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MAP Archaeological Practice

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Land to the West of Ashbrow Infant School  
Huddersfield  
West Yorkshire  
Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching

Land to the West of Ashbrow Infant and Nursery School  
Ashbrow Road  
Huddersfield  
West Yorkshire

SE 14870 19254

MAP 5.23.2018

Planning No: 2018/62/90586W

Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching

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Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching

*Summary*

*An Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching was carried out by MAP Archaeological Practice Ltd. on land to the west of Ashbrow Infant and Nursery School, Ashbrow Road, Huddersfield (SE 14870 19254) on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of July 2018. The work was undertaken in order to inform West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Services of the archaeological potential of this site, in accordance with Condition 19 attached to planning consent 2018/62/90586/W.*

*The ground cover comprises areas of naturally regenerating woodland and un-grazed grassland crossed by permissive foot paths. Heavily wooded areas are present to the southern and western areas of the site.*

*Five trenches were excavated, located with the aim of assessing the sites archaeological potential and to evaluate an earthwork at the western side of the site.*

*No archaeological finds, features or deposits were identified on the site.*

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report sets out the results of an Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching that was carried out by MAP Archaeological Practice Ltd. on land to the west of Ashbrow Infant and Nursery School, Ashbrow Road, Huddersfield (SE 14870 19254) on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of July 2018. The work was undertaken in order to inform West Yorkshire Archaeological Advisory Services of the archaeological potential of this site, in accordance with Condition 19 attached to planning consent 2018/62/90586/W.
- 1.2 Archaeological, Historical and Architectural remains are protected by means of Statutory Instruments; including the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 and Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas Act 1990); and by World Heritage Status, the National Planning Policy Framework, Chapter 12 (March 2012).
- 1.3 The work was carried out in accordance with the recommendations of the National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012) on 'Archaeology and Planning' and according to the Written Scheme of Investigation that was prepared by West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service.
- 1.4 MAP adhered to the general principles of both the ClfA (2014) '*Code of Conduct*' and '*Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation*' throughout the project.
- 1.5 The site code for the project was MAP 5.23.2018.
- 1.6 All work was funded by Keepmoat Homes.

1.7 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.

## **2. Site Description (SE 14870 19254)**

2.1 The site is situated on land immediately to the west of Ashbrow School, and to the north of Ashbrow Road, Huddersfield (fig.1). The site is currently covered by regenerating woodland, with denser areas to the west and south and overgrown, un-grazed pasture, which is bisected by permissive footpaths.

2.2 The site stands on the Elland Flag sandstone formation (BGS 2018).

2.3 The total area of the site measures approximately 4.4ha. the site stands at a height of between approximately 125m AOD and 130m AOD.

## **3. Historical and Archaeological Background**

3.1 A number of defensive sites are known in the vicinity, such as Castle Hill (Scheduled Ancient Monument 1009846), which dates to the late Bronze Age and early Iron Age and was also later used as a Medieval Motte and Bailey Castle. Castle Hill is located some 5.5km north-east of the site and dominates a much higher position. A possible Medieval Motte and Bailey is located some 1.3km south-west of the site at Hill House, Birkby (HER ID PRN4394).

- 3.2 The highest part of the site forms a pronounced natural mound standing at approximately 150m AOD. The north to south break of slope in the western part of the site is not depicted on cartographic sources as a field boundary and so may have been utilised in earlier periods as a boundary.
- 3.3 There is evidence of quarrying within the boundaries of the site, especially to the south and west. This is likely to relate to 19<sup>th</sup> century activity, when the area was known as Cuckolds Clough.

#### **4. Aims and Objectives**

- 4.1 The objectives of the archaeological evaluation were to:
- principally undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation by Trial Trenching in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation in line with the National Planning Policy Framework in order to evaluate the archaeological impact of the development,
  - to determine by means of Trial Trenching, 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,
  - to assess the archaeological potential and significance of the site and to allow an appropriate mitigation strategy to be formulated prior to commencement of the development,

- to prepare a report summarising the results of the work and the archaeological implications affected by the proposed development, and;
- to prepare and submit a suitable archive to the appropriate museum or other repository.

## 5. Methodology

### 5.1 Excavation

5.1.1 Five Trial Trenches were excavated comprising four T shaped trenches (formed from a pair of 30m x 2m trenches at right angles) and one single trench (also measuring 30m x 2m). The trenches were located relatively randomly in order to assess the archaeological potential of the site and also to evaluate the north to south break of slope in the western area of the site. (Fig.2 & plates 11 & 14).

The location of the trenches were as follows:

- Evaluation Trench 1 – T- shaped trench consisting of two 30mx2m trenches at right angles to each other. Sited in order to evaluate the eastern area of the site.
- Evaluation Trench 2 – T- shaped trench consisting of two 30m x 2m trenches at right angles to each other. Positioned in order to evaluate the eastern area of the site.
- Evaluation Trench 3 – measured 30m x 2m aligned north-west to south-east aiming to evaluate the area eastern area of the site.
- Evaluation Trench 4 – T- shaped trench consisting of two 30m x 2m trenches at right angles to each other. Positioned in order to



evaluate the north western area of the site, in particular the break of slope which is present in the western part of the site.

