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BIRTHWAITE BUSINESS PARK

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK BASED ASSESSMENT

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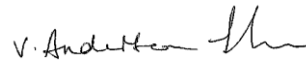
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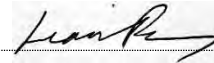
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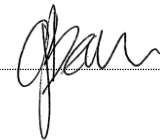
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- Appendix 1 Site Visit Photographs
- Appendix 2 DMRB Impact Assessment Methodology
- Appendix 3 Historic Hedgerows

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Drawing Number	TITLE
ST20371-001	Site Location Plan
ST20371-002	Non-Designated Heritage Assets within 1km
ST20371-003	LiDAR
ST20371-004	Historic Mapping

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1.1 This report has been prepared by Wardell Armstrong LLP, a Registered Organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists in respect to development proposals on a Site located north of Huddersfield Road, Darton centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) SE 30532 10399.
- 1.1.2 The proposal comprises a commercial development in the form of two large units, including offices, a head office, and a pallet store. Ancillary features include a retaining wall, new parking spaces, a sprinkler tank and pump area, forklift and fire tender access routes, a potential pond, and associated landscaping.
- 1.1.3 The proposed development has the potential to impact upon the archaeological resource.
- 1.1.4 This report sets out the archaeological and historical background of the Site and provides an assessment of the significance of any known or potential heritage assets of an archaeological nature within the boundary of the Site. Potential direct impacts to the archaeological resource as a result of the proposed development are set out and appropriate mitigation measures for reducing/offsetting these potential impacts are proposed where relevant.
- 1.1.5 This assessment does not include the identification of any potential indirect impacts to the significance of built heritage assets.
- 1.1.6 The assessment has been undertaken following the Standards and Guidance of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2020) and in accordance with terminology expressed within the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

2 PLANNING POLICY AND LEGISLATION

2.1.1 A heritage asset is defined in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) as ‘*A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions because of its heritage interest*’ (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government 2021, Annex 2 page:67).

2.2 Legislation

2.2.1 Designated heritage assets protected by statutory legislation comprise Scheduled Monuments, Protected Wrecks, Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas.

2.2.2 Nationally significant archaeological sites, monuments and structures are protected under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979), which provides for a schedule of nationally important monuments. It should be noted that this Act makes no provision for the setting of scheduled monument, which is a matter of planning policy only.

2.2.3 Hedgerows are afforded protection under the Hedgerow Regulations 1997 (amended 2002). Hedgerows are deemed important under Schedule 1, Part 2 of the regulations if they:

- Are associated with a Scheduled Monument or a site recorded on an Historic Environment Record; or
- form an integral part of a field system shown on a map pre-dating 1845;
- mark a parish or township boundary predating 1850; or
- mark the boundary of a pre-1600 estate.

2.3 National Planning Policy

2.3.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) supported by the National Planning Policy Guidance (PPG; Department for Communities and Local Government 2021), which endorses the conservation and enhancement of the historic environment, defines the role of the planning system as to promote and achieve sustainable development and involves protecting and enhancing ‘*our natural, built and historic environment*’ (MHCLG 2021, page 5).

2.3.2 The NPPF requires that in determining applications ‘*great weight*’ should be given to the asset’s conservation and that ‘*substantial harm to or loss of...assets of the highest significance, notably Scheduled Monuments ... should be wholly exceptional*’ (MHCLG 2021, para:199 & 200).

- 2.3.3 Non-statutory designated heritage assets, comprising Registered Battlefields and Registered Parks and Gardens, are protected under national and local planning policy only. This is also the case for the remainder of the archaeological resource; entries onto a historic environment record or sites and monument record as well as previously unknown features which may be recorded during the course of data collection in respect to a given development proposal.
- 2.3.4 The significance of a heritage asset (designated or non-designated) is defined within NPPF as *'the value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. This interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic'* (MHCLG 2021, Annex 2 page:71).
- 2.3.5 Where heritage assets (designated or non-designated) are to be affected by development, *'local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance'* (MHCLG 2021, para:194).
- 2.3.6 Developments where substantial harm to or total loss of significance of a designated heritage asset should be assessed against specific tests and should deliver substantial public benefits which outweigh any loss or harm (MHCLG 2021, para:201). Less than substantial harm to a designated asset would require public benefits including the securement of an optimum viable use (MHCLG 2021, para:202).
- 2.3.7 Impacts to the significance of non-designated assets will require a balanced judgement based on the level of significance and the scale of harm (MHCLG 2021, para:203), although non-designated assets which are of equivalent significance to designated assets will be considered as such (MHCLG 2021, page:57). Where heritage assets of an archaeological nature may be impacted upon by development *'local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation'* (MHCLG 2021, para:194).
- 2.4 **Local Planning Policy**
- 2.4.1 The Barnsley Local Plan was adopted in January 2019. There are four policies which are relevant, the first of which is directly relevant to the Birthwaite Business Park (ES1). The second is a general policy relating to the Historic Environment (HE1), the third policy clarifies the application process (HE2), and the fourth policy relates to archaeological remains in Barnsley (HE6). Only relevant elements of Policy HE1 have been referenced below.

Site ES1: Birthwaite Business Park 3.5ha

The development will be expected to safeguard the setting of the Listed buildings at Birthwaite Hall.

Archaeological remains may be present on this site therefore proposals must be accompanied by an appropriate archaeological assessment (including a field evaluation if necessary) that must include the following:

- Information identifying the likely location and extent of the remains, and the nature of the remains;
- An assessment of the significance of the remains; and
- Consideration of how the remains would be affected by the proposed development.

HE1: The Historic Environment

We will positively encourage development which will help in the management, conservation, understanding and enjoyment of Barnsley's historic environment, especially for those assets which are at risk.

This will be achieved by: -

- a. Supporting proposals which conserve and enhance the significance and setting of the borough's heritage assets, paying particular attention to those elements which contribute most to the borough's distinctive character and sense of place.

