

Thorpe Bank to Middlefield Cable
Route, Durham Road, Stockton-on-
Tees
Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation

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Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation

LANDGAGE HERITAGE LIMITED

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Project Details

Landgag Heritage Project Reference	PR0159
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Site grid reference	Centred at 440471, 523066

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Thorpe Bank to Middlefield Cable Route, Durham Road, Stockton-on-Tees – Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation

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Non-Technical Summary

This written scheme of investigation (WSI) has been produced in relation to the land at Thorpe Bank to Middlefield Cable route, Durham Road, Stockton-on-Tees, hereinafter referred to as the study site. It has been produced by Landgage Heritage on behalf of Sonnedix. This WSI sets out the scope and method by which a programme of archaeological works will be undertaken within the study site.

The study site has planning consent for the laying of underground electricity cables and associated infrastructure to connect installed solar farms to the approved 132kV substation. Consent was granted by Stockton-On-Tees Borough Council, the local planning authority (LPA), under planning reference 21/2772/FUL. Condition three of this planning consent requires that a programme of archaeological works is undertaken to secure the archaeological interest of the study site prior to any impacts to that interest which may result from the construction of the development.

The scope of the archaeological works has been agreed with the LPA archaeology officer, Tees Archaeology and consists of archaeological monitoring along the section of the cable route, which has not been previously impacted by modern development. The scope of the archaeological works has been informed by an archaeological desk-based assessment, which considered evidence from earlier archaeological investigations adjacent to the cable route. The archaeological works are guided by project aims and objectives, which are set out in Section 2 of this WSI. The key objective of the archaeological investigation is to establish the presence or absence, extent, depth, character and date of any archaeological features, deposits or finds within the site.

The scope of the investigations has also been designed to avoid known health and safety risks, including the presence of Overhead High voltage cables, Site access issues and the presence of a Bridleway.

The archaeological works, including all fieldwork, post-excavation assessment and analysis, as well as publication and archiving, will be implemented in accordance with best practice, including the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CifA) standard and guidance for archaeological excavations (CifA 2014). The project will be implemented by a suitably qualified archaeological contractor, and all key staff will be members of CifA at the appropriate grade.

The report produced will be provided to the Stockton-On-Tees historic environment record, and a digital archive will also be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), to ensure adequate dissemination of the results to both academic researchers, as well as interested members of the public. The results of the archaeological work will be disseminated in Teesside Archaeology Society Bulletin, if appropriate.

An archive of the investigation will be produced, in accordance with CifA's standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (CifA 2014a), and deposited with the local Dorman Museum.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Project Background

The Study Site

- 1.1.1 This archaeological written scheme of investigation (WSI) considers land of the Thorpe Bank to Middlefield Cable route, Durham Road, Stockton-on-Tees, and has been prepared by Landgage Heritage Ltd on behalf of Sonnedix.
- 1.1.2 The study site is located south of Thorpe Thewles and north west of Stockton-On-Tees in North Yorkshire, centred at NGR 440471, 523066.



Plate 1 Study Site Location

- 1.1.3 The underlying geology of the study site comprises calcareous mudstone of the Roxby Formation, with an area of dolomitic limestone of the Seaham Formation in the centre of the study site. Superficial deposits across the study site comprise alluvium to the south along the route of the Thorpe Beck (BSG geology of Britain viewer 2021).
- 1.1.4 The topography of the study site has an average of 48m aOD. A contour model of the study site and surrounding area has been produced and is shown in plate 2, below. Darker blue denotes higher elevations, while lighter blue and white denote lower elevations.

