1.2 This specification has been prepared by the West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service, the holders of the WY Historic Environment Record.
- 1.3 **Failure to fully comply with the terms of this specification will be treated as a breach of planning consent by WYAAS and the local planning authority will be informed.**
- 1.4 **Please note that a hard copy of the final report must be submitted to the West Yorkshire Historic Environment Record to enable the results of fieldwork to be made publically accessible as required by the National Planning Policy Framework. The WYAAS will only recommend discharge of any archaeological planning condition once a report been received and found to be satisfactory.**

<p>NOTE: The requirements detailed in paragraphs 6.3, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6 and 9.1 are to be met by the archaeological contractor <b>prior</b> to the commencement of fieldwork. Contractors must complete and return the attached form to the WY Archaeology Advisory Service.</p>
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## **2. Site Location & Description Grid Reference: centred SE 25870 24399**

- 2.1 The development site lies to the South of Soothill Lane and north-east of Mill Forrest Way on a south facing slope between 90m and 130m above sea level. An east-west hedged boundary crossing the centre of the site sits on top of a marked change in slope. This becomes increasingly steep towards the western boundary of the site.
- 2.2 The site has an area of c. 11.9ha and the underlying geology comprises the Pennine Middle Coal Measures; the overlying deposits are not recorded.
- 2.3 The site is located in the historic township of Soothill.

### 3. Background

3.1 A planning permission (2018/60/94189/E) has been granted for a housing development by Kirklees District Council.

3.2 3.2 The Planning Authority have attached an archaeological condition to the above planning permission (24) as they have been advised by the WYAAS that there is reason to believe that important archaeological remains may be affected by the proposed development and that an archaeological evaluation is required to establish the degree of archaeological recording that is necessary.

3.3 This specification has been prepared by WYAAS, at the request of Sophie Coy of MAP Archaeological Practice Ltd. (Showfield Lane, Malton YO17 6BT) to detail what work is required and to allow an archaeological contractor to provide a quotation.

### 4. Archaeological Interest

4.1 The site is in an area of known archaeological potential during the later prehistoric to medieval periods. This includes evidence of agricultural enclosures of a likely prehistoric date that have been observed as crop marks on aerial photographs to the east of Dewsbury Road c. 900m away (West Yorkshire Historic Environment Record PRN 4542, 4543).

5. The site's southern aspect would have potentially made it attractive to early communities.

5.1 Part of a pre-modern field system has been observed to the immediate east of the application site (PRN 4060). The Ordnance Survey First Edition Six-inches to the mile map, which was surveyed in the 1840s, shows the site to be divided into a number of irregular to sub-rectangular fields. This early map shows the "Manor House" latter Manor Farm to the north of Soothill Lane and Soothill Grange to the east along a "Sykes Lane".

5.2 The site's eastern boundary is sinuous and could be potentially be medieval in origin. 1m resolution LIDAR shows broad north-east to south-west stripes in part of the site which may also originate as medieval ridge and furrow ploughing. The current appearance however is of an 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> century enclosed landscape.

5.3 "Coal pits", "Old Coal Pit" and a "colliery" and "ventilator" are recorded on the site boundary or close by. Only Soot Hill Colliery, which is located to the west and operated between 1854 and 1930, is named. Other mining sites are presumed to date to the years before the 1840s.

5.4 An archaeological evaluation is necessary in order to determine the site's archaeological potential.

### 6. Aim of the Evaluation

The aim of this project is to gather sufficient information to establish the extent, condition, character and date (as far as circumstances permit) of any

archaeological features and deposits within the proposed development area, and to record at an appropriate level, archaeological features encountered in the excavation trenches.

