Milepost NHL1151794, Barugh Green Road, Barnsley, South Yorkshire
Scheme of Conservation Works

Client: Strata Sterling Barnsley West Ltd

Local Planning Authority: Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council
Planning Reference: 2019/1567
NGR: SE 3151 0796

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1.0 Introduction

1.1 Strata Sterling Barnsley West Ltd have been granted Planning Consent (2020/0027) and Listed Building Consent (2019/1567) for the removal, renovation and relocation of a listed milepost (NHL1151794) on Barugh Green Road (NGR SE 3151 0796, see Figure 1) in advance of the construction of a roundabout at the junction of Barugh Green Road and Cannon Way with access to proposed new development to the south.

1.2 The proposed consent is subject to condition (1), which is also applied to the planning consent, which states:

No development shall commence until an agreed set of conservation works to include repainting and restoration by a professional specialist conservation laboratory / contractor has been submitted to and approved in writing with the Local Planning Authority. Thereafter the development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details. Treatment of the asset should be in accordance with the Milestone Society publication Guidance on Conservation of Milestones & Other Waymark Feature and in consultation with the local authority Conservation Officer - specifically sections 5/6 of the attached guidance.
Reason: To ensure the protection of historic assets in accordance with HE1.

1.3 This Written Scheme of Works has been prepared by Prospect Archaeology Ltd and details the staffing, methodology and timetable of the programme of works for the removal, conservation and relocation of the milepost (NHL1151794). It complies with the Guidance on Conservation of Milestones & Other Waymark Feature (TMS 2009).

2.0 Asset Location and Description

2.1 Milepost NHL1151794, described as 'Milepost approximately 500 metres west of junction with Claycliffe Road' sits on the Barugh Green Road (A635) at NGR SE 3151 0796, about 3.3km northwest of Barnsley town centre, due south of Barugh. It sits, set in concrete, within the soft verge just off the pavement on the south side of the road. To the south is an open agricultural field, the road running east-west to the north. On the opposite side of the road, c.20m to the east is the Cannon Way junction leading to Claycliffe Business Park. Directly opposite the asset is a trampoline centre and carpark.

2.2 The asset is listed grade II. The National Heritage List listing describes the milepost as:

Milepost. Mid to late C19. Stone post. Cast iron triangular front with rounded top. Raised letters read: BARNSLEY & SHEPLEY LANE HEAD ROAD BARAUGH CAWTHDRNE BARNSLEY 2 RILES 2 MILES DENBY DALE 6½ MILES HOLMFIRTH 12 MILES.

2.3 The actual wording is as follows: BARNSLEY & SHEPLEY LANE HEAD ROAD BARAUGH on the head, CAWTHORNE 2 MILES DENBY DALE 6½ MILES HOLMFIRTH 12 MILES on the east face and BARNSLEY 2 MILES on the west face. The stone plinth bears black paint while the cast iron faces are white with raised lettering, once black.

3.0 Scope of Works

3.1 The scope of the work is to remove the milepost from its current location and undertake a scheme of conservation before replacing it in a new agreed location (Fig. 2) following the completion of the construction of the roundabout.

4.0 Aims and Objectives

4.1 The aim of the project is to mitigate the effects on the listed milepost of the construction of the roundabout.

5.0 Method

5.1 All work will be carried out with due regard to best practice as described in "Guidance on Conservation of Milestones & Other Waymark Features, version 6.1, December 2009, published by The Milestone Society.

Fieldwork

5.2 The milestone is set in concrete in a soft verge. Hand digging will be undertaken around the concrete to ascertain extent and depth, and if necessary, excess concrete will be broken up using a concrete breaker. The milestone will be wrapped in a blanket, or conservation-grade foam, to protect it during this operation. No attempt to remove the concrete from the stone will be attempted at this point as removal may damage the milepost.

5.3 If necessary, a portable gantry will be used, with a lift capability of one tonne, to remove the milepost from its hole. Once free, the wrapped milestone will be carefully laid onto a pallet and fastened in position with ratchet straps to prevent movement during the short journey to Matt Fairley's conservation studio in Holmfirth.