These assets and elements include: -

Relatively widespread evidence of pre-historic settlements, and occupation which are often archaeological and below ground but sometimes expressed as physical or topographic features.

The boroughs more rural western and Pennine fringe characterised by upland and (often) isolated settlements or farmsteads surrounded by agricultural land and comminated by historic and vernacular buildings built from local gritstone.

- b. By ensuring that proposals affecting a designated heritage (or an archaeological site of national importance such as a Scheduled Ancient Monument) conserve those elements which contribute to its significance. Harm to such elements will be permitted only where this is outweighed by the public benefits of the proposal. Substantial harm or total loss to the significance of a designated heritage asset (or an archaeological site of national importance) will be permitted only in exceptional circumstances where there is a clearly defined public benefit.
- d. By ensuring that proposals affecting an archaeological site of less than national importance or sites with no statutory protection conserve those elements which contribute to its significance in line with the importance of the remains. In those cases where development affecting such sites is acceptable in principle, mitigation of damage will be ensured through preservation of the remains in situ as a preferred solution. When in situ preservation is not justified, an understanding of the evidence to be lost must be gained in line with the provisions of Policy HE6.
- e. By supporting proposals which conserve Barnsley's non-designated heritage assets. We will ensure that development which would harm or undermine the significance of such assets,

or their contribution to the character of a place will only be permitted where the benefits of the development would outweigh the harm.

- f. By supporting proposals which will help secure a sustainable future for Barnsley's heritage assets, especially those identified as being at greatest risk of loss or decay.

Policy HE2: Heritage Statements and general application procedures

Proposals that are likely to affect known heritage assets or sites where it comes to light there is a potential for the discovery of unrecorded heritage assets will be expected to include a description of the heritage significance of the site and its setting.

This description will need to include an appropriate but proportionate level of detail that allows and understanding of the significance of the asset but no more than is necessary to understand the impact of a proposal.

For sites with significant archaeological potential, a desk based assessment may be required in line with the provisions of Policy HE6.

Applications made in outline form will not be accepted for proposals which will affect a conservation area, a listed building or any other designated heritage asset. In such cases, sufficiently detailed plans and drawings to enable an assessment to be made of the likely impact of the development upon the significance of any heritage assets affected will be required.

Policy HE6: Archaeology

Applications for development on sites where archaeological remains may be present must be accompanied by an appropriate archaeological assessment (including a field evaluation if necessary) that must include the following:

- Information identifying the likely location and extent of the remains, and the nature of the remains;
- An assessment of the significance of the remains; and
- Consideration of how the remains would be affected by the proposed development.

Where preservations of the remains are not justified, permission will be conditional upon:-

- Archaeological recording of the evidence (including evidence that might be destroyed), where buried remains of part of a standing structure or building;
- Analysis of the information gathered;
- Interpretation of the results gained;
- Public dissemination of the results' and
- Deposition of the resulting archive with an appropriate museum or archive service.

3 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

3.1 Location

3.1.1 The c.4.9ha Site is located north of Huddersfield Road, Darton, and is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) SE 30532 10399 (Drawing: ST20371-001). To the north and east of the Site lies existing industrial buildings, neither of which are associated with Premdor. To the south of the Site lies Huddersfield Road, with an agricultural field and residential development situated beyond. To the west of the Site lies woodland and agricultural land.

3.1.2 The Site currently comprises of scrubland with mature vegetation in the west and south-east. The north-east of the Site holds a lorry park. An existing roadway with barriers and a security office runs through the Site leading to the business park.

3.2 Recorded Heritage Assets

3.2.1 **Designated Heritage Assets:** Historic England records no designated heritage assets of an archaeological nature within the Site nor within a wider 1km search area.

3.2.2 **Non-Designated Heritage Assets:** There are no non-designated heritage assets within the Site boundary. The nearest non-designated heritage asset of an archaeological nature is the site of Darton Mill (HER 04744) situated 690m east of the Site.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Archaeological Databases

4.1.1 The standard collation of all known archaeological sites and find spots within the Site and search area comes from the South Yorkshire and West Yorkshire Historic Environment Record (HER). Entries within an approximate 1km radius of the Site are plotted on drawing ST20371-002. Where relevant, these sites and finds have been discussed in Section 5 of this report. It should be noted no records were held within West Yorkshire HER for the study area.

4.1.2 Information on designated heritage assets of an archaeological nature has been sourced from Historic England datasets. There are no designated heritage assets of archaeological nature within the Site or the 1km search area.

4.2 Historical and Cartographic Sources

4.2.1 The principal sources for this type of evidence were:

- online sources holding historic Ordnance Survey and Tithe maps (where available); and
- Barnsley County Archives (visited July 2023).

4.2.2 Relevant documents are listed in the Bibliography.

4.3 Secondary Sources

4.3.1 All sources are listed in the Bibliography. The principal sources of secondary material were:

- the Archaeology Data Service ¹;
- Barnsley County Archives; and
- the Wardell Armstrong in-house library.

4.4 Geological/Geotechnical Information

4.4.1 A description of the superficial and solid geology of the local and surrounding area was compiled in order to assess the likely presence and potential condition of any archaeological remains on the Site. This information was drawn from appropriate maps published by the Geological Survey of Great Britain (BGS 2023).

¹ <https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/>

4.4.2 Where available Site Investigation reports will be referenced as appropriate and detailed within the Bibliography.

4.5 **Site Walkover Survey**

4.5.1 In the course of the desk-based assessment, a physical walkover of the Site was undertaken in July 2023. The survey had the following purposes:

- to examine the areas of archaeological potential identified during the desk-based assessment; in particular, with a view to gauging the likely survival and condition of archaeological remains;
- to identify signs of disturbance or truncation within the Site which could affect archaeological potential;
- to review the presence/absence of earthworks indicative of the presence of archaeological remains i.e. ridge and furrow earthworks;
- to confirm the presence/absence of historic hedgerows; and
- to inform the Impact Assessment element of this document.