5.2 It is conceivable that a larger, more open area excavation may be identified as being warranted, or alternatively a wider watching brief may be required during ground-works for the development, possibly with provision for rapid salvaging recording. All possibilities will be considered depending upon the results of this exercise and it would be anticipated that if further significant fieldwork is required, then the contractor would draft the specification and agree it in advance of implementation with the WYAAS. It is a primary aim of the specified work that all aspects should be placed in the public domain by depositing the results with the WY Historic Environment Record (Registry of Deeds, Newstead Road, Wakefield WF1 2DE)

## **7. General Instructions**

### **7.1 Health and Safety**

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

### **7.2 Location of Services, etc.**

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

### **7.3 Confirmation of Adherence to Specification**

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

### **7.4 Confirmation of Timetable and Contractors' Qualifications**

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

- a projected timetable for the site work;

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

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

## 7.5 Notification

7.5.1 The project will be monitored as necessary and practicable by the WYAAS, in its role as “curator” of the region’s archaeology. The WYAAS should receive as much notice as possible, and certainly one week, of the intention to start fieldwork. This notification is to be supplied in writing, and copied to the relevant District Museum (see para. 9.1 below).

7.5.2 Andy Hammon, Historic England’s Science Advisor should also be notified that the excavation is commencing (email [andy.hammon@HistoricEngland.org.uk](mailto:andy.hammon@HistoricEngland.org.uk) Tel.: 01904 601983).

7.5.3 Kirklees Museum Service’s Katina Bill should be notified in writing of the commencement of fieldwork at the same time as WYAAS (The Tolson Memorial Museum, Ravensknowle Park, Wakefield Road, Huddersfield HD5 8DJ Tel. 01484 221000 ext 74537: [Katina.Bill@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:Katina.Bill@kirklees.gov.uk)).

## 7.6 Documentary Research

7.6.1 A desk based assessment of the development site has been prepared by Savilles (July 2019). Prior to the commencement of fieldwork, the site supervisor must study these document or visit the Historic Environment Record (a copy of the DBA is held by the WYHER) in order to gain an overview of the archaeological/historical background of the site and its environs. In addition to providing a knowledge base for the work in hand, the results of this assessment may be incorporated into the contractor’s report where they are considered to contribute to that report, but any extraneous material should be omitted.

7.6.2 The results of this exercise should be used to inform the whole project. Please note, however, that an additional formal desk-based report is not required and the results of this stage of work should be incorporated in the final report. Please note that the WY HER makes a charge for consultations of a commercial nature.

7.6.3 At the time of writing, the HER is shut to external visitors due to the Covid-19 situation (November 2020). The contractor should check with David Hunter (contact details at the end of this document) if the HER is open, if not any available information will be provided digitally.

## 7. Fieldwork Methodology

### 7.1 Geophysical Survey

- 7.6.4 The site will be subject to a magnetic (gradiometer) survey using instruments with a multi sensor array or cart based sensors and readings should be collected using a GPS capable data logger. The data will be collected at sub-meter traverse intervals with a minimum of four samples per meter located using GPS.
- 7.6.5 The use of hand held gradiometers will only be permitted where site conditions prevent the use of a cart system and readings should where ever possible be recorded by a GPS capable logger. The WYAAS must be made aware of any variation from this prior to the survey taking place. If the use of less capable gradiometers is permitted then data will be recorded at 0.25m intervals on 1.0m spaced transects.
- 7.6.6 The results of the gradiometer survey should be processed and the results then discussed at a meeting (or telephone conversation) between the contractor and the WYAAS (the client may also wish to attend). The results of the gradiometer survey should be presented in at least two different formats at a minimum 1:500 scale, one of which must be an X/Y trace plot. There must also be an accompanying interpretation drawing at an appropriate scale.
- 7.6.7 The WYAAS will be provided with a separate georeferenced copy of the greyscale and interpretation plots in an appropriate CAD or SHAPE format at the contractor's earliest convenience.
- 7.6.8 All work must be conducted in accordance with English Heritage's 2008 guidance "Geophysical Survey in Archaeological Field Evaluation" and EAC's Guidelines for The Use of Geophysics in Archaeology

### **7.2 Evaluation Trenches; Size and Placement (Fig. 1)**

- 7.2.1 The evaluation will comprise the excavation of 46 50m x 2m evaluation trenches which will be positioned with reference to the results of the geophysical survey. The evaluation trenches can be machine-opened. Indicative trench locations are shown on Figure 1.
- 7.2.2 The contractor should also allow for a contingency amount of 480m<sup>2</sup>. The use of the contingency will depend upon the results obtained in the initial trial trenching. The use of the contingency will be at the decision of the WYAAS, whose decision will be issued in writing, if necessary in retrospect after site discussions.
- 7.2.3 Note, specific anomalies identified by geophysical survey should be evaluated.