5.4 For the planned reinstatement in 2022, an appropriately sized hole will be dug, into which the milestone will be cemented. Again, a gantry may be used to assist with the install.

Conservation

5.5 The proposed conservation process aims to stabilize, consolidate and repaint the stone and cast iron components of the milestone. Before commencing interventive treatment, a visual condition assessment will be carried out which will include digital photography to provide a detailed record of the state of preservation of the milestone. The stone will be identified as will the extent of corrosion of the cast iron, and the next stages of conservation will be driven by the results of the condition assessment.

5.6 The conservation procedure will comprise the following steps:

- Removal of concrete – if this can be achieved without damaging the milepost. Hand tools will be used to chip away at the concrete.

- Drying out of the stonework – before any further intervention begins, the milepost will be allowed to slowly air dry. This will enable us to identify whether the stone has been impregnated with salts from contact with groundwater, and whether remedial action is required to prevent break-up of the stone through efflorescence during repeated wet/dry cycles. This problem will be determined by the nature of the stone and whether it is naturally porous. Poultices designed to draw out the salts may be necessary to rectify the salt problem.

- Cleaning & paint removal – adhering soil, debris and loose paint flakes will be removed using mechanical methods including brushing, and stubborn areas of paint will be treated with a commercial paint remover such as Nitromors™, which will only be used once its suitability for use on the stone has been tested in a discrete location. Nitromors will be tested on the cast iron though.

- Rust removal – any areas of rusting will be chemically cleaned using Biox™, a commercial biological oxide and corrosion removal fluid. Ultra fine steel wool (grade 0000) may also be used to assist with rust removal if necessary.

- Consolidation – friable areas of stone will be consolidated with a dilute solution of Paraloid B72 (an ethyl-methacrylate copolymer, typically used as 10% w/v in acetone). Paraloid B72 is a widely used conservation – grade consolidant which does not yellow with age, is very strong and also reversible. The solution will be applied either by brush or pipette. Fragile areas of the cast iron will also be consolidated with Paraloid, and missing areas will be gap-filled using a resin fill composed of glass microspheres and Paraloid B72.

- Repainting – the original colour scheme will be retained: the stone plinth will be painted black, the cast iron faces white and the raised lettering black. Depending on the type of stone used for the plinth, the aim will be to use a non-oil based paint such as limewash (tinted black with powder pigments) or silicate-based paints, depending on their availability and the type of stone.

- The cast iron faces will be painted with a white Hammerite™ metal paint and the lettering with black gloss Hammerite™ paint.

6.0 Reporting

6.1 A conservation report will be prepared which will describe the conservation processes in detail and will include before and after digital colour images.

7.0 Monitoring

7.1 BMBC Conservation Officer will be informed of the proposed start date and will be kept informed of progress throughout the field and conservation work. A member of Prospect Archaeology staff will monitor the work on behalf of the client. Any monitoring visits will be co-ordinated by Prospect Archaeology.

8.0 Health and Safety

8.1 All Site work will be carried out in accordance with the relevant current Health and Safety legislation. Any road/lane closures, safety provision and permissions for the removal and reinstatement will be the responsibility of the highways contractor. Risk Assessment Method Statements will be prepared in advance of removal and reinstatement of the milestone and will be available on request. All relevant PPE will be worn.

9.0 Insurance

9.1 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 An electronic copy of the report will be deposited with the South Yorkshire HER.

11.0 Programme & Staffing

11.1 The work will be carried out by conservation staff from the York Archaeological Trust working together with a sculpture conservator, Matt Fairley, who also specializes in the installation of works of art in public spaces. Construction is due to start in August and last for 26 weeks. The conservation will be completed to reinstate the milepost at a convenient date toward the end of the 26 weeks.