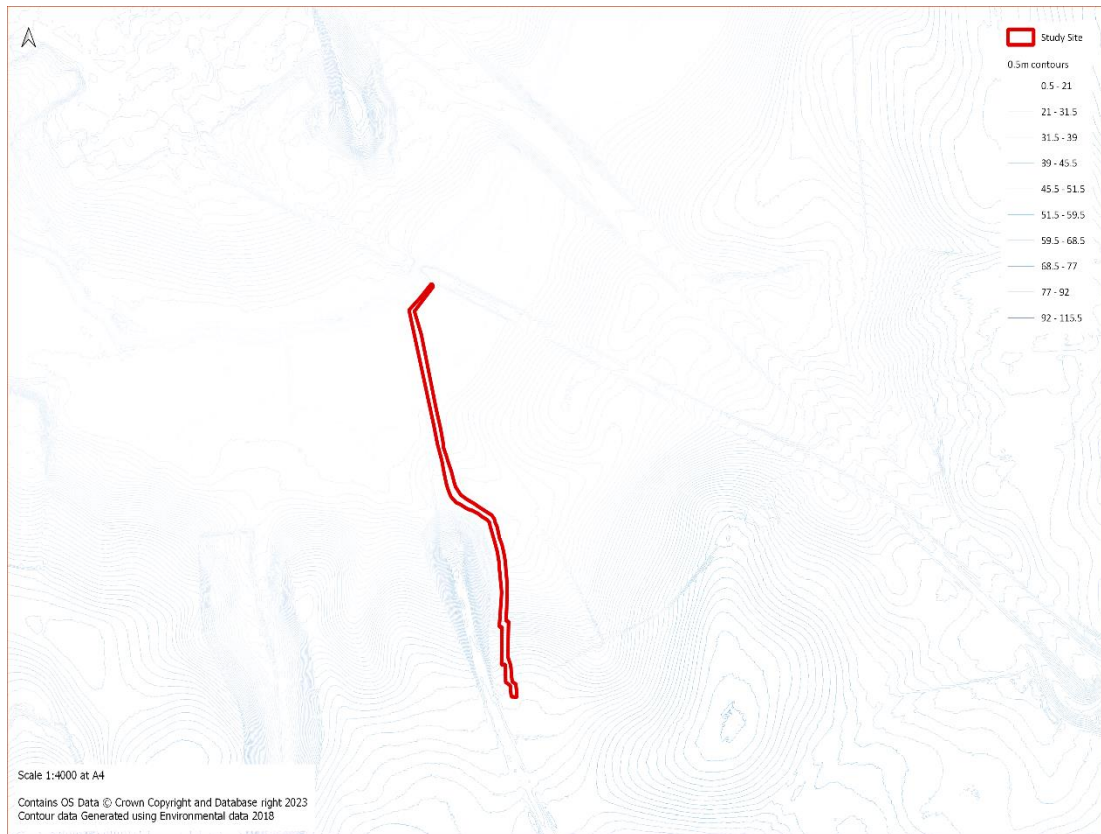


Plate 2 Contour Data of the Study Site

Planning Background

- 1.1.5 A planning application was submitted to Stockton-On-Tees Borough Council in October 2021 (Planning Ref:21/2772/FUL) for the laying of underground electricity cables and associated infrastructure to connect installed solar farms to the approved 132kV substation.
- 1.1.6 This WSI has been prepared to partially discharge condition 3, shown below:
- A) No demolition/development shall take place/commence until a programme of archaeological work including a Written Scheme of Investigation has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. The scheme shall include an assessment of significance and research questions; and:*
- 1. The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording*
 - 2. The programme for post investigation assessment*
 - 3. Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording*
 - 4. Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation*
 - 5. Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation*
 - 6. Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation.*
- B) No demolition/development shall take place other than in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition (A).*

C) The development shall not be used until the site investigation and post investigation assessment has been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition (A) and the provision made for analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition has been secured.

Reason: In the interests of archaeological recording and protecting heritage assets

Previous Archaeological Investigations

- 1.1.7 The archaeological background of the study site has been previously detailed within a Desk-Based Assessment by Landgag Heritage in 2021. The following is summarised from the Desk-Based Assessment.
- 1.1.8 A number of archaeological investigations have been undertaken both within and immediately adjacent to the study site, and the wider area. The investigations within and adjacent to the study site are discussed in more detail below.