5 BASELINE

5.1 Topography, Geology, Soils

- 5.1.1 The c.4.9ha Site comprises of an existing roadway and HGV parking area, with areas of scrubland and vegetation. The Site slopes downwards from the road on a strict decline before levelling out. The southern extent of the site lies 92m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) with the northern extent lying at 71m aOD.
- 5.1.2 The River Dearne runs in an approximate north to south direction c.285m east of the Site. A small unnamed watercourse runs to the east of the south-western extent of the Site.
- 5.1.3 The vast majority of the Site lies on Pennine Lower Coal Measures Formation (mudstone, siltstone and sandstone), whereas the southern extent lies of Heigh Moor Rock (sandstone). These are sedimentary bedrock geologies formed during the Carboniferous period (BGS 2023). There is no superficial geology recorded within the Site (BGS 2023).

5.2 Previous Archaeological Investigations

- 5.2.1 The HER does not record any intrusive archaeological investigations within the Site boundary, nor within 500m of the Site. The nearest and only recorded fieldwork investigation, within 1km of the Site, comprised a field survey of a sewer pipe (HER ESY1852) located 950m south-east. This identified a 19th/20th century sewer ventilation pipe, also known as a 'stench pipe'.

5.3 General Archaeological and Historic Background

Prehistoric and Romano-British (up to 410 AD)

- 5.3.1 The HER does not record assets of prehistoric or Romano-British date within 1km of the Site.
- 5.3.2 The prehistoric period typically saw settlement located within the vicinity of rivers and other major watercourses. The River Dearne lies 285m east of the Site; as such, this area may have been a possible location for settlement during these periods. Rivers were not only sources of water but also signs of fertile ground. Therefore, if there was activity in the area during the early prehistoric periods, this activity would likely be centred on the River Irwell and away from the Site.
- 5.3.3 Moving into the late prehistoric period and the Romano-British period, populations began to exploit the land on a larger scale. The Roman period in particular witnessed

activity across the landscape, with the growing of crops and raising of livestock on land that previously saw transient activity.

Early Medieval (c.410 to 1066AD)

- 5.3.4 The HER does not record early medieval activity within the vicinity of the Site. The Domesday book does record settlement at Kexborough to south of the Site and at Darton to the east of the Site, suggesting that settlement was established by this point. Due to the peripheral location of the Site in relation to these settlements, if activity did occur in the area of the Site, the land would likely have been utilised for agrarian purposes.

Medieval (c.1066 to 1540AD)

- 5.3.5 As mentioned above, the Domesday book does record nearby settlement at Kexborough and at Darton; these are located approximately 865m south-west and 1.2km south-east of the Site, respectively. They were located in the hundred of Staincross, Yorkshire.
- 5.3.6 Kexborough is recorded as one of the smallest settlement recorded, with just two households. The resources include one ploughland, one lord's and one men's plough teams. There was also two acres of meadow and 6x6 furlongs of woodland. The Lord in 1066 was Godric, while the Tenant-in-Chief in 1086 was Ilbert of Lacy and the Lord in 1086 was Swein (son of Alric).
- 5.3.7 The village of Darton had a recorded population consisting of five households, which included four villagers and one smallholder. The available resources in the village comprised three ploughlands, two men's plough teams, and 1x1 leagues of woodland. These lands were divided among three lords. In 1066, the majority of the land was under the lordship of King Edward, but by 1086, the Tenant-in-Chief and Lord had changed to Ilbert of Lacy. In both 1066 and 1086, half a ploughland was recorded as under the lordship of Arnbiorn, while the other half was under the authority of King William in 1086.
- 5.3.8 The HER records a possible medieval timber framed barn (HER 01569/01), located 810m west of the Site. The barn is thought to be medieval and one post was reported to survive in 1974. The site of Darton Mill (HER 04744) located 690m east of the Site is first recorded in 1260 as a cornmill. The next record was in 1767 and is therefore discussed below. These features suggest agrarian activity within this area.
- 5.3.9 In summary, the medieval period saw the Site within a likely agrarian landscape with nucleated settlement nearby.

Post Medieval (c.1540 to 1901 AD)

5.3.10 The aforementioned Darton Mill (HER 04744) was recorded in 1767 as still being utilised as a mill. The site is recorded as a saw mill in the late 19th century and out of use by 1914. There are no further records of an archaeological nature pertaining to this period.

5.3.11 Also within the wider area was Birthwaite Hall (NHLE 1151765), where a large house and range of farm buildings were constructed in the late 17th century. These assets are located 240m west of the Site. Due to the proximity the Site to the hall, there may have been agrarian activity in the area during this period.

Modern (1901 – present)

5.3.12 The modern evidence is identified through a Stench Pipe (HER 05979) found 950m south-east of the Site. The pipe is of 19th/20th century date and is a sewer ventilation pipe of 19th or early 20th century date. The pipe was made by 'Adam's Ltd York' and in 2021 it was recorded as having two faded bands of Second World War era blackout paint, which was to make the pipe more visible during the low light periods of the black out. There are no further records from the modern period.

5.4 Cartographic Sources and Aerial Imagery

5.4.1 There are no tithe maps recorded in the area of the Site. This may indicate the area was held under a private estate or was within an area unnecessary for survey.

5.4.2 The 1854 First Edition six-inch Ordnance Survey (OS) Map (Yorkshire Sheet 262) (see Drawing ST20371-004), shows the northern extent of the Site within Birthwaite Hall Park and the southern extent as of three fields which are regularly split. A roadway lies along the southern boundary, while the union boundary and agricultural land lie to the east.

5.4.3 The 25-inch OS map dated to 1893 (not reproduced here) shows the Site still partially within Birthwaite Park; however, the fields within the southern extent are no longer split into three, but instead have been amalgamated into one.