12.0 References

Bonnor, 2019 *Proposed Roundabout, Barugh Green Road, Barnsley, South Yorkshire Heritage Assessment*, Prospect Archaeology Ltd Report Ref: STR01-02

TMS, 2009 *Guidance on Conservation of Milestones & Other Waymark Feature, Version 6.1* The Milestone Society

13.0 Figures

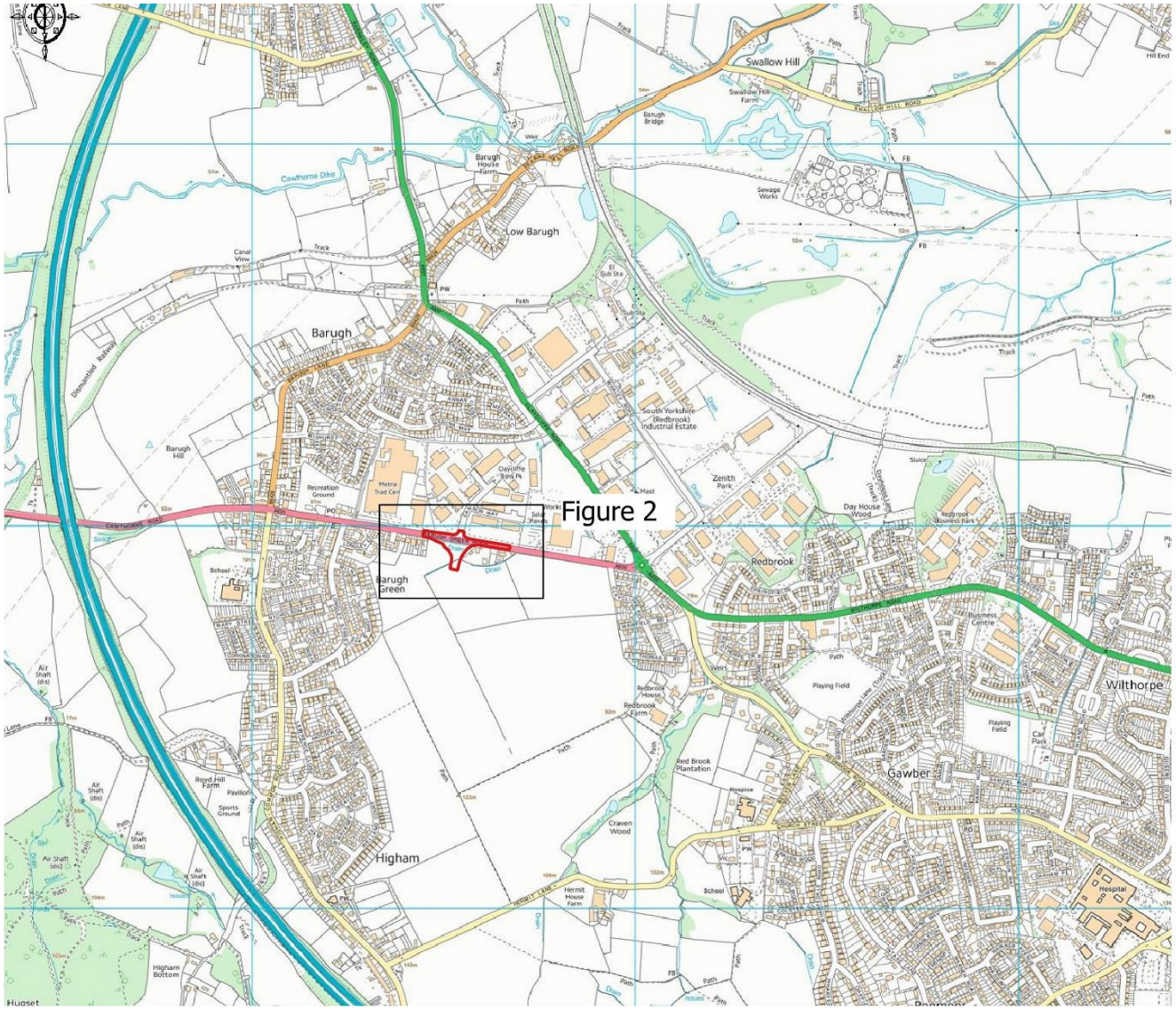

Figure 1: Site Location

Figure 2: Current and proposed milepost locations

Plate 1 Milepost NHL1151794