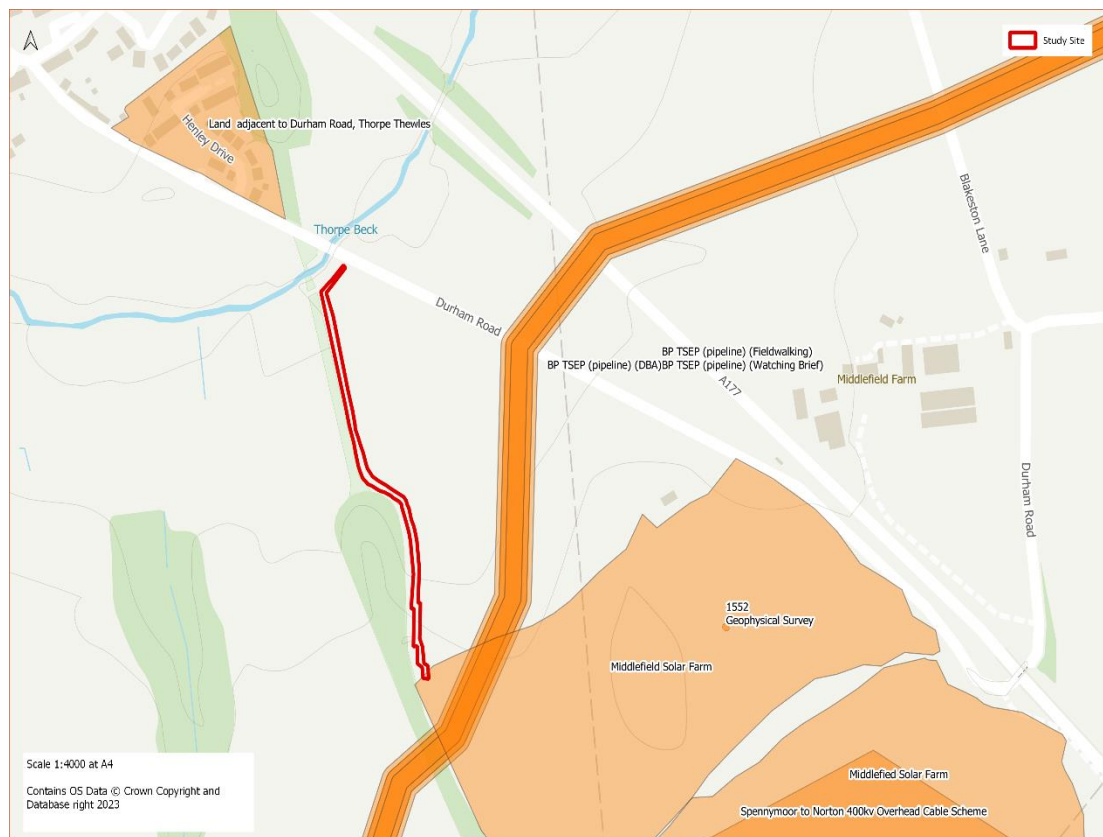


Plate 3 Previous Archaeological Investigations in Relation to the Study Site

Hell Hole Farm Archaeological Investigations

- 1.1.9 The central part of the study site was evaluated as part of the planning application for the development of a solar farm at Hell Hole Farm. The evaluation comprised a geophysical survey (THER 1549), undertaken by Magnitude Surveys (2020), followed by a targeted programme of trial trenching (THER 1559), undertaken by PCA Durham (2020). The geophysical survey report provides the following summary of the results of the survey:

Magnitude Surveys was commissioned to assess the subsurface archaeological potential of a c.35.5ha area of land at the Hell Hole Farm, Thorpe Thewles, Teesside (NZ394242). A fluxgate gradiometer survey was successfully completed across the majority of the survey area with c.0.3ha not surveyed due to the presence of a mature bean crop. The

geophysical survey has primarily detected anomalies relating to historic agricultural activity, characterised by former field boundaries, a footpath, and ridge and furrow ploughing regimes of multiple orientations. No anomalies suggestive of significant archaeological features were identified. Natural variations in the deposition of superficial material have also been identified. The impact of modern activity on the results is limited to the edges of the survey area. Some anomalies of undetermined anomalies have been detected, though an agricultural or natural origin is likely but not certain.

- 1.1.10 The report on the results of the trial trenching provides the following summary of the results of that investigation:

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

1.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology were commissioned by RPS Consulting Services Ltd on behalf of Lightsource BP to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at Hell Hole Farm, Thorpe Thewles, Stockton-on-Tees, centred at National Grid Reference NZ 39378 24344. This work was undertaken in association with a proposed planning application for the installation of solar panels, associated infrastructure and the creation of an electricity substation. The overall proposed development comprises c. 38 hectares.

1.2 A geophysical survey of the proposed development area was undertaken by Magnitude Surveys (2020) that detected a range of different types of anomalies of presumed agricultural and natural origins. No anomalies suggestive of significant archaeological activity were identified. Agricultural activity was identified across the survey area in the form of former field boundaries, both mapped and unmapped, a mapped footpath, as well as ridge and furrow cultivation. Historic ploughing regimes were identified following multiple orientations with modern ploughing also detected across the survey area. Some anomalies of undetermined origins were also identified, these likely relating to agricultural activity or natural variations.

1.3 The trial trenching evaluation was undertaken according to a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by RPS (2020) and approved by Tees Archaeology prior to the commencement of work. Fourteen trenches (30m x 1.9m) were located across the proposed development site to investigate geophysical anomalies.

1.4 Four phases of activity were encountered: Phase 1: Superficial geology; Phase 2: Undated colluvium; Phase 3: post-medieval agricultural features including field boundaries and furrows and Phase 4: Modern plough soil.

1.5 No deposits or features of archaeological significance were encountered during the investigation. The geophysical anomalies within the trenches corresponded to changes in the natural geology or the uncovered post-medieval field boundaries.

Middlesfield Solar Farm Archaeological Works

- 1.1.11 The southern part of the study site was evaluated by a geophysical survey undertaken as part of the planning application for Middlefield Solar Farm (THER 1552). The survey was undertaken by Magnitude Surveys, and their report provided the following description of the results:

A gradiometer survey was completed covering an area of 28.13ha. The results indicated alignments of Medieval and early post-medieval agricultural ridge and furrow. Variations in the natural ground were also noted. Modern interference relating to overhead a sub-surface services was also identified.

Spennymoor to Norton Overhead Cable Scheme

- 1.1.12 The Spennymoor to Norton overhead cable scheme is largely located to the north and east of the study site, but crosses the route of the study site at the southern boundary, and comes close to the northernmost boundary as well (see plate 5, below). The route of the overhead cables were subject to a programme of archaeological works ahead of their construction. The works are summarised in the THER entry for this event (THER 1341):

Archaeological works were conducted along the route for a new 400KV overhead cable route from Spennymoor to Norton. Metal detecting was conducted along the strip and record route. An Edward I silver penny (HER 8895) was found at Carlton on Access route 40 and a medieval lead spindle whorl at Norton (Access 41: HER 8896) both located at the south end of the new route for the line. East of Thorpe Thewles at Low Middlewood Farm (Access 37: Tower ZXC 5A) revealed a series of ditches, gullies and pits dating from the iron-age to the medieval period (HER 8897).

