



prospect archaeology

Land at Dearne Hall Road, Low Barugh, Barnsley

Written Scheme of Investigation – Archaeological Evaluation

Client: Barratt & David Wilson Homes Yorkshire West

Local Planning Authority: Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council

Planning Reference: 2013/0280

NGR: SE 31739 08715

Date of Report: July 2016

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Report No.: BYW13-01 rev1

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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Barratt & David Wilson Homes Yorkshire West have received planning permission (reference 2013/0280) for residential development of a site to the south of Dearne Hall Road, Low Barugh (NGR SE 31739 08715, see Figure 1)).
- 1.2 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been prepared by Prospect Archaeology Ltd and details the staffing, methodology and timetable of the programme of works. It complies with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) [Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation](#) (CIfA 2014).
- 1.3 The proposed trenching is part of a phased programme of archaeological work designed to mitigate the impacts of development on the archaeological resource.

Site Location and Description

- 1.4 Low Barugh is a hamlet associated with the village of Barugh Green located to the north-west of Barnsley. The Site is located between the existing settlement of Low Barugh and the commercial and trading estate on Claycliffe Road, Barugh Green. It currently comprises an irregular parcel of arable land with an adjacent smaller grassed field with ponds and wetland to the south and east. The former line of the Silkstone Coal Branch of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway forms the eastern and southern boundaries and the Barnsley Branch of the Aire & Calder Navigation previously cut through the north-eastern part of the Site.

2.0 Previous Archaeological Work

- 2.1 A Cultural Heritage Desk-Based Assessment was prepared in support of the planning application by Northern Archaeological Associates Ltd in in 2013 and included the results of a geophysical survey undertaken by GSB the previous year. This identified extensive archaeological activity particularly in the western part of the Site where multi-phase enclosures and further ditches and pits are undoubtedly of archaeological interest. The position of the former canal and a mill leat were also identified in the north-eastern part of the site.

3.0 Scope of Works

- 3.1 In discussion with the South Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service and the client a programme of evaluation excavation has been proposed to better understand the nature of the archaeological resource and to better define a mitigation strategy to be implemented in advance of development. The evaluation comprises the excavation of 11

trenches, 10 of these measuring 50m x 2m and the tenth (positioned over the route of the canal and mill leat) measuring 70m x 4m. The proposed trench locations are shown in Figure 2.

4.0 Aims and Objectives

4.1 The purpose of the intrusive evaluation will be to gather sufficient information for the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service Archaeologist to be able to formulate a policy for the management of the archaeological resources present on the site.

4.2 Evidence shall be gathered to establish the presence/absence, nature, date, depth, quality of survival and importance of any archaeological deposits to enable an assessment of the potential and significance of the archaeological remains, and to allow for the determination of any appropriate strategies to mitigate the effect of the proposed development upon the archaeological resource.

5.0 Method

5.1 Fieldwork will be undertaken by a team from Archaeological Services WYAS (ASWYAS). All groundworks will be supervised by an appropriately experienced archaeologist. It is proposed that in the first instance there will be one archaeologist present on site to monitor the trench excavations. When sufficient trenches are opened further staff will be brought in to complete the investigations. Contingency rates are identified to allow for further archaeological investigation if the archaeology is more extensive than anticipated. Contingency sums are in place to allow for additional post-excavation analysis if required.

5.2 The trenches will be excavated by a 360° excavator using a toothless ditching bucket under continuous archaeological supervision. Once the trenches are stripped of topsoil all features encountered will be plotted and then excavated according to the sampling strategy.

6.0 Excavation and Recording

6.1 Following the identification of archaeological deposits, all further excavation will be by hand, by experienced/qualified archaeologists to natural undisturbed deposits. Sufficient of each feature will be excavated to determine its date and function.

6.2 Linear features will be sampled a minimum of 20% along their length (each sample section to be not less than 1m), or a minimum of a 1m sample section, if the feature is less than 5m long. Should specialised deposits (e.g. localised refuse dumping, industrial wastes) be

present, then more extensive excavation will be undertaken. Junctions of linear features with other features will also be excavated to determine stratigraphic relationships. All terminals will be excavated.