- Evaluation Trench 5- T- shaped trench consisting of two 30m x 2m trenches at right angles to each other. Positioned in order to evaluate the break of slope in the western part of the site.

5.1.2 The work was undertaken on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2018 in dry, bright and warm conditions.

5.1.3 Overburden, topsoil and subsoil were removed by a rear-acting 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 soonest. The exposed surfaces were cleaned by shovel, hoe or trowel as appropriate [Pls. 4-12], and all subsequent excavation carried out by hand and in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (Appendix 2).

5.1.4 All work was carried out in line with both the Chartered Institute of Field Archaeologists Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (CIfA 2014).

## 5.2 On-site Recording

5.2.1 All trenches were recorded on MAP's *pro forma* trench sheets.

## 5.3 Photographic Record

5.3.1 The photographic record comprised nineteen digital photographs, taken on site. The photographic record included a film register, shot number, location of shot, direction of shot and brief description (Appendix 2).

## **6. Results**

### **6.1 Evaluation Trench 1 (Fig. 2: Plates 4 & 5)**

6.1.1 Evaluation Trench 1 stood at heights of between 128.50m AOD and 128.91m AOD, with between 0.30m and 0.00m of topsoil (context 1001). A small deposit of build up material was identified in the central section of trench, likely related to mining activity on the site.

6.1.2 Removal of topsoil within Trench 1 revealed no archaeological features. The natural clay occurred at 128.79m AOD at the northern end of the trench and 128.35m AOD at the south- eastern end.

### **6.2 Evaluation Trench 2 (Fig. 2: Plates 6 & 7)**

6.2.1 Evaluation Trench 2 stood at a height of between 130.10m AOD and 129.69m AOD with between 0.35m and 0.40m of topsoil (Context 2001). No subsoil was present within the Evaluation Trench.

6.2.2 Removal of topsoil revealed no archaeological features or finds. The natural clay occurred at around between 129.16m AOD and 129.91m AOD.

### **6.3 Evaluation Trench 3 (Fig. 2: Plate 8)**

6.3.1 Evaluation Trench 3 stood at between 130.89 AOD and 131.24m AOD with between 0.25m and 0.30m of mid grey-brown topsoil (Context 3001).

6.3.2 No archaeological finds, features or deposits were identified. Natural deposits were present at 130.31m AOD.

### **6.4 Evaluation Trench 4 (Fig. 2: Plate 9 & 10)**

6.4.1 Evaluation Trench 4 stood at heights of between 125.28m AOD and 129.99m AOD, with between 0.25m and 0.30m of topsoil (Context 4001).

6.4.2 Removal of topsoil within the trench revealed no archaeological features, finds or deposits. Natural silty clay was identified at 125.95m AOD at the northern end and 129.57m AOD to the east.

