



Land north of Barnsley Road, Goldthorpe South Yorkshire

Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Strip, Map and
Record

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November 2019



Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Strip, Map and Record on land north of Barnsley Road, Goldthorpe, South Yorkshire

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been prepared by Archaeological Services WYAS (ASWYAS) for Hooper Homes Ltd to carry out an archaeological strip, map and record on land north of Barnsley Road, Goldthorpe, South Yorkshire. The archaeological work will comply with the relevant standard of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014a-c), Historic England's best practice documents (1991, 2006, 2008) and the "Regional statement of good practice for archaeology in the development process, Yorkshire, the Humber & the north east" (available for download from the 'Technical Documents' page of the SYAS website).

2. Site location, topography and land-use

- 2.1 The site is located to the north-west of the village of Goldthorpe between the A635 and Barnsley Road, centred on NGR SE 4504 0428. It occupies a gentle north-westerly sloping site at an elevation of 40m OD. The area currently under consideration measures c. 1.14ha.

3. Geology and soils

- 3.1 The underlying bedrock comprises coal measures of the Upper Carboniferous period, generally mudstones interbedded with sandstone, forming part of the Yorkshire, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire coalfield. The soils within the immediate vicinity are unmapped, but to the north-west are slowly permeable loams and clay loams of the Bardsey association (Cooper 2014, 2).

4. Archaeological background

- 4.1 In 1992, the site was subject to an archaeological evaluation as part of the 'Dearne Towns Link Road' project. This included field walking, geophysical survey and trial trenching. The work confirmed the presence of substantial archaeological features including a driveway and two enclosures. These features are likely to be prehistoric and Roman in date.
- 4.2 In 1997, geophysical survey immediately south of the application area, in fields to the west of Bolton House Farm, recorded further features of probable prehistoric and Roman date. These included a double ditched trackway leading to a square enclosure containing internal divisions with pits or hearths.
- 4.3 Further important remains were recorded in 2012/2013 ahead of the construction of the Aldi distribution centre to the south. Archaeological features on this site included Bronze Age cremation burials, a late Iron Age or early Romano-British system of fields and stock corral and two corn drying kilns,

radiocarbon dated to the 5th or 6th centuries, a rare and important discovery. These archaeological results demonstrate the intensive use and occupation of this landscape over a period of several thousand years.

- 4.4 In 2015, ASWYAS undertook a scheme of archaeological strip, map and record to the immediate west of the site (Scales and Weston 2015). The works identified a series of trackway and enclosure ditches thought to be Iron Age/Romano British date, although in the absence of dateable material this assumption could not be confirmed. Post-medieval ploughing and more recent truncation limited the level of information recovered.

5. Aims and Objectives

- 5.1 The primary aim of the archaeological investigation is to provide a full archaeological record of the features and finds prior to their loss to development.
- 5.2 The features recorded by previous geophysical survey and trial trenching are part of a wider prehistoric and Roman landscape that extends beyond the limits of the present site. The objective will be to place the remains in the present site within the context of the surrounding area as well as to consider their regional and national significance as appropriate.

6. Methodology

- 6.1 All work will be undertaken in accordance with the relevant standards (ClfA 2014a-c; Historic England 1991, 2006, 2008). The excavations will involve the stripping of one area measuring c. 1.14ha using an appropriate machine under archaeological supervision. The works will be conducted by appropriately qualified and experienced archaeologists.
- 6.2 The area will 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, using a machine with a wide toothless ditching blade. Under no circumstances will the machine be used to cut arbitrary trenches down to natural deposits. Any machine work will 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 will then be cleaned by hand where necessary and inspected for features.
- 6.3 Any archaeological features/deposits will be manually excavated in an archaeologically controlled and stratigraphic manner, in order to meet the aims and objectives outlined above.
- 6.4 Features will be sample excavated employing the following strategy:

- Linear features: sufficient excavation will be carried out to investigate the depth, profile and fills of a ditch or gully and to recover dating and environmental evidence from its fills. Normally this will involve a minimum of 20% sample dispersed along the length of the feature (each sample section to be not less than 1m), Cross sections must be drawn at right angles to features. In addition, one representative long section of each trench should be drawn. Feature intersections will always be excavated in such a way to determine a stratigraphic relationship.
 - Discrete features: pits, post-holes and other discrete features will normally be half-sectioned to determine and record their form with a minimum sample of 50% of discrete features in each area. The complete excavation of such features may be appropriate, but only following consultation with SYAS.
- 6.5 A full written, drawn and photographic record of all material revealed during the course of the work shall be made. The excavation limits will be surveyed using electronic survey equipment with larger scale hand drawn plans of features, at 1:20 or 1:50, being created as appropriate. Sections of linear and discrete features will be drawn at 1:10 or 1:20. All sections, plans and elevations will include spot-heights related to Ordnance Datum in metres as correct to two decimal places. Tie-in information will be undertaken during the course of the evaluation and will be fixed in relation to nearby permanent structures and roads and to the National Grid.
- 6.6 The photographic archive will comprise monochrome negative photographs at a minimum format of 35mm and colour slide film, augmented by digital photographs taken using cameras with a resolution of at least 10 megapixels.
- 6.7 All excavated archaeological contexts shall be fully recorded by written records, giving details of location, composition, shape, dimensions, relationships, finds, samples, and cross-references to other elements of the record and other relevant contexts, in accordance with best practice. All contexts, and any small finds and samples from them will be given unique numbers. Bulk finds will be collected by context.
- 6.8 All artefacts will be removed from the site for assessment and analysis, and where it is appropriate, their find spots shall, if appropriate, be recorded three dimensionally. Non-modern artefacts from the excavated topsoil and subsoil will be collected. Finds material will be stored in controlled environments, where appropriate. All artefacts recovered will be retained, cleaned, labelled and stored as detailed in the guidelines laid out in the ClfA (20014b). Any necessary conservation work will be undertaken by approved conservators working to UKIC guidelines.

- 6.9 A soil-sampling programme shall be undertaken during the course of the investigation for the identification and recovery of carbonised and waterlogged remains, vertebrate remains, molluscs and small artefactual material.
- 6.10 In the event of human remains being discovered they will, in the first instance, be left *in situ*, covered and protected. The removal of human remains will only take place in compliance with either a faculty issued by the Chancellor of the Diocese, or the Burial Act 1857. In the case of the latter (i.e. in the absence of a faculty) an exhumation licence must be obtained from the Ministry of Justice prior to the removal of the remains.
- 6.11 All finds defined as 'treasure' under the Treasure Act 1996 shall be reported to HM Coroner according to the procedures relating to the Treasure Act 1996.
- 6.12 Appropriate specialists will visit the site to advise on sampling strategies and their suggested strategies will then be implemented.
- 6.13 Provision will be made to recover material suitable for scientific dating. Contingency sums will be made available to undertake such dating.
- 6.14 Further contingency provision will be made for additional specialist advice, e.g. for finds analysis and conservation.

7. Analysis and Reporting

Assessment report

- 7.1 Following the conclusion of the fieldwork an assessment report shall be produced. For all categories of material recovered, including finds, palaeoenvironmental, industrial and other specialist samples, an assessment by an appropriately experienced specialist will be undertaken. Samples must 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. All finds are to be treated in accordance with current best practice guidance. Finds are to be cleaned and marked, according to accepted principles and in line with appropriate period/material guidelines. For ceramic assemblages, recording shall be carried out in a manner compatible with existing typological series in local pottery reference collections, e.g. the South Yorkshire and North Derbyshire medieval ceramics reference collection. All ferrous objects and a selection of non-ferrous objects (including all coins), will be x-radiographed. Where material suitable for scientific dating is recovered, sufficient dating will be undertaken to meet the aims of the excavation. Where the assessment has identified the need for further
- 7.2 The site archive will be assembled in line with the recommended composition provided in Historic England's PPN3 (2008) and UKIC's *Guidelines for the*

Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage (1990) and ClfA's *Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives* (2014c).