5.4.4 The 25-inch OS map published in 1918 (see drawing ST20371-004) shows no changes within the Site; however, to the immediate east, Darton Main Colliery is shown alongside two shafts. This is located within a space now occupied by the M1 however the mine may have extended into the Site area below ground.

5.4.5 The 25-inch OS map published 1932 (see drawing ST20371-004) shows that the above ground colliery infrastructure had expanded, with track lines running east and west

and the area extending into the south-eastern extent of Braithwaite park. Across the Site itself track lines are recorded.

- 5.4.6 Historic England's aerial archive holds an aerial image of the Site from the 7th of September 1955². This photograph shows the Site to be split into irregular and regular fields and the photograph suggests there may be livestock in the eastern extent. The colliery is present on the photography to the south-west; however, the aforementioned track lines are not visible.
- 5.4.7 The 1956 National Grid map (SE31SW-A) corroborates this and labels the colliery as disused. The north-western portion of the Site is still recorded as within Birthwaite Park. The subsequent map, published in 1965, shows no change to this formation.
- 5.4.8 An aerial image provided by the client shows the Site just after its construction in the mid-1990's (Plate A). The Site can be seen to the left of the rear building. Although the area is not developed, the area is shown to be void of vegetation. The presence of the roadway splitting the Site also suggests there would be some disturbance as a result of the construction.



Plate A: View of the Site in the mid-1990s

² https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/raf_82_1015_f21_0174

5.4.9 Aerial imagery dated to 1999 viewed on Google Earth shows the Site to be scrubland to the south and west of industrial units. There is a roadway running through the Site with two small structures (presumably for access) towards the south. No notable change is depicted on the subsequent photographs dating to 2003; however, by 2008 HGV parking has been added within the north-east extent of the Site. The south-western area also is shown to be disturbed, although its use is not identifiable.

5.4.10 Aerial imagery does not depict any notable developments until 2018, when there appears to be some disturbance, albeit for an unknown purpose, within the eastern half of the Site. Further disturbance in this area, related to the connection of the HGV car park can be seen on imagery dating to 2020. In 2022, this disturbed area is shown to contain a unit that appears to be associated to the industrial units to the east.

5.5 LiDAR Data (ST20153-005)

5.5.1 LiDAR data (DTM 1m) was obtained from the Environment Agency. The LiDAR shows nothing of clear archaeological value. The western half of the Site contains a linear feature, which appears to be associated with the small unnamed watercourse shown on historic mapping and observed on Site. The eastern half has several horizontal lines running on an east west alignment; however, these do not appear agricultural in nature. They may represent stepped landscaping/cutting of the land.

5.6 Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC)

5.6.1 The Historic Landscape Character is split across the Site. This split is on a north-east south-west alignment. As the HLC information includes information on past uses this has been tabulated for clarity.

5.6.2 The landscape types recorded within the Site are modern and are unlikely to have left traces of previous landscape types unless the area has been subject to minimum disturbance. Within the landscape of the colliery, it is thought all traces of previous landscape features would have been erased.

Table 1: Historic Landscape Character Types through the years.		
HLC Type	Approximate years	Description
<i>North-western half of the Site</i>		
Commercial (Business Park)	1990 - present	The Business Park was built after the colliery and manufacturing areas were closed. The park was partially built on part of the Birthwaite Hall estate.

Table 1: Historic Landscape Character Types through the years.

HLC Type	Approximate years	Description
Ornamental, Parkland and Recreational	1680 - 1989	The parkland stayed intact until the 1960's when it was split up. Francis Burdet lived at Birthwaite in the 16 th century, it is from the 16 th century when the estate is considered to have been a substantial feature.
Enclosed Land (Piecemeal enclosure)	1650 - 1679	Enclosed land prior to the parkland.
Enclosed Land (Open Field)	1066 - 1649	The land may have been part of the medieval townfields belonging to Kexborough, although this is uncertain. In 1258 there was a reference to the manor of Birthwaite, suggesting there was some settlement activity here; although it is not believed that it was substantial.
<i>South-eastern half of the Site</i>		
Industrial (Chemical)	1964 – present	The factory now occupying the Site is first seen on 1965 mapping. It produced plastic films and closed in 2005.
Extractive (Deep shaft coal mine)	1914 – 1964	The area held the Darton Main Colliery which dominated the surrounding area in the early 20 th century. The mine opened in 1914 and closed in 1938. This Site is thought to have erased all traces of former landscapes.
Enclosed Land (Piecemeal enclosure)	1650 – 1913	Enclosed land utilised for agriculture.
Enclosed Land (Open Field)	1066 – 1649	The land may have been part of the medieval townfields belonging to Kexborough or Darton, although this is uncertain.

5.7 Site Walkover Survey

5.7.1 The Site walkover survey was undertaken on the 6th of July 2023 in fair weather. Photographs taken during the survey are included within Appendix 1.

5.7.2 The Site was observed from the ground. An area of the ground had recently been exposed on the Site, and modern made ground was clearly visible. The vegetation

covered ground also appeared to be disturbed ground, with modern disturbance. The areas with existing infrastructure comprise of hard standing.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