- 1.1.13 The report on the results of the investigations provides the following summary of the key findings:

An archaeological scheme of work, including strip, map and record, a watching brief and limited excavation was undertaken by Network Archaeology during upgrading and replacement of the electricity network between Spennymoor in County Durham and Norton in Teesside.

Two small, Romano-British rural farmsteads were revealed at Butterwick Road (Access 27) near Fishburn in southern County Durham, and at Low Middlewood (Access 37) near Thorpe Thewles on Teesside. A single, heavily truncated, Roman pit was also recorded at East Close (Access 35) near Thorpe Larches on Teesside.

Later remains were restricted to remnants of medieval ridge and furrow agriculture, particularly noticeable near the deserted and shrunken medieval settlements along the route such as near Layton on Teesside.

It is noticeable that stretches of the route appear to be devoid of both archaeological features and metal detected finds, particularly between Coxhoe and Trimdon where the route crosses open farmland. This may suggest that parts of the landscape have remained relatively uninhabited and underutilised away from existing settlements and the known abandoned or shrunken medieval communities.

Systematic metal-detecting recovered a moderate collection of metalwork, strongly biased towards agricultural and domestic 19th and 20th century objects. However, several notable finds included a 16th century silver hairpin at Cornforth Lane (Access 13) in County Durham, a 4th century Roman coin from Trimdon (Access 22) in County Durham, an Edward I silver penny at Carlton (Access 40) on Teesside, and a medieval lead spindle whorl at Norton (Access 41) on Teesside.

- 1.1.14 No settlement features of interest were found in the excavations near to the study site, although the silver penny located at Access 40 is situated 220m to the east of the southernmost boundary of the study site.

Consultation and Liaison

- 1.1.15 The scope of works proposed within this WSI was set out within the desk-based assessment of the study site as part of the planning application. This stated that the identified impacts could be adequately mitigated by a program of archaeological works

prior to the construction works, comprising archaeological monitoring works secured via planning condition. It found that the study site comprises arable fields, which may contain buried remains of interest. As such it concluded that these areas should be subject to archaeological monitoring. The Tees archaeology response to this proposed approach is shown below:

We note the inclusion of a Heritage Statement, which indicates the potential to encounter archaeological remains and recommends a programme of archaeological works prior to construction works. The suggested mitigation proposed in this Heritage Statement is archaeological monitoring during groundworks in areas which are deemed to have a potential for archaeological remains. We agree with this suggestion; the required archaeological work can be secured by a condition upon the development. I set out the proposed wording for this condition below.

1.2 Purpose of Document

- 1.2.1 This WSI comprises a project design for the archaeological works which have been agreed with the LPA. It sets out the scope and nature of the archaeological works required to the Thorpe Bank to Middlefield Cable route as a discharge of planning condition 3 and sets out standards and methods for the implementation of those works in accordance with ClfA standard and guidance for archaeological excavations (ClfA 2014).

2.0 Research Framework

2.1 Aims of the Project

- 2.1.1 The specific aim of the archaeological investigation is to produce a record of the archaeological remains within the study site that will be impacted by the development of the study site.
- 2.1.2 The key objective of the archaeological investigation will be to establish the presence or absence, extent, depth, character and date of any archaeological features, deposits or finds within the site.
- 2.1.3 The following objectives apply in relation to local research during the program of works:
- To establish the nature of the activity of any hitherto previously unrecorded archaeological remains;
 - To recover any environmental evidence from archaeological features;
 - To identify any artefacts relating to the occupation or use of any hitherto previously unrecorded archaeological remains;
 - To analyse, publish and archive the most significant results and finds.
 - To preserve the archaeological materials by record.
- 2.1.4 The project also has the following standard aims and objectives for archaeological excavations:
- To produce a record of the archaeological remains within the study site that would otherwise be impacted by the development.
 - To provide an enhanced understanding of the archaeological interest of the buried remains with reference to local and regional archaeological research frameworks.
 - To make the results of the archaeological investigations available in a format and manner proportionate to the significance of the findings.
 - To generate an archive which will allow future research of the evidence to be undertaken if appropriate.
- 2.1.5 In addition, it is possible that the investigation will uncover remains of unexpected archaeological interest, that require more specialist measures to fully assess in accordance with the objectives listed above. If this is the case, further methods, aims and objectives will be developed, in liaison with the LPA archaeology officer, the archaeology contractor and Landgag Heritage. Once agreed these will be added as an addendum to this WSI.

3.0 Scope of Works

3.1 Constraints and Safety Considerations

Issues identified

3.1.1 A couple of health and safety issues have been identified during initial review of the study site. These include the following:

- presence of services such as High voltage cables in the field with the watching brief area, and issues with site access,
- Site access is in the northern end of the original area and is directly on Durham Road.
- There is a public bridleway which runs along the monitoring area. This is separated from the area by foliage along the route except for the northern edge of site.