6.4.3 The break of slope, which the trench was positioned in order to assess, was not archaeological in nature.

## 6.5 Evaluation Trench 5 (Fig 2: Plate 12 & 13)

6.5.1 Evaluation Trench 5 stood at between 124.92m AOD and 128.19m AOD with an average topsoil depth of 0.20m.

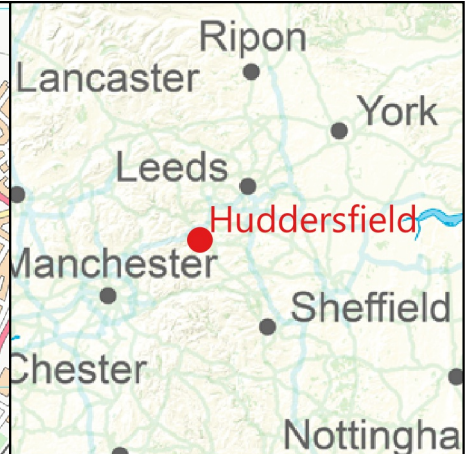
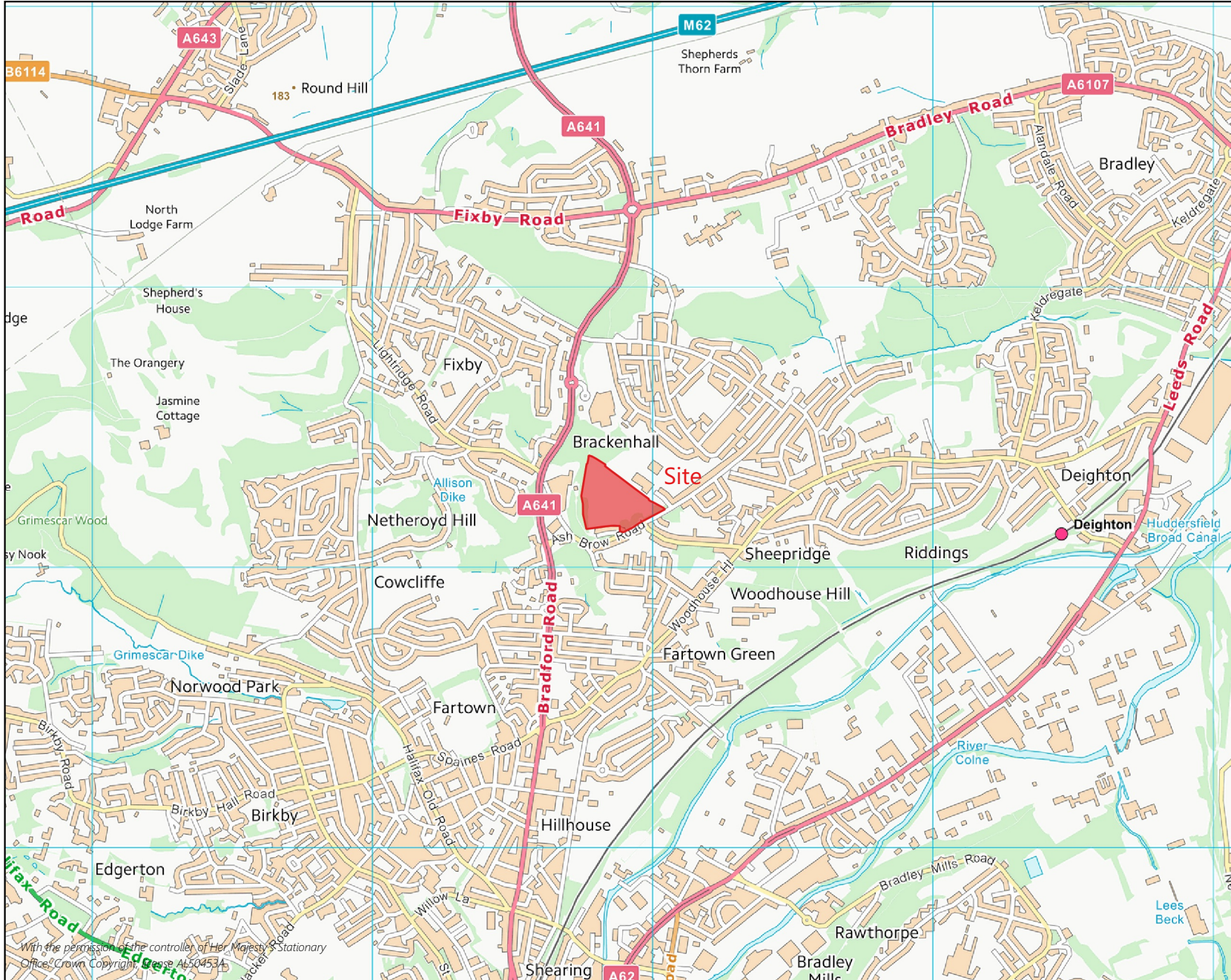
6.5.2 Removal of topsoil (context 5001) revealed no archaeological features. Natural deposits were recorded at between 124.64m AOD at the north-eastern end of the trench and 128.01m AOD in the south-west.

## 7. Conclusion

7.1 The archaeological evaluation has illustrated an absence of archaeological finds and features on land to the west of Ashbrow school, off Ashbrow Road. 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.







Legend

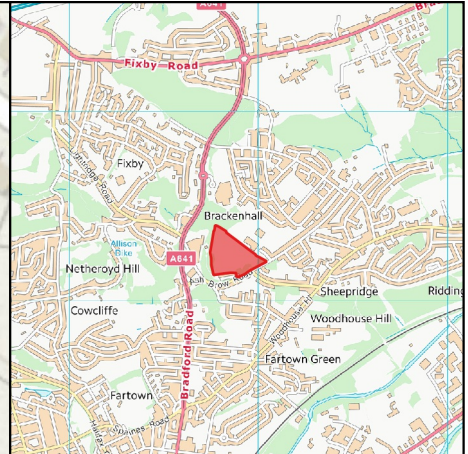
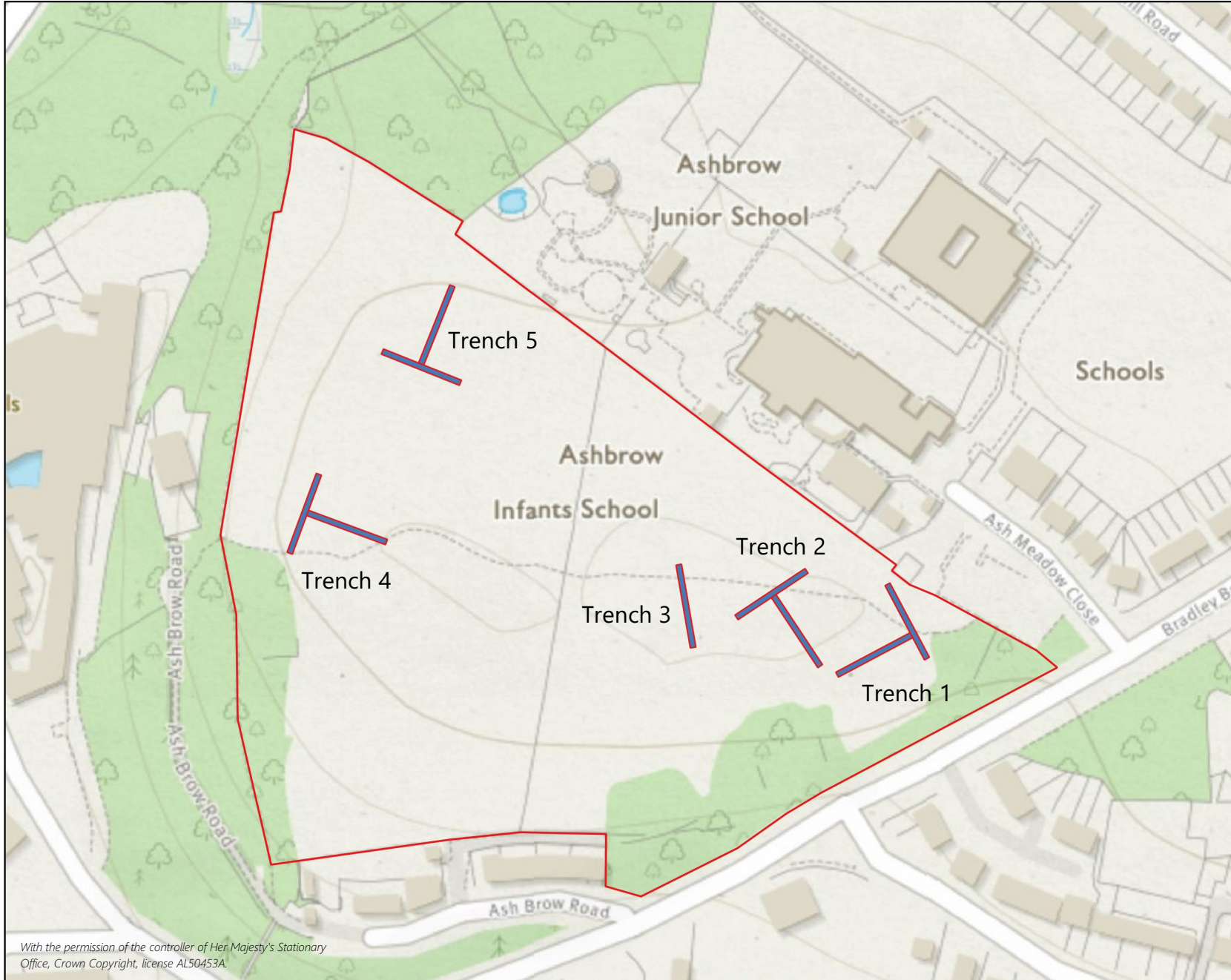
■ Proposed Development Area