6.1 Summary of Potential

- 6.1.1 Considering the baseline evidence, there is limited potential for features pre-dating the medieval period to be present. If activity was present during the prehistoric period, it is likely to be focused on the River Dearne located to the east of the Site and its immediate surrounding environs, with the Site potentially witnessing transient activity. The region appears largely unoccupied until the medieval period when activity was focused on Braithwaite, Kingsthorpe, and Darton. It should be noted that there is high potential for the truncation of remains across that Site as a result of the original construction of the industrial estate.
- 6.1.2 In consideration of the baseline evidence, the potential of the Site may be judged as follows:
- 6.1.3 **Prehistoric & Romano-British** – There is no evidence for prehistoric activity within the Site, nor within the 1km study area. Considering the landscape and the typical pattern of the occupation during this period, activity is likely to have been focused on the River Dearne and the Site would likely have been subject to transient activity at most. As such, there is **negligible** potential for archaeological remains from the Prehistoric and Romano-British periods.
- 6.1.4 **Early Medieval** – There are no early medieval records within the Site boundary or the search area. There are settlements recorded within the Domesday books which suggests that there was some settlement within the area towards the end of the period. Due to the proximity of the settlements, the Site is likely to have been ancillary and peripheral agricultural land. Considering the lack of archaeological finds from this period, and the Site not being within an area of known occupation, there is **negligible to low** potential for remains from the early medieval period within the Site.
- 6.1.5 **Medieval** – The medieval period is evidenced through settlement activity within the vicinity. Due to the proximity of Braithwaite, there is potential for remains associated with the parkland and agricultural activity. Considering the evidence, there is judged to be **low** potential for the remains from the medieval period within the Site. Remains from this period, if present, however, may provide knowledge of medieval agricultural practices and the landscapes of planned medieval parklands.
- 6.1.6 **Post Medieval** – Like it was during the medieval period, the Site was part of an estate park and was used for agricultural activity; as such, there is potential for field boundaries and features pertaining to this land uses. Considering the evidence, there

is judged to be **moderate** potential for the remains from the post-medieval period within the Site. Remains of a post-medieval nature are likely to be of **low** significance. Any remains, if present, may provide knowledge of post-medieval land management and post-medieval parkland formation.

- 6.1.7 **Modern** – Modern archaeological activity within the 1m search area is evidenced through a pipe that may be of 20th century date. The areas to the north and south of the Site were subject to impacts through the construction of the extant industrial estate. Aerial imagery is not available for the period of construction and it is therefore unknown if the Site area was impacted. Potential within the Site pertaining to the modern period is likely to be of an agricultural nature or associated with the late 20th century industrial estate development. There is the potential for remains associated with the colliery; however, these are likely to have been truncated by the development of the industrial estate. There is judged to be **high** potential for modern remains of an agricultural nature, although these may be truncated; remains of this type are expected to be no more than **low** significance. There is also **high** potential for remains associated with the industrial estate; however, these are of no archaeological significance.

7 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

7.1.1 Appendix 2 describes the methodology for assessing the magnitude of impact to the archaeological resource within the Site and the overall significance of potential impact to the resource.

7.1.2 Development proposals would cause ground disturbance to potential archaeological remains through the following activities (this is not an exhaustive list):

- Industrial foundations;
- Drainage;
- Road and access tracks; and
- Landscaping.

7.2 Direct Impacts

7.2.1 The significance of potential archaeological receptors, the anticipated magnitude of impact to them and the consequent significance of effect is described below.

Post Medieval and Modern Remains

7.2.2 The potential for post medieval is determined to be moderate with modern remains determined to be high. It is anticipated these remains would likely be associated with agricultural activity. It is also possible that remains pertaining to the former colliery, and the construction of the industrial estate could also be present. Remains, if present, would be of no more than low significance holding limited historic and archaeological interest pertaining to post-medieval agricultural activity and land management and industry.

7.2.3 Construction activity associated with the proposed development would impact upon any buried remains if present. This would result in a major magnitude of impact which would, on features of low significance, likely result in **slight adverse** significance of effect.

Unknown buried remains.

7.2.4 In general there is judged to be negligible potential for unknown buried remains. The importance of any (unknown) archaeological remains within the boundary of the Site is not anticipated to exceed that of low importance.

7.2.5 Construction activity would impact upon any buried remains if present. This would result in a major magnitude of impact which would likely result in **slight adverse** significance of effect dependent upon the nature of any remains.

Historic Landscape

- 7.2.6 The Historic Landscape is industrial with parkland and agricultural origins. The landscape has been subject to destructive changes. As such, it is of negligible importance. As the Site is set entirely within an industrial landscape, there will be no change to the landscape character type and therefore no harm would arise.

8 MITIGATION

- 8.1.1 The South Yorkshire Archaeological Officer was contacted on the 11th of July 2023 for consultation regarding the requirement for further archaeological works. No response had been received at the time of writing.
- 8.1.2 Considering the baseline and archaeological potential there is low potential for archaeological remains to survive. It is anticipated that archaeological fieldwork, if it is required, could be secured via a suitably worded planning condition and undertaken as mitigation works in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared in consultation with the South Yorkshire Planning Archaeologist. This would, in consideration of the NPPF, be reasonable and proportionate on reflection of the evidence presented within the baseline data which indicates that there is no evidence to suggest the presence of remains within the boundary of the Site which would preclude development.

9 COMPLIANCE WITH NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY AND LEGISLATION

9.1 Legislation

9.1.1 Development within the Site would not affect a Scheduled Monument and there is no indication within the baseline evidence that remains of national importance would be affected by any development within the Site. The Scheduled Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979) would not be engaged.

9.1.2 Development within the Site would not affect any hedgerows, there being none recorded within the Site. The Hedgerow Regulations (1997) would not be engaged.

9.2 Policy

9.2.1 This report has provided a proportionate description of the significance of potential archaeological remains in accordance with the requirements of paragraph 194 of the NPPF and the Barnsley Local Plan (2019).

9.2.2 The Local Plan states where a development proposal affects non-designated archaeological sites of less than national importance, as suggested by the baseline evidence in this case, it should conserve these elements which contribute to the significance in line with the importance of the asset. Where archaeological assets may be impacted the preferred approach is preservation *in situ*, if this is not justified the development should make adequate provision for excavation and recording of the remains. The suggested mitigation strategy set out in Section 8 above would comply with the requirements of local policy.