Measures that should be taken to mitigate identified risks

3.1.2 Measures that should be implemented to mitigate the identified risks are as follows:

- The Machine will not be within 20m of the overhead high voltage cables,
- The reduction of the mitigation area by 200m² in the north, to allow safe access to site and allow parking off Durham Road.
- Provide temporary fencing with clear signage along the northern edge of the mitigation area to restrict access to the site and reduce risk of injuries to the public.

3.2 Scope and Location of Archaeological Investigations

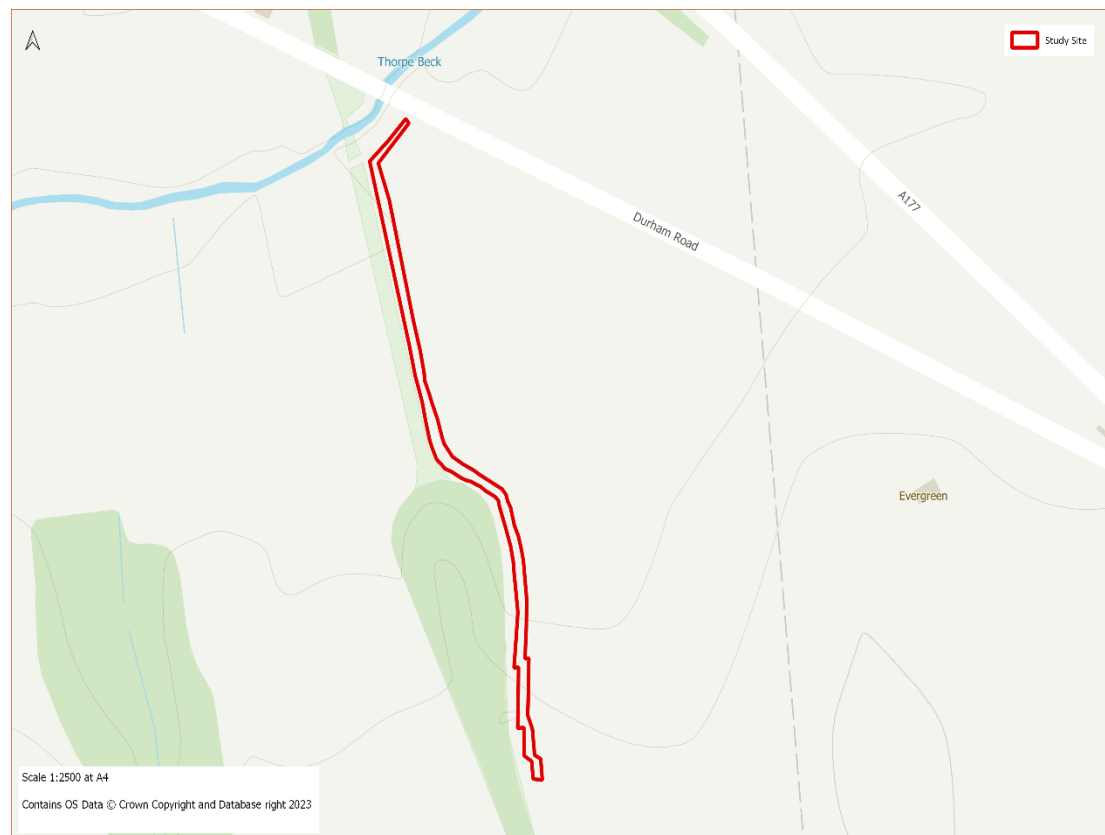


Plate 4 Watching Brief Route

3.2.1 The archaeological monitoring will be undertaken along the route of the cable south of Durham Road south along the southwestern boundary of the field (see plate 4 below). The

works will be managed by a suitably experienced archaeological contractor, and the onsite monitoring and investigations will be undertaken by a qualified archaeologist.

4.0 Methodology

4.1 Health and Safety

4.1.1 While efforts have been made to identify known health and safety risks and constraints, and to design the works to avoid these, it is also important to ensure that measures are in place to identify potential unknown threats, to adequately mitigate those, and ensure safe working. Therefore, the following measures must be followed during the implementation of the project:

- The archaeology contractor must be SSIP certified, and have robust health and safety working systems and policies adopted.
- The archaeology contractor must account for the known risks and mitigation measures in their working methods, and these must be referenced in their own method statement.
- The archaeology contractor must undertake a risk assessment prior to the commencement of any fieldwork, setting out known and potential risks, as well as the measures taken to mitigate the risks to staff and the public during the implementation of the project.
- The archaeology contractor must monitor the effectiveness of the health and safety measures in place, and review and amend their risk assessment and working systems should unexpected additional risks become apparent, for example should site conditions be different from that anticipated.

4.1.2 Landgage Heritage will ensure that the archaeology contractor follows the above measures and will request copies of relevant documentation as evidence. In larger sites additional monitoring of health and safety issues and measures may be implemented, in liaison with the archaeology contractor, as needed and in a proportionate manner.