Figure 1  
Site Location Plan  
Scale: 1:20,000 @ A4  
Version A-240718  
Client: Keepmoat Homes

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**Legend**

- Proposed Development Area
- Trenches

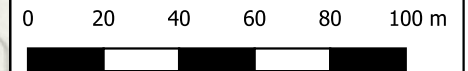


Figure 2  
Trench Location Plan  
Scale: 1:2000 @ A4  
Version A-240718  
Client: Keepmoat Homes

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Plate 1. General View of Site. Facing South



Plate 2. General View of Site. Facing South-West.





Plate 3. General view of Site Facing North-East. From Trench 2.



Plate 4. Trench 1 After Cleaning. Facing South-East.





Plate 5. Trench 1 After Cleaning. Facing North-East.



Plate 6. Trench 2 After Cleaning. Facing South-East





Plate 7. Trench 2 After Cleaning, Facing North-West



Plate 8. Trench 3 After Cleaning, Facing North-West.





Plate 9. Trench 4 After Cleaning, Facing North East.



Plate 10. Trench 4 After Cleaning Facing South East.





Plate 11. Trench 5 After Cleaning. Facing South East.



Plate 12. Trench 5 After Cleaning. Facing North-East.

## APPENDIX 1

Land to the West of Ashbrow School, Huddersfield. Site Code: 05.23.2018

### Context Listing

Context	Type	Description
<b>Trench 1</b>		
1001	Deposit	Mid Brown-Grey, Clayey Silt; Topsoil
1002	Deposit	Pale Yellow, Silty Clay; Build-up Layer
<b>Trench 2</b>		
2001	Deposit	Mid Brown-Grey, Clayey Silt; Topsoil
<b>Trench 3</b>		
3001	Deposit	Mid Grey-Brown, Clayey Silt; Topsoil
<b>Trench 4</b>		
4001	Deposit	Mid Grey-Brown, Clayey Silt; Topsoil
<b>Trench 5</b>		
5001	Deposit	Mid Grey-Brown, Clayey Silt; Topsoil

## APPENDIX 2

### Photographic Listing

Frame	Description	Scale	Facing
Film Type	Digital		
1	Trench 5 after Cleaning	1m	SE
2	Trench 5 after Cleaning	1m	NW
3	Trench 5 after Cleaning	1m	NE
4	Trench 5 after Cleaning	1m	SW
5	Trench 4 after Cleaning	1m	NE
6	Trench 4 after Cleaning	1m	SW
7	Trench 4 after Cleaning	1m	SE
8	Trench 4 after Cleaning	1m	NW
9	Trench 3 after Cleaning	1m	NW
10	Trench 3 after Cleaning	1m	SE
11	Trench 2 after Cleaning	1m	SW
12	Trench 2 after Cleaning	1m	NE
13	Trench 2 after Cleaning	1m	SE
14	Trench 2 after Cleaning	1m	NW
15	Trench 1 after Cleaning	1m	NE
16	Trench 1 after Cleaning	1m	SW
17	Trench 1 after Cleaning	1m	NW
18	Trench 1 after Cleaning	1m	SE
19	SW Facing Section of Trench 1	1m	NE