Site area: **119000m<sup>2</sup>**  
Area of trial trenching: **4600m<sup>2</sup>**  
Contingency trenching: **460m<sup>2</sup>**

### **7.3 Method of Excavation**

7.3.1 The trial trenches may be opened and the topsoil and recent overburden removed down to the first significant archaeological horizon in successive level spits of a maximum 0.1m. thickness, by the use of an appropriate machine using a wide toothless ditching blade. **Under no circumstances should the machine be used to cut arbitrary trenches down to natural deposits.** Any machine work must be carried out under direct archaeological supervision and the machine halted if significant archaeological deposits are encountered. The top of the first significant archaeological horizon may be exposed by the machine, but must then be cleaned by hand and inspected for features and then dug by hand.

7.3.2 All archaeological remains will be hand excavated in an archaeologically controlled and stratigraphic manner sufficient to meet the aims and objectives of the project. The complete stratigraphic sequence, down to naturally occurring deposits will be excavated and the work will investigate and record all inter-relationships between features. It is likely that 19th-century structures will be present in many areas of the site. These will be recorded in full and then removed in order to investigate the remainder of the sequence down to natural deposits. The contractor should make provision for the use of shoring/stepping to accomplish this if necessary. All trenches are to be the stated dimensions at their base. The following strategy will be employed:

- Linear boundary features: a minimum sample of 20% of each linear boundary feature such as ditches and trackways. Each section should be at least 1m wide and, where possible, sections will be located and recorded adjacent to the trench edge. All intersections will be investigated to determine the relationship(s) between the component features. All termini will be investigated.
- Other linear and discrete features: all stake-holes, post-holes, pits, ring ditches, kilns, and other structural/funerary/industrial features will be 50% excavated in the first instance, recorded in section, and then fully excavated. All intersections will be investigated to determine the relationship(s) between the component features. Where possible, sections will be located and recorded adjacent to the trench edge.
- Built structures: walls, floors etc will be excavated sufficient to establish their form, phasing, construction techniques. All intersections will be investigated to determine the relationship(s) between the component features. To assist in the dating of features it is essential that care should be taken to excavate and record any datable artefacts in their correct stratigraphic position.

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

## 7.4 Method of Recording

7.4.1 The trenches are to be recorded according to the normal principles of stratigraphic excavation. The stratigraphy of each trial trench is to be



recorded even where no archaeological deposits have been identified. Where no archaeological features are present representative sections or soil profiles must be recorded and illustrated in the report.

#### 7.4.2

Section drawings (at a minimum scale of 1:20) must include heights A.O.D. Plans (at a minimum scale of 1:50) must include O.D. spot heights for all principal strata and any features.

7.4.3 At least one section of each trench edge, showing a representative and complete sequence of deposits from the modern ground surface to the natural geology, will be drawn. In trenches where no archaeological features are present a 1m long profile illustrating the soils present should be drawn & illustrated in the report.

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

7.4.5 Black and white photography using orthodox monochrome chemical development will form the primary photographic record. Film should be no faster than ISO400. Slower films should be used where possible as their smaller grain size yields higher definition images. Technical Pan (ISO 25), Pan-F (ISO50), FP4 (ISO125) and HP5 (ISO400) are recommended. The use of dye-based films such as Ilford XP2 and Kodak T40CN is unacceptable due to poor archiving qualities. Black and white photography should be supplemented by colour photography; this should be in transparency format (i.e. slides or digital photography as an acceptable alternative to colour transparencies, see paragraph 7.4.6 below).