- 7.3 In addition to the site records, artefacts, ecofacts and other sample residues, the archive shall contain all the data collected during the fieldwork, including records, finds and environmental samples. It will be quantified, ordered, indexed and internally consistent. Archive consolidation will be undertaken immediately following the conclusion of fieldwork and will involve:
- the site record being checked, cross-referenced and indexed as necessary;
 - retained finds being cleaned, stabilised, marked and packaged in accordance with the requirements of the recipient museum;
 - retained finds being assessed and recorded using *pro forma* recording sheets, by suitably qualified and experienced staff. Initial artefact dating will be integrated within the site matrix; and
 - environmental samples being processed by suitably experienced and qualified staff and recorded using *pro forma* recording sheets.
- 7.4 In addition to the site records, artefacts, ecofacts and other sample residues, the archive shall contain:
- a summary report synthesising the context record;
 - a summary of the artefact record; and
 - a summary of the environment record.
- 7.5 The integrity of the primary field record will be preserved. Security copies will be maintained where appropriate.
- 7.6 Provision (including the agreement of costs) will be made for the deposition of the archive, artefacts and environmental material in Experience Barnsley Museum and Discovery Centre, subject to the permission of the landowner. The museum will be contacted prior to work commencing to discuss archiving requirements (e.g. marking and labelling requirements, accession number). The archive will be prepared following the 'Archaeological Archive Deposition Policy for Museums in Yorkshire and the Humber', produced by Renaissance Yorkshire. This requires the completion and submission of forms to the relevant museum service at the project initiation, mid-point review and completion stages. The archive will otherwise be prepared in accordance with the UKIC (1990), the Museums and Galleries Commission (1994) and ClfA (2014c)

guidelines. Provision will be made for the stable storage of paper records and their long-term storage.

7.7 An assessment report will be prepared within an agreed timescale following the completion of on-site archaeological investigations and include the following:

- a non-technical summary of the results of the work;
- a summary of the project's background;
- the dates the fieldwork took place;
- the site location, including National Grid Reference;
- an account of the method;
- the results of the excavation, including phasing and interpretation of the site sequence;
- an assessment of the stratigraphic and other written, drawn and photographic records;
- a detailed context index
- a catalogue of the archaeological material recovered during the excavation;
- assessments of each material category of finds recovered, including their types, quantities and concentrations, illustrations and/or photographs as appropriate;
- a summary of the contents of the project archive and its location.
- recommendations for any further work relating to stratigraphic record, finds assemblages and environmental data.

7.8 The report will be produced within an agreed time-scale. It will be supported by an overall plan of the site, accurately identifying the location of the excavation and any findings.

7.9 The report will outline the archaeological significance of the deposits identified, and provide an interpretation of the results in relation to other sites in the vicinity.

Final report and publication

7.10 Should any recommendations for further work be identified, these will be discussed with SYAS and acted upon accordingly. The results of this analysis

will be detailed in a final report of the excavations. If no additional work is required, the assessment report will be re-issued as a final report, following any comments from SYAS within a reasonable timeframe.

- 7.11 Upon completion of the final report, the archaeological contractor will make their work accessible to the wider research community by submitting copies of reports online to OASIS (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/>) and by completing an online OASIS form.
- 7.12 Bound copies of the report will be supplied to Hooper Homes Ltd (if requested) and the South Yorkshire SMR for incorporation into the South Yorkshire Sites and Monuments Record. A digital copy will also be supplied to SYAS and to Historic England's Regional Science Advisor.
- 7.13 A summary report of an appropriate length, accompanied by illustrations (a 300dpi resolution), will be prepared and submitted in digital format, for publication in the appropriate volume of Archaeology in South Yorkshire, or similar, if the results warrant it.
- 7.14 Provision will be made for publicising the results of the work locally, e.g. by presenting a paper at South Yorkshire Archaeology Day, if warranted.