4.2 Recording of Archaeological Features

Locating Archaeological Investigations

4.2.1 The areas subject to archaeological investigation must be accurately mapped and tied to the Ordnance Survey (OS) National Grid. Location data for areas of archaeological investigation must be present in all working plans.

Excavation of Archaeological Remains

4.2.2 Topsoil and/or other modern overburden will be machine-excavated using a flat toothless bucket under archaeological supervision. Mechanical excavation will be used to expose the top of the archaeological remains or, where absent, the top of natural geological deposits, whichever is higher.

4.2.3 Archaeological remains will be hand excavated by professional archaeological staff, unless machine excavation is deemed necessary (for example for safety reasons). Should machine excavation of archaeological deposits be deemed necessary, agreement must be sought from the LPA archaeology officer beforehand.

4.2.4 The investigation should aim to record the full extent of the stratigraphic sequence of the archaeological remains encountered, where it is safe to do so. If areas of archaeological investigation are deeper than expected, and it is not safe to excavate to the depth required, the excavation area should be stepped, or shored (by suitably trained staff). If such measures are needed, this must be agreed with Landgage Heritage and the LPA

archaeology officer, a safe system of work developed and recorded in the project risk assessment to ensure that these works are carried out safely.

4.2.5 The level of archaeological investigation within the archaeological investigation areas should be sufficient to meet the aims and objectives of the project. To achieve this, the following level, and approach to sampling should be followed where feasible:

- **Linear features:** A sample of 20% of each linear feature such as ditches and trackways should be archaeologically excavated, where possible. Where very long linear boundary features are exposed, it may be appropriate to sample a lower percentage of the feature, if additional interventions are unlikely to yield additional evidence which contributes to the aims and objectives of the investigation. Section through linear features should be at least 1m wide. All intersections should be investigated to determine the stratigraphic sequence of the features exposed, and all ditch termini should be half-sectioned, recorded, and the remainder excavated, recorded and sampled.
- **Discrete features:** Stake-holes, post-holes and pits, will be 50% excavated and recorded in section. Any intersections will be investigated to determine the stratigraphic sequence. If a high quantity of such features are present, it may be appropriate to sample a representative sample rather than all features. If a discrete feature contains finds or environmental material of interest, the remainder of the feature should also be excavated to contribute to the finds assemblage and to retrieve environmental samples.
- **Archaeological layers:** The appropriate sampling approach to stratified archaeological layers will depend on a number of factors, including the finds density of the layer, the environmental material present within the layer, its relationship to other archaeological features, and safety considerations. Where stratified archaeological layers are anticipated, such as in urban contexts, a specific approach to sampling these, informed by available information on the stratigraphy, should be formulated, agreed with the LPA archaeological officer and set out in Section 3, above. Where unexpected layers are encountered, a judgment must be made on a case-by-case basis, in dialogue with Landgag Heritage and the LPA archaeology officer. In all cases there will be a presumption in favour of hand excavation of any sensitive or complex layers, and for the preservation in situ of any remains of high significance, unless their excavation is needed to achieve the aims and objectives of the project. Machine stripping is normally only appropriate to remove later, homogeneous layers of overburden.
- **Funerary features and burials:** Such features should be fully excavated and recorded in accordance with the Updated Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains (Clfa & BABAO 2017). The necessary licences for the removal of any buried remains must be obtained from the Ministry of Justice prior to any works that affect burials.
- **Industrial features:** Kilns and other industrial features should be cleaned, planned, and sampled sufficiently to achieve the aims and objectives of the project, however generally such features should be fully excavated and appropriate samples taken.
- **Built structures:** Structure remains such as walls, floors and foundations should be cleaned and planned. They should be then generally be fully excavated, but regard

should be had to ensure that in the process their form, phasing, and construction are fully understood.

- 4.2.6 In all cases archaeological features will be hand-excavated, unless investigation by machine has been deemed necessary, and is agreed ahead of time with the LPA archaeology officer.

Recording of Archaeological Remains

- 4.2.7 All structures, deposits and finds will be recorded according to accepted professional standards (CifA 2014).
- 4.2.8 Descriptions of all archaeological layers and features exposed or excavated will be entered onto pro-forma recording sheets/databases. Detailed records will also be kept of all finds and samples, and of any site photographs taken.
- 4.2.9 Plans indicating the location of all archaeological features encountered will be drawn at an appropriate scale. The location and extent of archaeological features will be recorded digitally and accurately located in relation to the OS National Grid.
- 4.2.10 Hand drawings of archaeological features will be plotted on an overall plan at a legible scale, such as 1:100 or 1:50. Areas of significant remains or areas of complex stratigraphy may need to be planned in greater detail at 1:20 or 1:10 scale as appropriate. Where archaeological features are planned using a GPS or EDM, enough data points will be taken of each feature to allow for easy identification and correlation with individual records generated by field archaeologists.
- 4.2.11 All plans and sections must include context numbers and Ordnance Datum (OD) spot heights for all principal layers and features. All plans must also have OS National Grid references, or another means of accurately locating the plan in relation to the OS National Grid.
- 4.2.12 A photographic record of the project will be maintained. Photographs should be of a high standard, and suitable DSLR cameras with a minimum resolution of 10MP should be used. The archaeological features should be photographed before and after excavation and recording, with a scale to show their size. Key artefacts should also be photographed, again with a scale. The photographic record should also include general photographs which show the general context of the archaeological remains, and the conditions of the project. The digital photographs generated during the project will form part of the digital archive, which will be deposited with the Archaeological Data Service (ADS). Digital images will be taken and stored in accordance with Historic England Guidance (HE 2015).