- 6.3 Following the hand excavation of linear features potentially of prehistoric to early medieval date, a further 30% will be machine excavated in spits to examine the possibility of structured deposits in fills. This requirement will be subject to on site iterative review.
- 6.4 Discrete features will be half-sectioned in the first instance. Discrete features containing significant structural traces or important artefactual or environmental material will be fully excavated. Post holes and stake holes (where not clearly forming a structure) will be half-sectioned ensuring that relationships are investigated.
- 6.5 All structures and zones of specialised activity (e.g. industrial, agricultural processing, ceremonial, funerary) are to be fully or extensively excavated, and all relationships recorded. Structural remains such as eaves drip gullies, beam slots and post-holes demonstrated to be part of a buildings construction will require total excavation.
- 6.6 All industrial features including "domestic" ovens and hearths will be 100% excavated and sampled for analysis. Where there is evidence for industrial activity, large technological residues will be collected by hand. Separate samples will be collected for micro-slugs (hammer-scale and spherical droplets) in accordance with recommendations of Archaeometallurgy in archaeological projects (English Heritage/Historical Metallurgy Society 2001).
- 6.7 A drawn record will be maintained, comprising a site plan showing the locations of the area excavation within the site, an overall site plan, feature plans and section drawings as appropriate. These will be produced at appropriate scales, normally 1:100, 1:50, 1:20 and/or 1:10, as the complexity of the drawing requires. Detailed plans will be made of key features and section or elevation drawings provided of cut features and upstanding structures as appropriate. All drawings will be referenced to the overall site plan.
- 6.8 A photographic record of the project and of each feature will be made and photographs illustrating the relationships between groups of features and general progress will also be taken. Archival record shots will be b/w film and colour digital shots will be used to supplement the record but will not form part of the formal archive.

- 6.9 All context, drawing and photographic registers will be cross-referenced.
- 6.10 Finds will be bagged and labelled according to their context of origin. All finds will be treated in accordance with the recommendations contained in First Aid for Finds (Watkinson & Neale 1998, 3rd edition). Advice will be taken on any finds requiring immediate specialist treatment.

Environmental Sampling

- 6.11 An appropriate level of environmental samples will be taken from deposits that can be securely dated and/or placed in the site's stratigraphic sequence and in accordance with the English Heritage Environmental Archaeology (2011). Samples will be no less than 40 litres (where possible). If samples are required from discrete features that are not proposed for 100% excavation they will be taken from the unexcavated 50%. Sampling of stake-holes or small features will require the excavation of 100% of the feature.
- 6.12 Sampling will focus on deposits that have the potential to assist with the research objectives. The potential for scientific dating of industrial residues or structures will be considered as a contingency item.

Industrial Remains

- 6.13 The possibility of industrial material is recognised. Slag, coal, fired clay etc will be collected for examination.

Human Remains

- 6.14 Should human remains be encountered the consultant, curator and coroner should be informed. Removal of human remains will only take place in accordance with a Ministry of Justice licence (which may be required under the 1857 Burials Act).

Treasure

- 6.15 The possibility of encountering items of treasure, as defined in the Treasure Act (1996), is noted and provision will be made for informing the necessary authorities, and providing appropriate security measures, should the need arise.

7.0 Post-excavation processing

- 7.1 Finds and records will be returned to the contracted unit for processing. Records will be checked and entered into a computerised database. All finds will be treated in accordance with current HE best practice, including 'Investigative Conservation'. Finds will be cleaned (where appropriate) and marked and boxed for transfer to the relevant specialists

according to accepted principles and in line with appropriate period/ material guidelines.
Environmental samples will be washed and assessed by an environmental archaeologist.

- 7.2 Where material suitable for scientific dating is recovered, sufficient dating will be undertaken to meet the aims of the project.
- 7.3 For all categories of material recovered, including finds, palaeo-environmental, industrial and other specialist samples, an assessment by an appropriately experienced specialist will be undertaken.
- 7.4 Environmental samples will be processed and sorted, and any artefacts recovered provided to the appropriate specialist(s) to be considered alongside the hand-recovered material. Basic stratigraphic information will be supplied to the project specialists.
- 7.5 Where assessment has identified the need for further analysis, this will be completed drawing upon the contingency allowed.
- 7.6 All ferrous objects and a selection of non-ferrous objects (including all coins), will be x-radiographed.