8. Copyright, Confidentiality and Publicity

- 8.1 Copyright in the documentation prepared by ASWYAS and specialist sub-contractors should be the subject of additional licences in favour of the repository accepting the archive to use such documentation for their statutory educational and museum service functions, and to provide copies to third parties as an incidental to such functions.
- 8.2 Under the Environmental Information Regulations 2005 (EIR), information submitted to the HER becomes publicly accessible, except where disclosure might lead to environmental damage, and reports cannot be embargoed as 'confidential' or 'commercially sensitive'.
- 8.3 Requests for sensitive information are subject to a public interest test, and if this is met, then the information has to be disclosed. ASWYAS will inform the client of EIR requirements, and ensure that any information disclosure issues are resolved before completion of the work. Intellectual property rights are not affected by the EIR.
- 8.4 Unless the client commissioning the project wishes to state otherwise, the copyright of any written, graphic or photographic record and reports will rest with the originating body (Archaeological Services WYAS).

9. Health and Safety

- 9.1 ASWYAS has its own Health and Safety policy which has been compiled using national guidelines. These guidelines conform to all relevant Health and Safety legislation.
- 9.2 In addition each project undergoes a 'Risk Assessment' which sets project specific Health and Safety requirements to which all members of staff are made aware of prior to on-site work commencing. Health and Safety will take priority over archaeological matters. Necessary precautions will be taken over underground services and overhead lines at the outset of the project.

10. Insurance

- 10.1 ASWYAS is covered by the insurance and indemnities of the West Yorkshire Joint Services Committee. Insurance has been effected with: Zurich Municipal, Zurich House, 2 Gladiator Way, Farnborough, Hampshire, GU14 6GB (policy number QLA-03R896-0013). Any further enquiries should be directed to: Head of Finance, Wakefield Council, Wakefield One, PO Box 700, Wakefield, WF1 2EB.

11. Monitoring

- 11.1 Access to the site will be arranged through Hooper Homes Ltd.
- 11.2 The project will be monitored by the SYAS to whom notification will be sent before the start of the work. A minimum of one week's notice of the commencement of fieldwork is required.
- 11.3 If appropriate, the advice of the Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science (Yorkshire and the Humber Region) at Historic England will be called upon.
- 11.4 ASWYAS will ensure that any significant results are brought to the attention the client as soon as is practically possible.
- 11.5 Site inspections will be arranged so that the general site stratigraphy can be assessed in the initial stage of trial trenching and/or so that the site can be inspected when fieldwork is near to completion but before any trenches have been backfilled.

12. Resourcing

- 12.1 Key project personnel:

Project Management:	Kevin Moon BA
Project Supervisors:	Marina Rose, Angus Sales, Steffan Golby

12.2 Post-excavation specialists:

Prehistoric pottery:	Dr Chris Cumberpatch
Roman pottery:	Dr Ruth Leary or Ian Rowlandson
Medieval pottery:	Dr Chris Cumberpatch
Ceramic building material	Dr Phil Mills
Flint specialist:	Dr Ian P Brooks
Environmental:	Dr Diane Alldritt
Faunal analyst:	Dr Jane Richardson
Human bone:	Malin Holst MA
Metalwork:	Gail Hama
Artefact conservation:	Ian Panter

12.3 The list of Archaeological Services WYAS project personnel may be subject to change depending on workload and availability.