4.3 Finds and Samples

- 4.3.1 All artefacts, environmental materials, and industrial remains revealed during the investigation should be retained for recording and assessment. The retrieval, cataloguing and storage of all finds and samples must be undertaken in accordance with accepted standards, as set out in the CifA Guidelines for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological material ([revised] 2014a). It is not anticipated that any finds should be discarded during the fieldwork, unless substantive amounts of monotonous material is present, in which case this may be appropriate. If discard is deemed necessary, this should be discussed and agreed with Landgage Heritage and the LPA archaeology officer, and a written justification provided within the report.
- 4.3.2 The excavation will also include an environmental sampling strategy, which will be based on best practice (EH 2011, CifA 2014a). The sampling strategy should be iterative, and

respond to the evolving understanding of the archaeological remains within the excavation area, and should also be designed with reference to the research aims of the project. The sampling strategy must also be agreed with the LPA archaeology officers during the archaeological excavation, and must be implemented as agreed before any areas are released for development.

4.3.3 Should finds and features be made that might constitute 'Treasure' under the definition of the Treasure Act (1996) as amended by the Treasure Designation Amendment Order 2023, these will, if possible, be archaeologically excavated and removed to a safe place. Such finds will also be reported immediately to the local coroner (within 14 days, in accordance with the Act).

4.3.4 Any human remains that are discovered will initially be left in-situ, covered and protected, and the LPA Archaeologist informed of their discovery. If removal is necessary, this will comply with the relevant legislation (Section 25 of the Burial Act 1857), and any Ministry of Justice and local environmental health regulations.

4.4 Post-Excavation Reporting

Post-Excavation Assessment

4.4.1 Following the completion of the archaeological fieldwork, the records and finds will be processed, and assessed by specialists in accordance with best practice (CIfA 2014a). The results of the assessment process will be set out in the post-excavation assessment report.

4.4.2 The style and format of the report will be determined by the archaeological contractor. However, the report should include, as a minimum, the following elements, as suggested by the CIfA standard and guidance for archaeological excavation (2014, p. 13):

1. Introduction
 - a. scope of the project (e.g. sites involved)
 - b. circumstances and dates of fieldwork and previous work
 - c. comments on the organisation of the report
2. Original research aims
3. Summary of the documented history of the site(s)
4. Interim statement on the results of fieldwork
5. Summary of the site archive and work carried out for assessment
 - a. site records: quantity, work done on records during post-excavation assessment
 - b. finds: factual summary of material and records, quantity, range, variety, preservation, work done during post-excavation assessment
 - c. environmental material: factual summary of human and animal bone, shell and each type of sample (e.g. bulk organic, dendrochronological, monolith), quantity, range, variety, preservation, work done on the material during post-excavation assessment
 - d. documentary records: list of relevant sources discovered, quantity, variety, intensity of study of sources during post-excavation assessment
6. Potential of the data
 - a. a discursive appraisal of the extent to which the site archive might enable the data to meet the research aims of the project. Different classes of data should be discussed in an integrated fashion, sub-divided according to the research aims of the project

- b. a statement of the potential of the data in developing new research aims, to contribute to other projects and to advance methodologies
- 7. A summary of the potential of the data in terms of local, regional, national and international importance
- 4.4.3 The post-excavation assessment should include an updated project design (UPD), which sets out the research value of the archaeological archive generated by the investigation, and provides a programme of analysis work to realise and disseminate that research value. This should include a consideration of long-term archiving of the remains, as well as the outlet for the publication. The UPD should also include details of the staff who will undertake the analysis, and their qualifications. The UPD must be agreed with the LPA archaeology officer and Landgage Heritage prior to the commencement of the analysis of the remains and data retrieved by the investigation.
- 4.4.4 Copies of the post-excavation assessment report will be submitted by Landgage Heritage to the LPA archaeology officer to demonstrate compliance with the requirements of this WSI. The post-excavation assessment report will be completed within 4 to 6 weeks of the completion of the archaeological fieldwork.

Analysis

- 4.4.5 The analysis of the archaeological archive should follow the scope, approach and methodologies which are set out in the agreed UPD. Any variation to these which may result from discoveries made during the analysis or due to a change of circumstance must be approached by the LPA archaeology officer and Landgage Heritage and recorded within the project archive. All data generated during the analysis should be included in the site archive. It may be appropriate for the analysis work to be combined with the post-excavation assessment work, into a single excavation report, if the remains examined are simple and finds and environmental assemblages modest. Should this be appropriate, it must be formally proposed by the archaeological contractor and agreed in writing with Landgage Heritage and the LPA archaeology officer.