10 CONCLUSION

- 10.1.1 This assessment, carried out in full accordance with the requirements of the NPPF has collated the available baseline evidence to determine the archaeological potential of the land within the Site and the significance of any potential archaeological remains.
- 10.1.2 It is judged there is potential for archaeological remains from the post medieval period onwards; however, these may have been truncated by extensive late 20th century construction activity. Remains, if present, are likely to be associated with agrarian activity and later construction activity; they would be of limited significance.
- 10.1.3 Further archaeological evaluation requirements are to be discussed with South Yorkshire Planning Archaeologist; however, the evidence does not indicate the presence of archaeological remains which could preclude development and it is anticipated that archaeological fieldwork, if it is required, could be secured via a suitably worded planning condition and undertaken as mitigation works in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI).

11 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- ClfA (2020) *Standards and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment*, Reading: Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.
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- Defra. (2002) *Amendment to the Hedgerow Regulations 1997: A guide to the law and good practice – amendment 2002*.
- Highways Agency (2020) *Design Manual for Roads and Bridges*.
- Historic England. (2022) *National Heritage List for England* downloadable GIS data.
- Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. (2021) *National Planning Policy Framework*.
- Rossendale Borough Council (adopted 2021) *Rossendale Local Plan 2019-2036*

Cartographic Sources:

- 1854 First Edition six-inch Ordnance Survey (OS) Map (Yorkshire Sheet 262)
- 25-inch OS map dated to 1893
- 25-inch OS map dated to 1913
- 25-inch OS map dated to 1932
- 1956 National Grid map (SE31SW-A)

Appendix 1

Site Visit Plates



Plate 1: View looking south-west from the central road. This shows a modern manhole cover and the overgrown vegetation.



Plate 2: Photograph taken facing north-west from the road. This shows made ground in the foreground with overgrown vegetation and an existing building in the background.



Plate 3: Photograph taken facing south of the western half of the Site. This shows overgrown vegetation.



Plate 4: Photograph taken facing east along the northern boundary of the western half.



Plate 5: View from the western half of the Site facing south-east towards the road and security cabin.



Plate 6: Photograph taken facing west along the south of the western half of the Site. At the left of the image lies an embankment.



Plate 7: Photograph taken south of the aforementioned embankment. The ground conditions can be seen in the left corner of the image.



Plate 8: Image taken facing east across the southern half of the Site. The lorry parking area can be seen in the background.



Plate 9: Photograph taken of the southern extent of the lorry parking area.



Plate 10: Lorry parking area taken from the road.



Plate 11: Recently exposed ground, undertaken as part recent the recent storage area. The ground appears to be made ground.



Plate 12: Photograph taken facing west across the central area of the western half. This shows a soil heap to the right of the photograph which appears to be made ground.



Plate 13: Photograph taken facing east towards existing buildings.



Plate 14: Photograph taken from the eastern half facing south towards the road.

Appendix 2

DMRB Impact Assessment Methodology

Appendix 2: DMRB Impact Assessment Methodology

In ascribing levels of **importance** to heritage assets, the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges, LA 104 Environmental Assessment and Monitoring, Revision 1 (Highways England 2020) has been used, see Table 1 below.

The magnitude of impact is measured from the condition that would prevail in a 'do nothing' scenario and it is assessed without regard to the importance of the receptor (Highways England, 2020).

The worst magnitude of impact would be Loss of resource and/or quality and integrity of resource and severe damage to key characteristics, features or elements.

In ascribing the magnitude of impact, guidance presented in the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges, LA 104 Environmental Assessment and Monitoring, Revision 1 (Highways England 2020) has been used, see Table 2 below.

The **significance of impact** is devised by cross referencing the importance of the receptor with the magnitude of the impact, see Table 3. In some cases the significance of impact is shown as being one of two alternatives. In these cases a single description should be decided upon with reasoned judgement for that level of significance chosen.

Table 1: Establishing the importance of a heritage asset

Value (sensitivity)	Typical description
Very High	Very high importance and rarity, international scale and very limited potential for substitution
High	High importance and rarity, national scale, and limited potential for substitution
Medium	Medium or high importance and rarity, regional scale, limited potential for substitution.
Low	Low or medium importance and rarity, local scale
Negligible	Very low importance and rarity, local scale

Design Manual for Roads and Bridges, LA 104 Environmental Assessment and Monitoring, Revision 1 (Highways England 2020)

Table 2: Establishing the magnitude of impact

Magnitude of impact (change)		Typical description
Major	Adverse	Loss of resource and/or quality and integrity of resource; severe damage to key characteristics, features or elements.
	Beneficial	Large scale or major improvement of resource quality; extensive restoration; major improvement of attribute quality.
Moderate	Adverse	Loss of resource, but not adversely affecting the integrity; partial loss of/damage to key characteristics, features or elements.

Table 2: Establishing the magnitude of impact		
Magnitude of impact (change)		Typical description
	Beneficial	Benefit to, or addition of, key characteristics, features or elements; improvement of attribute quality.
Minor	Adverse	Some measurable change in attributes, quality or vulnerability; minor loss of, or alteration to, one (maybe more) key characteristics, features or elements.
	Beneficial	Minor benefit to, or addition of, one (maybe more) key characteristics, features or elements; some beneficial impact on attribute or a reduced risk of negative impact occurring.
Negligible	Adverse	Very minor loss or detrimental alteration to one or more characteristics, features or elements.
	Beneficial	Very minor benefit to or positive addition of one or more characteristics, features or elements.
No change		No loss or alteration of characteristics, features or elements; no observable impact in either direction.