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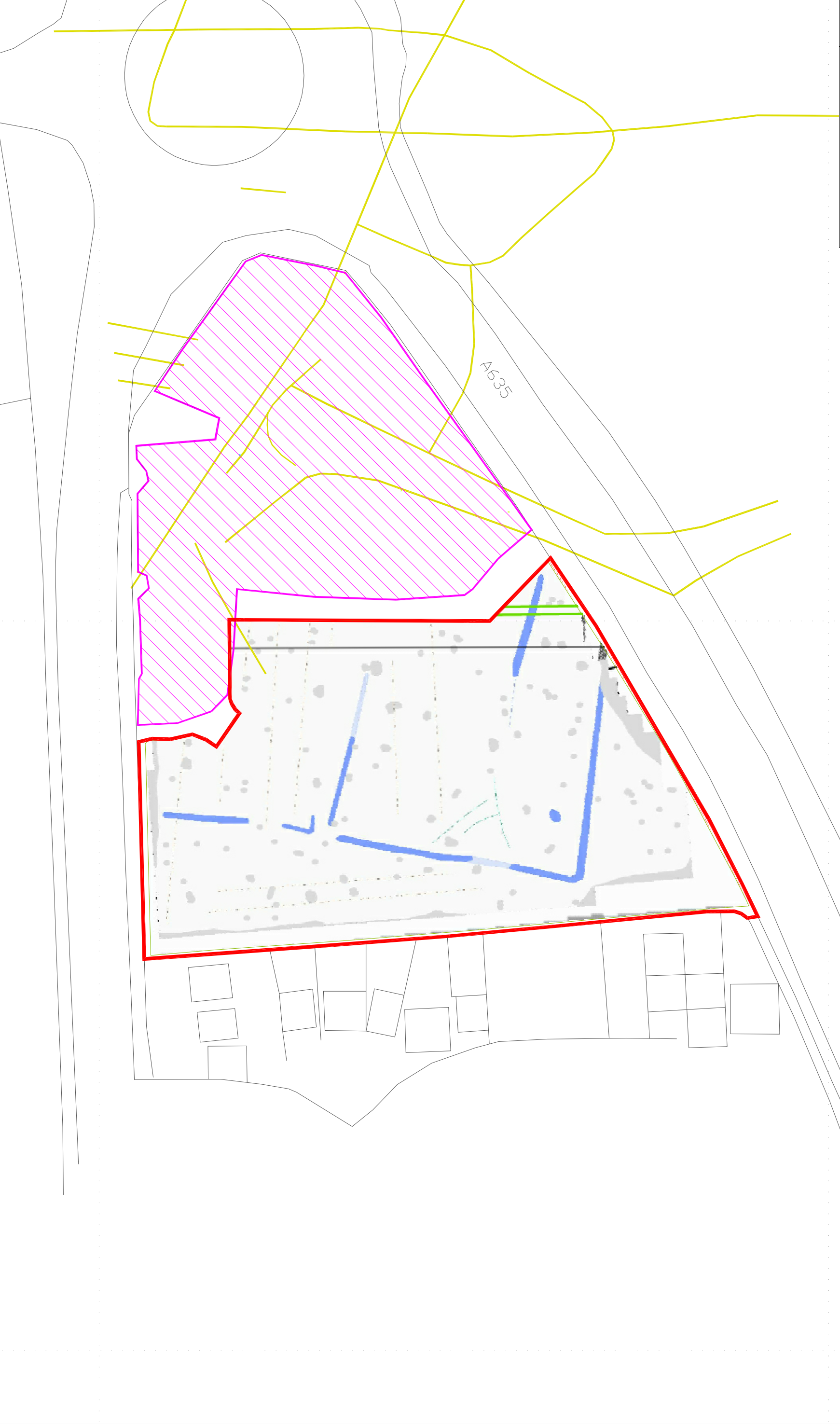
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2519000: Number 75 60244
2019007



	SITE BOUNDARY
	2015 EXCAVATION AREA
	CROP MARK



KEY	
	1992 trial trench
	site boundary
1992 geophysics interpretation	
	archaeology (strong anomaly)
	archaeology (weak anomaly)
	negative anomaly (archaeology)
	ferrous type anomaly
2014 geophysics interpretation	
	archaeology (discrete/weak trend)
	uncertain origin (trend)
	ploughing
	ferrous

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Fig. 1. Site plan (1:1000 @ A3)