4.5 Publication and Archive

- 4.5.1 The archaeological contractor will generate a digital archive, including a PDF copy of the post-excavation assessment report, along with all digital material, and will submit this to the ADS. This will allow for ready access to the results of the investigation to both academics and the general public.
- 4.5.2 The results of the analysis should be published in a suitable journal, in this case Teesside Archaeology Society Bulletin. The publication text should be provided to Landgage Heritage and the LPA archaeology officer and approved prior to publication.
- 4.5.3 The project archive, including all retained artefacts, environmental materials, and documentary materials, must be catalogued, organised, treated and packaged in accordance with the requirements of the Dorman Museum, as well as national professional guidelines (Museums and Galleries Commission 1992, Society of Museum Archaeologists 1992, UKIC 1983, 1984, 1988 and 1990, Ferguson and Murray 1997, ClfA 2014a and 2014b). The treatment of human remains is additionally governed by the relevant legislation and government regulations.
- 4.5.4 Ownership of the objects recovered rests with the landowner, except where the law overrides this (i.e., Treasure Act 1996 as amended by the Treasure Designation Amendment Order 2023). The archaeology contractor must write to the landowner to

request that ownership is transferred to allow for the deposition of the archive with the receiving museum.

4.6 Monitoring

- 4.6.1 The aim of monitoring is to ensure that the archaeological works are undertaken in accordance with this WSI.
- 4.6.2 The LPA archaeology officer will be free to visit the study site by prior arrangement. The purpose of this visit is to monitor the implementation of the archaeological works on behalf of the Local Planning Authority and assess the work being undertaken on site against the methodology detailed in this WSI.
- 4.6.3 The LPA Archaeology Officer will also be consulted on any changes to the WSI of any of the archaeological works. Any such alterations should be agreed in writing with the relevant parties, including the Local Planning Authority, prior to commencement of on-site works, or at the earliest available opportunity thereafter.

5.0 Other Matters

5.1 Codes of Practice

5.1.1 The following statutory provisions and codes of practice will be adhered to:

- The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Code of Conduct.
- The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology.
- The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation (CifA 2014).
- All statutory provisions and by-laws relating to the work in question, especially the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974.

5.1.2 Should the archaeological contractor recover or encounter any finds believed to fall within the statutory definition of Treasure as defined by the Treasure Act, they will immediately advise Landgag Heritage and notify the relevant Coroner's Office.

5.2 Archaeology Contractor

5.2.1 The appointed archaeology contractor will be suitably qualified and experienced in the type of work described.

5.2.2 The field team deployed by the contractor will include only professional archaeological staff. All staff in supervisory positions should be members of the CifA at the appropriate level. The archaeological contractor is expected to make adequate provision for CPD and training for its staff during the project.

5.2.3 The composition of the project team, including subcontractors, must be detailed and agreed in advance with Landgag Heritage. The archaeology contractor must also produce their own method statement, which confirms how they will comply with and implement the programme of works set out in this WSI. The archaeology contractor's method statement will be appended to this WSI and must also be agreed with the LPA archaeology officer prior to the start of the archaeological investigation.

5.3 Communication

5.3.1 All queries and communications are to be directed through Landgag Heritage. The archaeology contractor must make no comments about this written scheme of investigation or the project in general to the media, members of the public or other parties.

5.4 Copyright

5.4.1 It is recognised that the copyright of written, graphic and photographic records and the report rests with the archaeology contractor undertaking the fieldwork and producing the report. However, Landgag Heritage and their client require an agreement to facilitate the copying and use of the results of this project.

5.5 Outreach and engagement

5.5.1 Landgag Heritage are committed to the dissemination of archaeological information to the public.

5.6 Environmental Protection

5.6.1 The works should be carried out in a way that minimises impacts to the environment where possible. Measures taken will vary on a site-by-site basis, however, as a minimum the following measures are expected to be in place:

- Any machinery should be well maintained, which minimises fuel use and the risk of other pollutants, such as oil leaks.
- Archaeological staff should not leave any rubbish or debris on site, and all rubbish should be recycled where possible.
- Care should be taken when there is a need to pump water due to localised flooding within areas of archaeological investigation works. Water from such locations may not be able to be pumped into a nearby water course due to potential environmental effects. If pumping is required, this should be discussed with Landgage Heritage and any necessary clearance obtained before proceeding.
- Areas of archaeological investigation will normally be positioned to avoid known areas of environmental protection (such as tree roots or badger setts). However, if evidence suggestive of unexpected areas of environmental sensitivity are detected during the course of the project, works in that area should cease, and moved if advised by an appropriate specialist.

5.7 Variations

5.7.1 Variations to the methods or approach set out in this WSI that the contractor may wish to make must be approved in advance by Landgage Heritage and the LPA archaeology officer.

6.0 Bibliography

Bibliographic

CIfA (2014) *Standard and Guidance for archaeological excavation*

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UKIC (1990) *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage*

Appendix 1 – Archaeology Contractor’s Method Statement

[inserted overleaf]