Design Manual for Roads and Bridges, LA 104 Environmental Assessment and Monitoring, Revision 1 (Highways England, 2020)

Table 3: Establishing the significance of impact						
Value/Importance	Very High	Neutral	Slight	Moderate/large	Large or very large	Very large
	High	Neutral	Slight	Slight or moderate	Moderate or large	Large or very large
	Medium	Neutral	Neutral/slight	Slight	Moderate	Moderate or large
	Low	Neutral	Neutral or slight	Neutral or slight	Slight	Slight or moderate
	Negligible	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral or slight	Neutral or slight	Slight
		No change	Negligible	Minor	Moderate	Major
Magnitude of impact						

Design Manual for Roads and Bridges, LA 104 Environmental Assessment and Monitoring, Revision 1 (Highways England, 2020)

Table 4: Significance categories	
Significance Category	Typical Description
Very large	Effects at this level are material in the decision-making process.
Large	Effects at this level are likely to be material in the decision-making process.
Moderate	Effects at this level can be considered to be material decision-making factors.
Slight	Effects at this level are not material in the decision-making process.
Neutral	No effects or those that are beneath levels of perception, within normal bounds of variation or within the margin of forecasting error.

Design Manual for Roads and Bridges, LA 104 Environmental Assessment and Monitoring, Revision 1 (Highways England, 2020)

Appendix 3

Historic Hedgerows

In determining which if hedgerows are important on archaeological or historic grounds The Hedgerow Regulations (1997) state the following criteria.

The Hedgerow Regulations 1997 Schedule 1 Part II - Archaeology & History

1. The hedgerow marks the boundary, or part of the boundary, of at least one historic parish or township; and for this purpose “historic” means existing before 1850.
2. The hedgerow incorporates an archaeological feature which is—
 - (a) included in the schedule of monuments compiled by the Secretary of State under section 1 (schedule of monuments) of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979; or
 - (b) recorded at the relevant date in a Sites and Monuments Record.
3. The hedgerow—
 - (a) is situated wholly or partly within an archaeological site included or recorded as mentioned in paragraph 2 or on land adjacent to and associated with such a site; and
 - (b) is associated with any monument or feature on that site.
4. The hedgerow—
 - (a) marks the boundary of a pre-1600 AD estate or manor recorded at the relevant date in a Sites and Monuments Record or in a document held at that date at a Record Office; or
 - (b) is visibly related to any building or other feature of such an estate or manor.
5. The hedgerow—
 - (a) is recorded in a document held at the relevant date at a Record Office as an integral part of a field system pre-dating the Inclosure Acts; or
 - (b) is part of, or visibly related to, any building or other feature associated with such a system, and that system—
 - (i) is substantially complete; or
 - (ii) is of a pattern which is recorded in a document prepared before the relevant date by a local planning authority, within the meaning of the 1990 Act, for the purposes of development control within the authority’s area, as a key landscape characteristic.

Criteria 1

No hedgerows are indicated by the historic mapping as denoting a parish boundary. There is potential for the vegetation surrounding the pond to be part of a historic boundary.

Criteria 2

There are no scheduled monuments recorded within the footprint of the Site. Therefore, no hedgerows within the Site would be classified as important under Paragraph 2 criteria.

Criteria 3

There are no archaeological sites recorded within the footprint of the Site associated with hedgerows. Therefore, no hedgerows within the Site would be classified as important under Paragraph 3 criteria.

Criteria 4

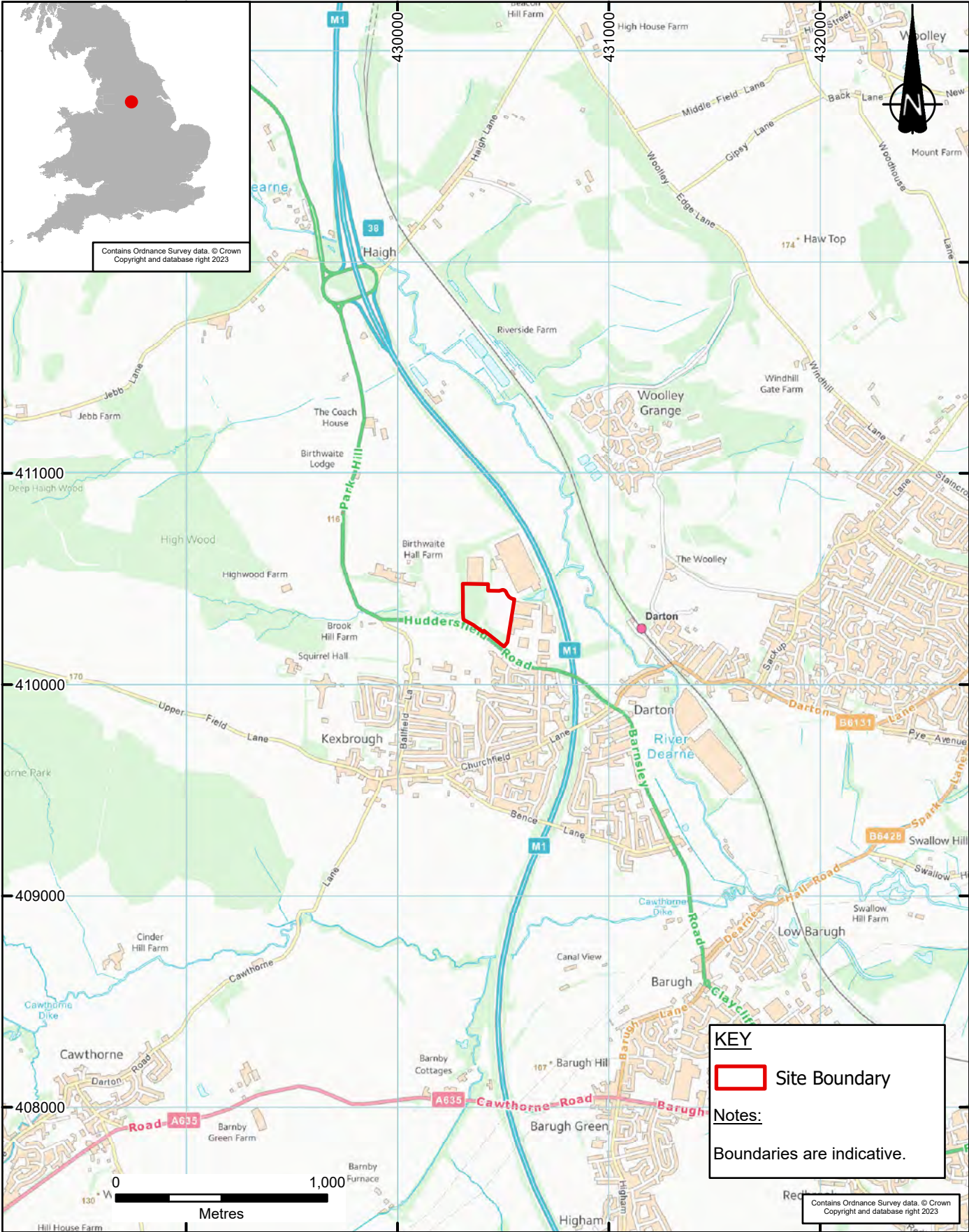
The land within the footprint of the Site is not known to have been associated with a pre-1600 AD estate. Therefore, no hedgerows within the Extension Site would be classified as important under Paragraph 4 criteria.