7.4.6 Digital photography may be employed as an alternative to the use of colour transparencies. Good quality digital photography may be supplied, using cameras with a minimum resolution of 10 megapixels; RAW format may be used to capture images but these must be archived as described below. Digital photography should follow the guidance given by Historic England in Digital Image Capture and File Storage: Guidelines for Best Practice, July 2015. Digital images will only be acceptable as an alternative to colour slide photography if each image is supplied as both a JPEG and a TIFF versions. The latter as an uncompressed 8-bits per channel TIFF version 6 file of not less than 25Mbs (See section 2.3 of the Historic England guidance). The contractor must include metadata embedded in the TIFF file. The metadata must include the following: the commonly used name for the site being photographed, the relevant centred OS grid coordinates for the site to at least six figures, the relevant township name, **Soothill**, the date of photograph, the subject of the photograph, the direction of shot and the name of the organisation taking the photograph. Any digital images are to be supplied to WYAAS on gold "archive quality" CDs the archaeological contractor accompanying the hard copy of the report.

## 7.5 Use of Metal Detectors on Site

- 7.5.1 Spoil heaps and trench bases are to be scanned for both ferrous and non-ferrous metal artefacts using a metal detector capable of making this discrimination, operated by an experienced metal detector user (if necessary, operating under the supervision of the contracting archaeologist). Modern artefacts are to be noted but not retained (19th-century material and earlier should be retained.)
- 7.5.2 The make and model of the instrument used and any artefacts recovered by metal detecting should be clearly identified in the final report.
- 7.5.3 If a non-professional archaeologist is to be used to carry out the metal-detecting, a formal agreement of their position as a sub-contractor working under direction must be agreed in advance of their use on site. This formal agreement will apply whether they are paid or not. To avoid financial claims under the Treasure Act a suggested wording for this formal agreement with the metal detectorist is: "In the process of working on the archaeological investigation at [location of site] between the dates of [insert dates], [name of person contributing to project] is working under direction or permission of [name of archaeological organisation] and hereby waives all rights to rewards for objects discovered that could otherwise be payable under the Treasure Act 1996 (as amended).

## 7.6 Environmental Sampling Strategy

- 7.6.1 Soil samples must be taken from **all** securely stratified deposits using a strategy which combines systematic and judgement sampling, but which also follows the methodologies outlined in the English Heritage (2011) 'Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation (Second Edition)' guidance.
- 7.6.2 Samples for scientific dating (radiocarbon dating, archaeomagnetic dating, optically stimulated luminescence etc.) should be taken if suitable material is encountered during the excavation. The Historic England Science Advisor should be consulted (email [andy.hammon@HistoricEngland.org.uk](mailto:andy.hammon@HistoricEngland.org.uk) ) and provision should be made for an appropriate specialist(s) to visit the site, take samples and discuss the sampling strategy, if necessary.

## 7.7 Conservation Strategy

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

7.7.2 The report should include a discussion of geology, soils and drainage with specific reference to the potential for the site to contain water-logged remains or localised anoxic conditions and have specific reference to the nature and degree of preservation of different classes of artefacts and ecofacts that have been recovered and that may be anticipated across the rest of the site.

### **7.8 Human Remains**

7.8.1 Any human remains that are discovered must initially be left in-situ, covered and protected. WYAAS will be notified at the earliest opportunity. If removal is necessary the remains must be excavated archaeologically in accordance with the ClfA Technical Paper 14 "Excavation and Post-Excavation Treatment of Cremated and Inhumed Remains (Mckinley and Roberts 1994). The treatment of human remains will be in accordance with Guidance for Best Practice for Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds in England (Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials in England 2017), a valid Ministry of Justice licence and any local environmental health regulations.

### **7.9 Treasure Act**

7.9.1 The terms of the Treasure Act 1996, as amended, and the Treasure (Designation) Order 2002 must be followed with regard to any finds that might fall within its purview. Any finds must be removed to a safe place and reported to the local coroner as required by the procedures as laid down in the "Code of Practice". Where removal cannot be effected on the same working day as the discovery, suitable security measures must be taken to protect the finds from theft.

## **8. Monitoring**

8.1 The representative of the WYAAS will be afforded access to the site at any reasonable time. It is usual practice that the visit is arranged in advance at a time that the site's archaeological potential has been investigated and is available to inspect.

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

8.3 Please note that WYAAS now make a charge for site monitoring visits. An invoice will be raised on the archaeological contractor. Up to two monitoring visit will be charged for this evaluation phase of the project. Please contact us for the current charge.