**WEST YORKSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGY ADVISORY SERVICE:  
SPECIFICATION FOR POST DETERMINATION ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCHING AT  
LAND TO THE WEST OF ASHBROW INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL,  
ASHBROW ROAD, HUDDERSFIELD, WEST YORKSHIRE**

**SE 14870 19254**

**Specification prepared on behalf of Kirklees District Council at the request of Sophie Coy of MAP Archaeological Practice Ltd. To inform planning permission 2018/62/90586/W.**

## **1. Summary**

- 1.1. A programme of archaeological work consisting of geophysical survey and trial trenching is proposed to investigate the impact of a proposed development at the above site.
- 1.2. If significant remains are identified by this work it may be necessary to implement further excavation and recording works in advance of or during groundworks on the site. This work will be covered by a further written scheme of investigation.
- 1.3. This specification has been prepared by the West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service (WYAAS), the holders of the West Yorkshire Historic Environment Record.

NOTE: The requirements detailed in paragraphs 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 6.5 and 9.1 are to be carried out by the archaeological contractor prior to the commencement of fieldwork and the attached notification form completed.

## **2. Site Location & Description (Fig. 1)**

Grid Reference: **SE 14870 19254**

- 2.1. The site is located on a south facing slope at approximate 150m above the Colne Valley. It is defined by Ashbrow Infant School [sic] to the north, Ash Brow Mills [sic] to the west and Ashbrow Road to the south and east. Today the steeply sloped western and southern flanks work along with historic quarrying, woodland and the modern road network and housing estates to create the impression of a promontory. This impression may have been less in the past. A low elongated rise crowns the highest point of the site.
- 2.2. The ground cover comprises areas of naturally regenerating woodland and un-grazed grassland crossed by permissive foot paths. Two north-to-south field boundaries can just be discerned in this ground cover. The western and southern boundaries were quarried in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and are currently heavily wooded; it is likely that other quarries are present on the upper part of the site. A small amount of fly tipping is present in the more level north-eastern part of the site.

2.3. Although the site has an area of c 4.4ha restrictions due to gradient and ground cover restrict the area available for archaeological evaluation.

### **3. Background**

3.1. Based on the location and topography of the site the WYAAS recommend an archaeological evaluation was carried out to fully establish the site's archaeological potential.

3.2. This specification has been prepared by WYAAS, at the request of Sophie Coy of MAP Archaeological Practice Ltd. (Showfield Lane, Malton YO17 6BT Tel.: 01653 697752) to detail what work is required and to allow an archaeological contractor to provide a quotation.

### **4. Archaeological Interest**

4.1. The application site occupies a wooded promontory on a south facing valley side overlooking the Colne valley. The highest part of the site forms a pronounced natural mound. Whilst no archaeological potential is currently known from within the site boundary its location on a south facing slope at approximate 150m would have been attractive to early communities from the Prehistoric period to early modern times.

4.2. This elevated position and the steeply sloping ground to the south and west would have been an attractive location to defend. Other known defensive sites in the vicinity include the scheduled Castle Hill, Almondbury. This late Bronze Age and Iron Age hillfort and later medieval motte and bailey castle is located 5.5km south-east of the site at c. 270m. Castle Hill is visible from the Ashbrow site (West Yorkshire National Historic List for England No 1009846 and Historic Environment Record PRN 2). A possible medieval motte and bailey is located 1.3 Km to the south-west of the site at Hill House, Beacon Street, Birkby. This stands at a height of 90m above sea level (PRN 4394).

4.3. Quarrying is evident on the southern and western boundaries of the site from at least the early 19<sup>th</sup> century when the area was also known as Cuckolds Clough. The applicant's geotechnical report also identifies some potential for stone mining within the site. Sunken areas in the regenerating wood land at the top of the slope may be evidence of this or back filled quarries.

4.4. A pronounced north-to-south break in slope is present in the western third of the site. This is not one of the field boundaries illustrated on historic maps and may be evidence of a medieval or earlier boundary at Ashbrow.

4.5. This earthwork and the potential for settlement on the higher and level part of the site require archaeological evaluation.

### **5. Aims and Objectives**

5.1.1. 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 evaluation trenches.

5.1.2. 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 with the WYAAS.

5.1.3. 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 (Nepshaw Lane South, Morley, Leeds LS27 7JQ).

## **6. General Instructions**

### **6.1. Health and Safety**

6.1.1. The archaeologist on site will naturally operate with due regard for Health and Safety regulations. In this case, 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. WYAAS and its officers cannot be held responsible for any accidents or injuries that may occur to outside contractors engaged to undertake this watching brief while attempting to conform to this specification.

### **6.2. Confirmation of Adherence to Specification**

6.2.1. Prior to the commencement of any work, the archaeological contractor must confirm adherence to this specification in writing to 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 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 WYAAS.

### **6.3. Confirmation of Timetable and Contractors' Qualifications**

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

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

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

#### 6.4. Notification and Monitoring

6.4.1. The recording exercise will be monitored as necessary and practicable by WYAAS in its role as curator of the county's archaeology. WYAAS should be provided with as much notice as possible in writing (and certainly not less than one week) of the intention to start the work. A copy of the archaeological contractor's risk assessment of the site should accompany the notification.

6.4.2. Samantha Stein, the acting Historic England regional science advisor should be notified that the excavation is commencing (email [samantha.stein@historicengland.org.uk](mailto:samantha.stein@historicengland.org.uk) Tel.: 07769300665).