8.0 Reporting

- 8.1 A report will be produced within 3-5 weeks of the completion of fieldwork. Four (4) paper copies and a digital copy of the report will be supplied to Prospect Archaeology for distribution to the client and South Yorkshire HER as appropriate. A digital copy of the report will also be sent to the Heritage Science Advisor for the region.
- 8.2 The report will contain the following sections:
- Executive Summary, brief summary of the reasons for the work, methods used and results.
 - Introduction, describing the scope and circumstances of the work, archaeological background and structure of the report
 - Methodology
 - descriptive account of the recording methods used and the results, together with an assessment of their archaeological importance, their possible relationship to relevant known features adjacent to the Development Site and estimated reliability of the results
 - a phased interpretation of the features
 - Discussion of the results and their significance in relation to local, regional and national sites, as appropriate
 - Conclusions

- specialists' reports on all categories of artefacts recovered (except modern items). Full archive lists will accompany the specialists' finds reports.
- specialists' reports on environmental samples taken (if taken)
- a complete context list with short description
- Illustrations and plates as appropriate. Illustrations to be included are: a detailed location map, a detailed site plan showing all trenches, all trench plans and sections and detailed plans and sections of features, select artefact illustrations and a selection of scanned photographs; an overall site plan showing all (phased) archaeological features will also be included.
- References
- OASIS summary

8.3 A summary report of an appropriate length, accompanied by illustrations (at 300dpi resolution), will be prepared and submitted in digital format, for publication in the appropriate volume of Archaeology in South Yorkshire.

8.4 Provision will be made for publicising the results of the work locally, e.g. by presenting a paper at South Yorkshire Archaeology Day and talking to local societies.

8.5 A contingency will be made for the preparation and publication, in a local, regional or national journal, of the results of the investigations.

9.0 Monitoring

9.1 SYAS will be informed of the proposed start date and will be kept informed of progress throughout the field and post-excavation work. A member of Prospect Archaeology staff will monitor the excavation and post-excavation work on behalf of the client. Site monitoring visits will be co-ordinated by Prospect Archaeology.

Health and Safety

9.2 All site work will be carried out in accordance with the relevant current Health and Safety legislation. A copy of the Health and Safety Document is available on request and a Risk Assessment will be prepared prior to commencement of work on site.

Insurance

9.3 PA and its sub-contractors are fully covered by Employers and Public Liability and Professional Indemnity insurances, copies of which are available for inspection on request.

10.0 Archiving

- 10.1 The site archive will be prepared in accordance with the UKIC's document Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage and the ClfA's *Standard And Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives 2014*.
- 10.2 Ultimately the ordered and checked archive, along with artefacts, ecofacts and relevant documents will be deposited with Barnsley Museum in accordance with the Renaissance Yorkshire 2012 "*Archaeological Archive Deposition Policy for Museums in Yorkshire and the Humber*". This excludes finds that are subject to the Treasure Act 1996 (and later amendments), the deposition of which will be determined separately. A budget to cover the museum's deposition charge has been allowed for in the project costs to the client.
- 10.3 The Curator of Barnsley Museum has been informed of the project and a Project Initiation Form has been completed and site code assigned for the project. Mid-Project Agreement and Completion Forms will be submitted at or before the times itemised on the Project Initiation Form. On completion, confirmation of deposition will be supplied to SYAS.
- 10.4 An electronic copy of the archive will be deposited with ADS

11.0 Programme & Staffing

- 11.1 Fieldwork will be undertaken by ASWYAS. It is anticipated that this will take around 5 days depending upon the quantity of archaeological remains that are revealed. This will be followed by 3-5 weeks for reporting depending on the need for specialist assessments.

Specialists

Prehistoric pottery specialists:	Dr C. Cumberpatch or Dr A. Tinsley
Roman pottery specialist:	Ruth Leary or Ian Rowlandson
Medieval pottery specialist:	Dr C. Cumberpatch
Flint specialist:	Dr. P. Brooks or P. Weston
Environmental specialist:	Dr D. Alldritt
Faunal analyst:	Dr J. Richardson
Human bone specialist:	M. Holst MA

Metalwork specialist: Dr H. Cool or G. Driver

Artefact conservationist: I. Panter

12.0 References

English Heritage 2011 (second edition) *Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation*. Centre for Archaeology Guidelines

Field, N., 2014 *Land at Church Lane, Hoylandswaine, South Yorkshire Heritage Assessment*. Prospect Archaeology report 47 .