8.4 During fieldwork monitoring visits WYAAS officers will take digital photographs which may be published on the Advisory Service's social media feeds as part of an ongoing strategy to enable public access to information about current fieldwork in the county.

## **9. Archive Deposition**

9.1 Before commencing any fieldwork, the archaeological organisation must contact Kirklees Museum Service's Katina Bill should be notified in writing of the commencement of fieldwork at the same time as WYAAS (The Tolson Memorial Museum, Ravensknowle Park, Wakefield Road, Huddersfield HD5 8DJ Tel. 01484 221000 ext 74537: Katina.Bill@kirklees.gov.uk).

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

9.3 It is the responsibility of the archaeological organisation to meet the Tolson Memorial Museum's requirements with regard to the preparation of fieldwork archives for deposition.

## **10. Requirement for Further Fieldwork**

10.1 It is anticipated that upon (or approaching) completion of fieldwork a meeting with WYAAS will be arranged by the archaeological contractor, either at the WYAAS offices or on site, to discuss the results and agree what, if any, additional work may be warranted. The developer should also be invited to attend this meeting. The meeting may take the form of a telephone discussion at WYAAS' discretion. Following the meeting the archaeological contractor will either produce a report (if no further archaeological work is warranted), or draft a specification (if further work is required) to be submitted to WYAAS for written approval prior to the commencement of any further work.

10.2 If further fieldwork is required, the results of the evaluation will be integrated into an overall report encompassing all stages of work. However, if a different contractor is employed by the developer to undertake subsequent works, then a full, formal evaluation report (see section 11 below) should be prepared and accepted by WYAAS before further fieldwork commences.

## **11. Post-excavation Assessment and Analysis**

### **11.1 Finds and Samples**

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

11.1.2 Samples should be processed for the recovery of artefactual material, animal/fish/human bones, industrial residues (including hammerscale), shell, molluscs, charcoal and mineralised plant remains as a minimum.

'Specialist' samples (e.g. monoliths, cores, plant/invertebrate macrofossils) should be processed separately as appropriate.

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

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

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

11.1.6 Any samples taken shall be processed and any finds shall be cleaned, identified, assessed, dated (if possible), marked (if appropriate) and properly packed and stored in accordance with the requirements of national guidelines and reporting on ceramic artefacts and pottery should follow the guidance given in 'A Standard for Pottery Studies in Archaeology' (2016) and endorsed by the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group; the Study Group for Roman Pottery & the Medieval Pottery Research Group. A fully indexed field archive shall be compiled consisting of all primary written documents, plans, sections, photographic negatives and a complete set of labelled photographic prints. An index to the field archive is to be deposited with the WYAAS (preferably as an appendix in the report).

11.1.7 The original archive is to accompany the deposition of any finds, providing the landowner agrees to the deposition of finds, in a publicly accessible archive (see para. 9.1 above). In the absence of this agreement the field archive (less finds) is to be deposited with the WYAAS.

## 11.2 Field Archive

11.2.1 A fully indexed field archive shall be compiled consisting of all primary written documents, plans, sections, photographic negatives and a complete set of labelled photographic prints/slides. Standards for archive compilation and transfer should conform to those outlined in Archaeological Archives – a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation (Archaeological Archives Forum, 2011). An index to the field archive is to be deposited with the West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service (preferably as an appendix in the report).

## 12. Report Format and Content

12.1.1 A report should be produced, which should include background information on the need for the project, a description of the methodology employed, and a full description and interpretation of results produced. It is not envisaged that the report is likely to be published, but it should be

produced with sufficient care and attention to detail to be of academic use to future researchers.