6.4.3. **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)).

#### 6.5. Documentary Research

6.5.1. Prior to the commencement of *fieldwork*, the HER should be visited by either the project manager or the site supervisor, in order to gain an overview of the archaeological/historical background of the site and environs. In addition to providing a knowledge base for the work in hand, the results of this assessment may be incorporated into the contractor's report where they are considered to contribute to that report, but any extraneous material should be omitted. Please note that the HER makes a charge for consultations of a commercial nature. The results of this exercise should be used to inform the whole project.

6.5.2. A formal desk-based report is not required and the results of this stage of work should be incorporated in the final report.

### 7. Fieldwork Methodology

#### 7.1. Geophysical Survey

7.1.1. Due to the wooded nature of the site and steep slopes it is only necessary to carry out a geophysical survey in the north-eastern and flatter area of the site, Area A (c. 4.4ha). This area will be subject to a magnetic (gradiometer) survey using cart mounted sensors. The data will be collected at sub-meter traverse intervals with a minimum of four samples per meter and located using GPS.

7.1.2. The use of hand held gradiometers will only be permitted where site conditions prevent the use of a cart system. The WYAAS must be made

aware of this and agree the variation prior to the survey taking place. If the use of hand held gradiometers is permitted then data will be recorded at 0.25m intervals on 1.0m spaced transects.

7.1.3. 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.

## 7.2. Trial Trenching

7.2.1. Trial trenching will involve the excavation of 5 trenches, comprising 4 T shaped trenches (formed from a pair of 30m x 2 trenches at right angles) and one single trench made (also measuring 30m x 2 trenches). The trench locations are given in figure 1. The trenches have been located semi-randomly to evaluate the site's potential. If the result of the geophysical survey or the archaeologist on site professional's judgement dictate a change in trench location this should be discussed with the WYAAS at the earliest opportunity (see 7.9 below).

7.2.2. The evaluation trenches can be machine-opened. The contractor should also allow for a contingency area of 120m<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. Proposed trench locations are shown on Figure 1.

Trench No	Dimensions (m <sup>2</sup> )	Purpose
1	120	To evaluate the site's potential
2	120	To evaluate the site's potential
3	60	To evaluate the site's potential
4	120	To evaluate earthwork
5	120	To evaluate earthwork

Total site area: **4.4ha**

Total area of trenching: **540m<sup>2</sup>**

Contingency trenching: **120m<sup>2</sup>**

7.2.3. 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 0.2m. thickness, by the use of an appropriate machine using a wide toothless ditching blade. **Under no circumstances should the machine be used to cut arbitrary trenches down to natural deposits.** 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.

7.2.4. 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. 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.

7.2.5. To assist in dating features it is essential that care should be taken to locate any datable artefacts in their correct stratigraphic position.

7.2.6. 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.

### **7.3. Method of Recording**

7.3.1. All excavation will be recorded according to the normal principles of stratigraphic excavation. The stratigraphy of the trenches and areas is to be recorded, even when no archaeological deposits have been identified.

7.3.2. 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. In the case of evaluation trenches at least one section of the trench edge, showing a representative and complete sequence of deposits from the modern ground surface to the natural geology, will be drawn and reproduced in the report. In trenches where no archaeological features are present a representative section showing the soil profile will be drawn and illustrated in the report.

7.3.3. The actual areas of excavation and all archaeological (and possibly archaeological) features should be accurately located on a site plan and recorded by photographs, scale drawings and written descriptions sufficient to permit the preparation of a detailed archive and report on the material. The trench location, as excavated, will be accurately surveyed, tied into the O.S. National Grid and located on an up-to-date 1:1250 O.S. map base.

7.3.4. Except where otherwise specified by the WYAAS, black and white photography using orthodox monochrome chemical development should be used. 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 which is an acceptable alternative, see paragraph 7.3.5 below).

7.3.5. Digital photography: as an alternative for colour slide photography, good quality digital photography may be supplied, using cameras with a minimum resolution of 10 megapixels. Images may be captured in RAW format but archiving should follow the guidance given by Historic England in "Digital Image Capture and File Storage: Guidelines for Best Practice", July 2015. *Note that conventional black and white print photography is still required and constitutes the permanent record.* Digital images will only be acceptable as an alternative to colour slide photography if each image is supplied as both a JPEG and a TIFF versions. The latter as 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, 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" gold CDs by the archaeological contractor accompanying the hard copy of the report.**

#### 7.4. Use of Metal Detectors

7.4.1. Spoil heaps are to be scanned for 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.) Artefacts recovered by metal detecting should be clearly identified in the final report.

7.4.2. If a non-professional archaeologist is to be used to carry out the metal-detecting, a formal agreement of their position as a sub-contractor working under direction must be agreed in advance of their use on site. This formal agreement will apply whether they are paid or not. To avoid financial claims under the Treasure Act a suggested wording for this formal agreement with the metal detectorist is: "In the process of working on the archaeological investigation at [location of site] between the dates of [insert dates], [name of person contributing to project] is working under direction or permission of [name of archaeological organisation] and hereby waives all rights to rewards for objects discovered that could otherwise be payable under the Treasure Act 1996 as amended."