Harrison, D. 2014 *Land at Church Lane, Hoylandswaine, South Yorkshire Geophysical Survey*. ASWYAS Report no. 2622

Turnpenny, M. 2012 *Archaeological Archive Deposition Policy for Museums in Yorkshire and the Humber*

13.0 Figures

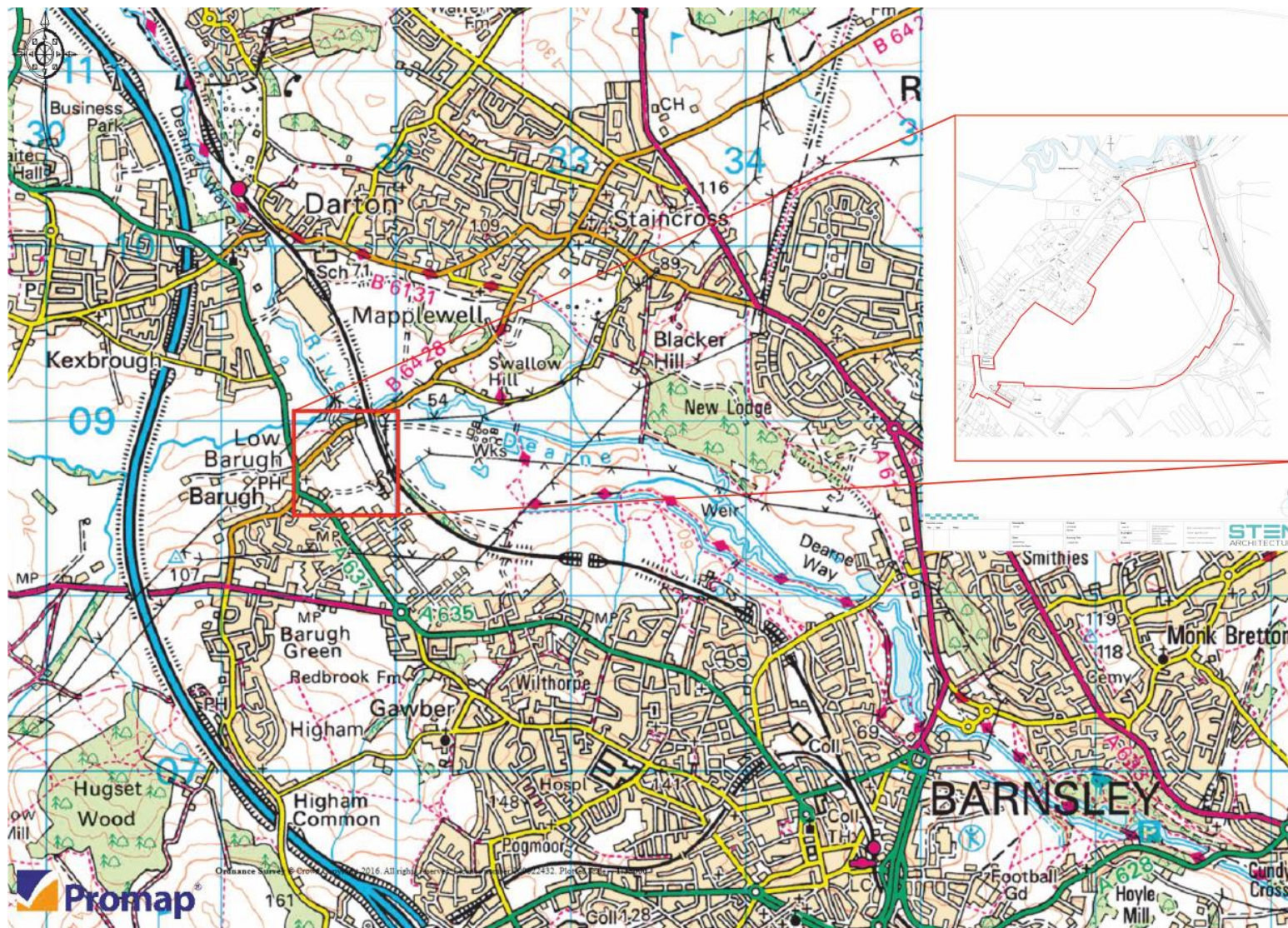


Figure 1: Site Location

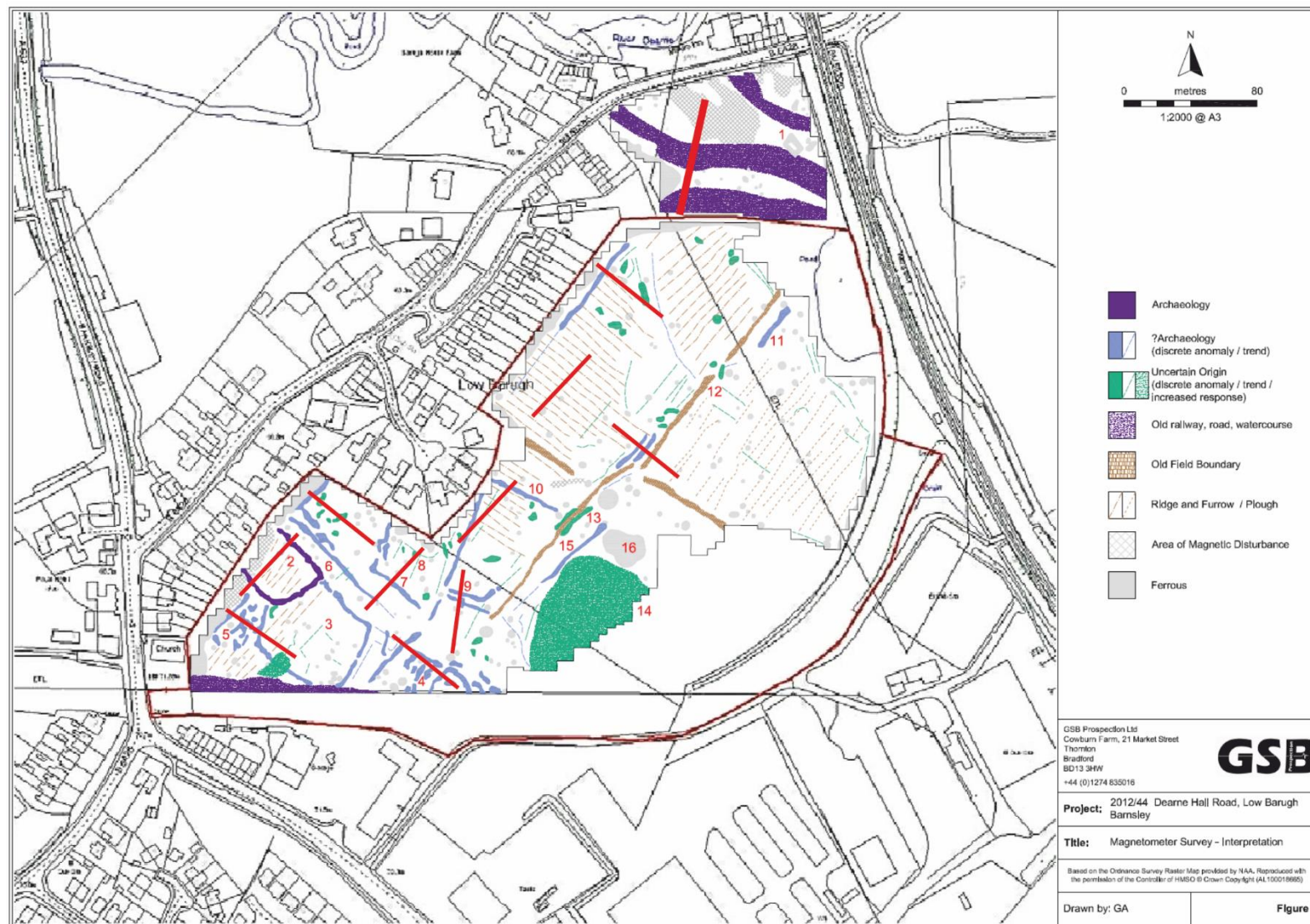


Figure 2: Trench layout with geophysical survey results