- 12.1.2 Location plans should be produced at a scale which enables easy site identification and which depicts the full extent of the site investigated (a scale of 1:50,000 is not regarded as appropriate unless accompanied by a more detailed plan or plans). Site plans should be at an appropriate scale showing trench layout (as dug), features located and, where possible, predicted archaeological deposits. Upon completion of each evaluation trench all sections containing archaeological features will be drawn. Section drawings (at a minimum scale of 1:20) must include heights O.D. Plans (at a minimum scale of 1:50) must include O.D. spot heights for all principal strata and any features. Where no archaeological deposits are encountered a sample section or soil profile of each trench will be drawn.
- 12.1.3 Artefact analysis is to include the production of a descriptive catalogue, quantification by context and discussion/interpretation if warranted, with finds critical for dating and interpretation illustrated.
- 12.1.4 Environmental analysis is to include identification of the remains, quantification by context, discussion/interpretation if warranted, and a description of the processing methodology. Radiocarbon results must be presented in full (laboratory sample number, conventional radiocarbon age, delta C13 value, calibration programme). Copies of the laboratory-issued dating certificates must be included as an appendix to the report.
- 12.1.5 Details of the style and format of the report are to be determined by the archaeological contractor, but should include a full bibliography, a quantified index to the site archive, and as an appendix, a copy of this specification.

### **13. Publicity**

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

### **14. Consideration of Appropriate Mitigation Strategy**

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

### **15. Report Submission and Deposition with the WY HER**

- 15.1 A recommendation to discharge the archaeological recording condition will only be made on receipt of a satisfactory hard copy of the full final report by the WYAAS.

- 15.2 A hard copy of this report (plus a digital copy on “archive” quality gold disk in ISO 10005-1 compliant (PDF/A) format) will be submitted directly to the WY Archaeology Advisory Service in a timely manner to allow further work, if necessary, to be scheduled and the planning application to be determined in an informed manner, and certainly within a period of two months following completion of fieldwork so as not to delay a planning decision to be made, unless specialist reports are awaited. In the latter case a revised date should be agreed with the WYAAS. Completion of this project and advice from WYAAS on an appropriate mitigation strategy are dependent upon receipt by WYAAS of a satisfactory report which has been prepared in accordance with this specification. Any comments made by WYAAS in response to the submission of an unsatisfactory report will be taken into account and will result in the reissue of a suitably edited report to all parties, within a timescale which has been agreed with WYAAS.
- 15.3 The report will be supplied on the understanding that it will be added to the West Yorkshire Historic Environment Record where it will be publicly accessible once deposited with the WYAAS unless confidentiality is explicitly requested, in which case it will become publicly accessible six months after deposition.
- 15.4 A copy of the final report (in .pdf format) shall also be supplied to Historic England Science Advisor (email [andy.hammon@HistoricEngland.org.uk](mailto:andy.hammon@HistoricEngland.org.uk)).
- 15.5 Copyright - Please note that by depositing this report, the contractor gives permission for the material presented within the document to be used by the WYAAS, in perpetuity, although The Contractor retains the right to be identified as the author of all project documentation and reports as specified in the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 (chapter IV, section 79). The permission will allow the WYAAS to reproduce material, including for commercial use by third parties, with the copyright owner suitably acknowledged.
- 15.6 The West Yorkshire HER supports the Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) project. The overall aim of the OASIS project is to provide an online index to the mass of archaeological grey literature that has been produced as a result of the advent of large-scale developer funded fieldwork. The archaeological contractor must therefore complete the online OASIS form at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/>. Contractors are advised to contact the West Yorkshire HER officer prior to completing the form. Once a report has become a public document by submission to or incorporation into the HER, the West Yorkshire HER may place the information on a web-site. Please ensure that you and your client agree to this procedure in writing as part of the process of submitting the report to the case officer at the West Yorkshire HER.
- 15.7 A note or longer article should also be supplied to the next volume of the annual Council for British Archaeology’s Yorkshire Forum publication

(please contact the editor or CBA's website for more information:  
associate.editor@cba-yorkshire.org.uk).

## **16. General Considerations**

### **16.1.1 Authorised Alterations to Specification by Contractor**

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

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

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

### **16.2 Unauthorised Alterations to Specification by Contractor**

16.2.1 It is the archaeological contractor's responsibility to ensure that they have obtained the WYAAS' consent in writing to any variation of the specification prior to the commencement of on-site work or (where applicable) prior to the finalisation of the tender. Unauthorised variations may result in the WYAAS being unable to recommend the discharge of the planning condition to the Local Planning Officer based on the archaeological information available and are therefore made solely at the risk of the contractor.