#### 7.5. Environmental Sampling Strategy

7.5.1. Bulk samples must be taken from all securely stratified deposits using a strategy which combines systematic and judgement sampling, but which also follows the methodologies outlined in the English Heritage

guidance 'Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation (2011) (Second Edition)' .

7.5.2. Samples for specialist environmental analysis, ancient technology and scientific dating (soil profiles, archaeomagnetic dating, dendrochronology etc.) should be taken if suitable material is encountered during the excavation. The Historic England Science Advisor should be consulted (Samantha Stein, see 6.4.2) and provision should be made for an appropriate specialist(s) to visit the site, take samples and discuss the sampling strategy, if necessary.

## 7.6. Conservation Strategy

7.6.1. A conservation strategy must be developed in collaboration with a recognised laboratory. All finds must be assessed in order to recover information that will contribute to an understanding of their deterioration and hence preservation potential, as well as identifying potential for further investigation.

7.6.2. 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. Human Remains

7.7.1. Should human remains be discovered they must initially be left in-situ, covered and protected. WYAAS will be notified at the earliest opportunity. If removal is necessary at this stage the remains must be excavated archaeologically in accordance with the Guidance for Best Practice for Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds in England published by Historic England (2017), a valid Ministry of Justice licence, if appropriate, and any local environmental health regulations.

## 7.8. Treasure Act

7.8.1. The terms of the Treasure Act 1996, as amended, 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.

## 7.9. Unexpectedly Significant or Complex Discoveries

7.9.1. Should there be unexpectedly significant or complex discoveries made that warrant, in the professional judgement of the archaeologist on site, more detailed recording than is appropriate within the terms of this specification, **then the archaeological contractor should urgently contact WYAAS with the relevant information to enable them to resolve the matter with the developer.**

## **8. Monitoring**

- 8.1. The project will be monitored as necessary and practicable by WYAAS, in its role as curator of the county's archaeology and advisor to the local Planning Authority. WYAAS's representative will be afforded access to the site at any reasonable time. It is usual practice that the visit is arranged in advance, but this is not always feasible.
- 8.2. WYAAS's 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 WYAAS'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. The WYAAS make a charge for monitoring visits and the archaeological contractor will normally be invoiced for this. It is envisioned that one monitoring visit will be necessary during this phase of the project. The archaeological contractor should contact the WYAAS for details of the current charges.
- 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 the project, the archaeological contractor must contact the Kirklees district's archaeological curator to determine the museum's requirements for the deposition of an excavation archive (see paragraph 6.4.3 above).
- 9.2. It is the policy of Kirklees Museums to accept complete excavation archives, including primary site records and research archives and finds, from all excavations carried out in the District that it serves.
- 9.3. It is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to endeavour to obtain consent of the landowner, in writing, to the deposition of finds with Kirklees Museum.
- 9.4. It is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to meet Kirklees Museums' requirements with regard to the preparation of excavation archives for deposition

## 10. Requirement for Further Fieldwork

10.1.1. 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.

10.1.2. 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 paragraph 10.3 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 ( $\delta^{13}C$ ) 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 20<sup>th</sup>-century date should be noted, quantified and summarily described, but can then be discarded if appropriate. All finds which are of 19<sup>th</sup> 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). 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.

## **12. Field Archive**

12.1.1. 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).

### **12.2. Report Format and Content**

12.2.1. 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.

12.2.2. Location plans should be produced at a scale which enables easy site identification and which depicts the full extent of the site investigated (a scale of 1:50,000 is not regarded as appropriate unless accompanied by a more detailed plan or plans). Site plans should be at an appropriate scale showing trench layout (as dug), features located and, where possible, predicted archaeological deposits. Upon completion of each evaluation trench all sections containing archaeological features will be drawn. Section drawings (at a minimum scale of 1:20) must include heights O.D. Plans (at a minimum scale of 1:50) must include O.D. spot heights for all principal strata and any features. Where no archaeological deposits are encountered at least one long section of each trench will be drawn.

12.2.3. 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.

12.2.4. 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.

12.2.5. 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.

### 12.3. **Publicity**

12.3.1. 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.

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

12.4.1. **A hard copy of the report (plus a an ISO19005 compliant PDF(A) facsimile on an archive quality "gold" compact disk) is to be supplied directly to the WYAAS, in a timely manner to allow further work, if necessary, to be scheduled and the planning application to be determined in an informed manner, and certainly within a period of two months following completion of fieldwork** so as not to delay a planning decision to be made, unless specialist reports are awaited. In the latter case a revised date should be agreed with the WYAAS. Completion of this project and advice from WYAAS on an appropriate mitigation strategy are dependant upon receipt by WYAAS of a satisfactory report which has been prepared in accordance with this specification. Any comments made by WYAAS in response to the submission of an unsatisfactory report will be taken into account and will result in the reissue of a suitably edited report to all parties, within a timescale which has been agreed with WYAAS.

12.4.2. The report will be supplied on the understanding that it will be added to the West Yorkshire Historic Environment Record where it will be publicly accessible once deposited with the WYAAS unless confidentiality is explicitly requested, in which case it will become publicly accessible six months after deposition.

12.4.3. A copy of the final report (in .pdf format) shall also be supplied to Samantha Stein, the acting Historic England regional science advisor should be notified that the excavation is commencing (email [samantha.stein@historicengland.org.uk](mailto:samantha.stein@historicengland.org.uk)).

12.4.4. Copyright - Please note that by depositing this report, the contractor gives permission for the material presented within the

document to be used by the WYAAS, in perpetuity, although The Contractor retains the right to be identified as the author of all project documentation and reports as specified in the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 (chapter IV, section 79). The permission will allow the WYAAS to reproduce material, including for commercial use by third parties, with the copyright owner suitably acknowledged.

12.4.5. The West Yorkshire HER supports the Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) project. The overall aim of the OASIS project is to provide an online index to the mass of archaeological grey literature that has been produced as a result of the advent of large-scale developer funded fieldwork. The archaeological contractor must therefore complete the online OASIS form at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/>. Contractors are advised to contact the West Yorkshire HER officer prior to completing the form. Once a report has become a public document by submission to or incorporation into the HER, the West Yorkshire HER may place the information on a web-site. Please ensure that you and your client agree to this procedure in writing as part of the process of submitting the report to the case officer at the West Yorkshire HER.

12.4.6. A note or longer article should also be supplied to the Council for British Archaeology's Yorkshire Forum publication (please contact the editor or CBA's website for more information [forum-editor@cba-yorkshire.org.uk](mailto:forum-editor@cba-yorkshire.org.uk)).

### 13. General Considerations

#### 13.1. **Authorised Alterations to Specification by Contractor**

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

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

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

### 13.2. **Unauthorised Alterations to Specification by Contractor**

13.2.1. 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 acceptance of the results of the evaluation based on the archaeological information available, and, are therefore made solely at the risk of the contractor.

### 13.3. **Technical Queries**

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

### 13.4. **Valid Period of Specification**

13.4.1. 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.

**David Hunter**  
**West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service**

**July 2018**

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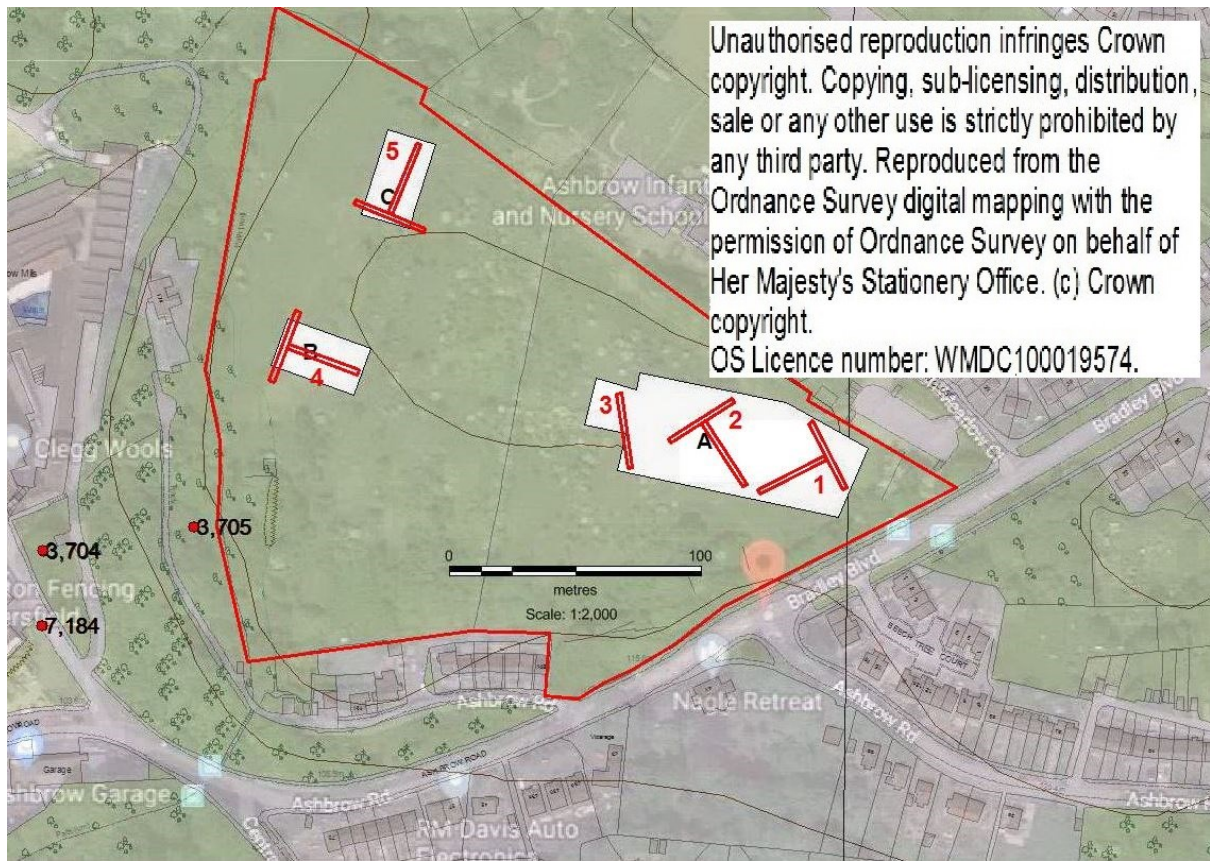


Figure 1 Trench Location Plan