### **16.3 Technical Queries**

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

### **16.4 Valid Period of Specification**

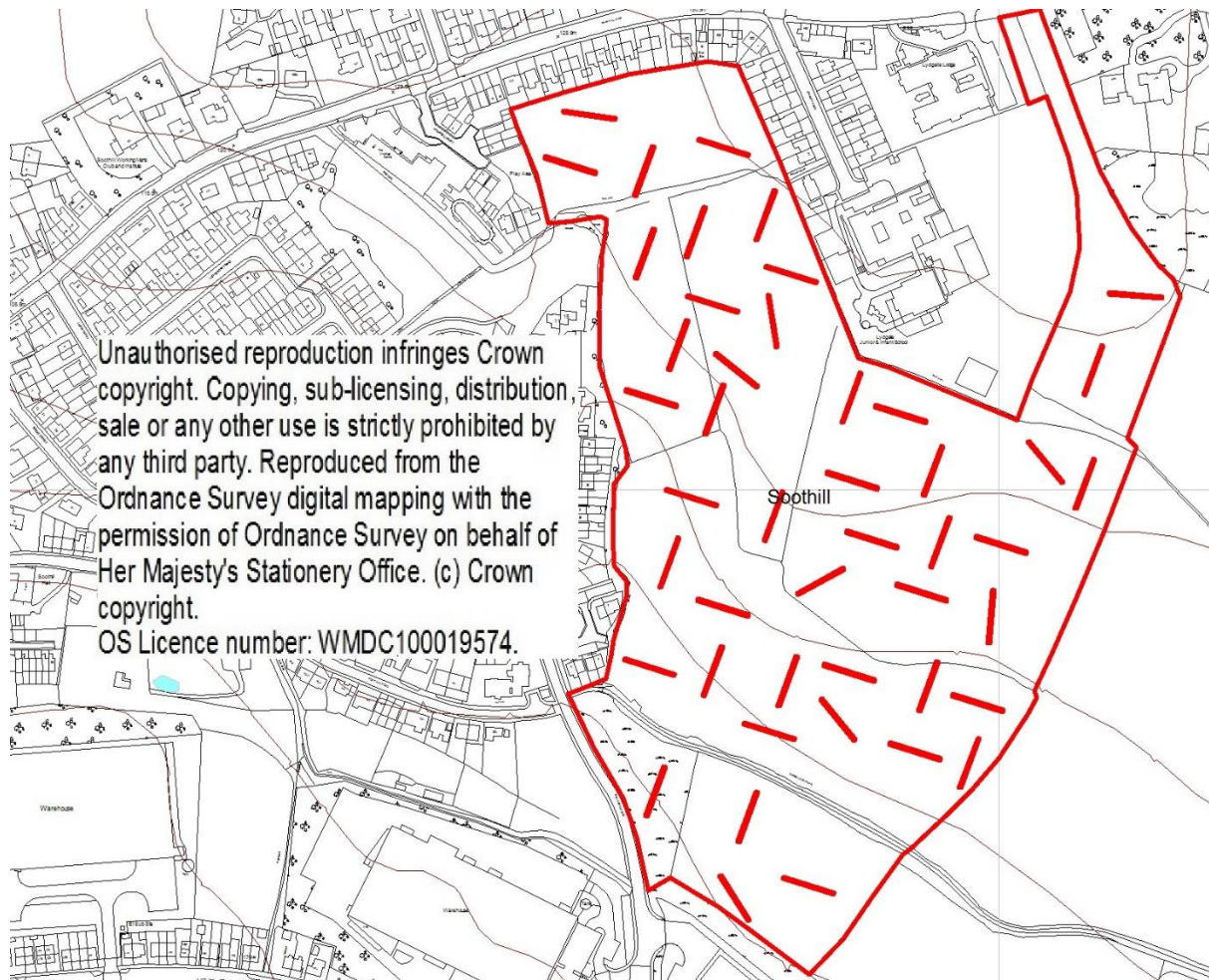
16.4.1 This specification is valid for a period of one year from date of issue. After that time it may need to be revised to take into account new discoveries, changes in policy or the introduction of new working practices or techniques.



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**November 2020**

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Figurer 1 Site location and indicative trench positions