Criteria 5

In assigning a hedgerow as historic the phrase 'pre-dating the Inclosure Acts' should be taken to mean before 1845 (Defra 2002)³. There are no hedgerows thought to be impacted by the scheme.

³ Defra. (2002) Amendment to the Hedgerow Regulations 1997: A guide to the law and good practice – amendment 2002

FIGURES



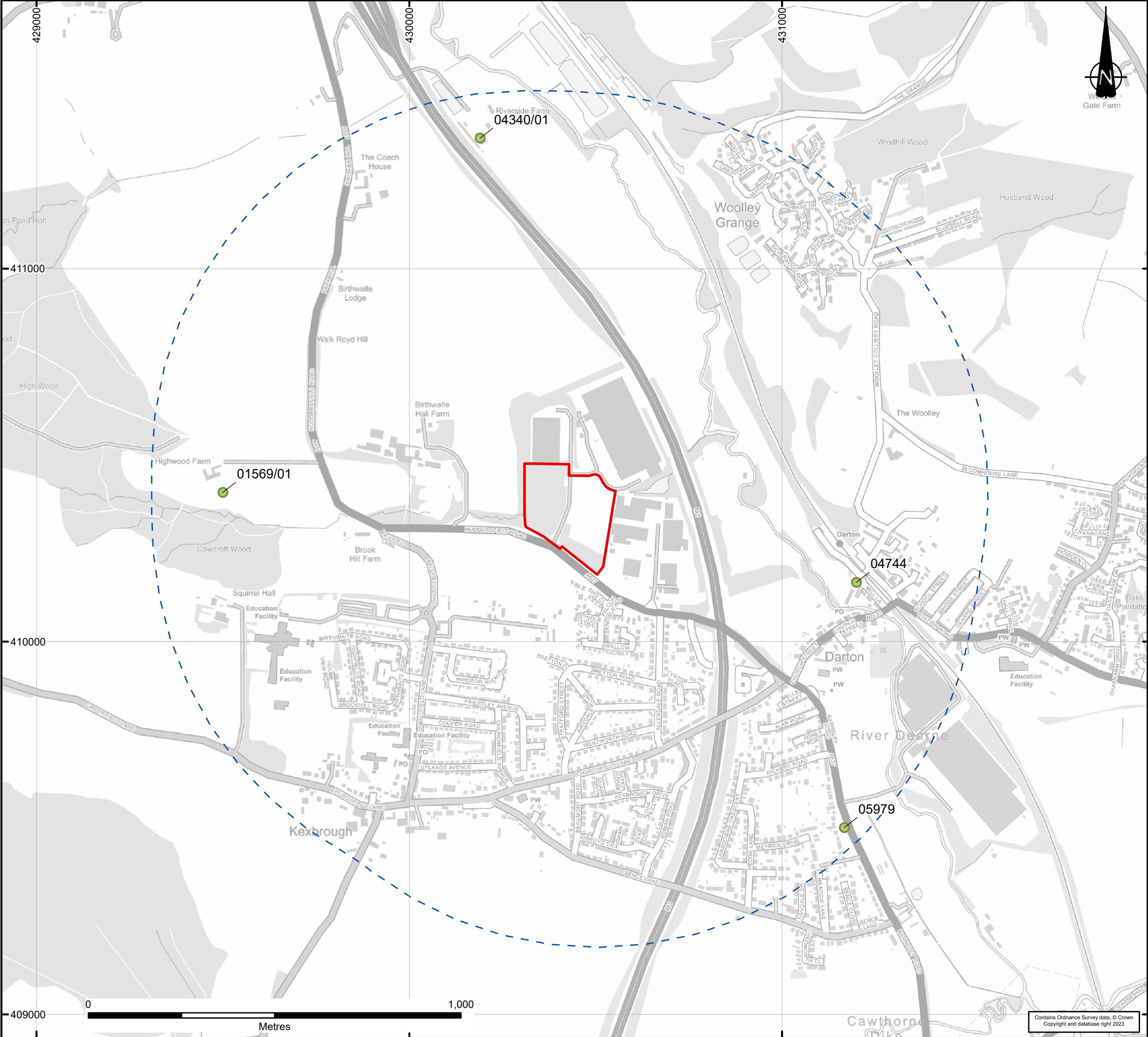
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Site Boundary

Notes:

Boundaries are indicative.

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DRAWING TITLE		DRAWN BY	CHECKED BY	APPROVED BY	
SITE LOCATION PLAN		HP	VA-J	LG	
wardell armstrong 					



KEY

Site Boundary

1km Study Area

Non-Designated Assets

Notes:
Boundaries are indicative.
Information based upon Historic Environment Characterisation Data © South Yorkshire Archaeology Service 2008

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PROJECT	BIRTHWAITE BUSINESS PARK				
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KEY

Site Boundary

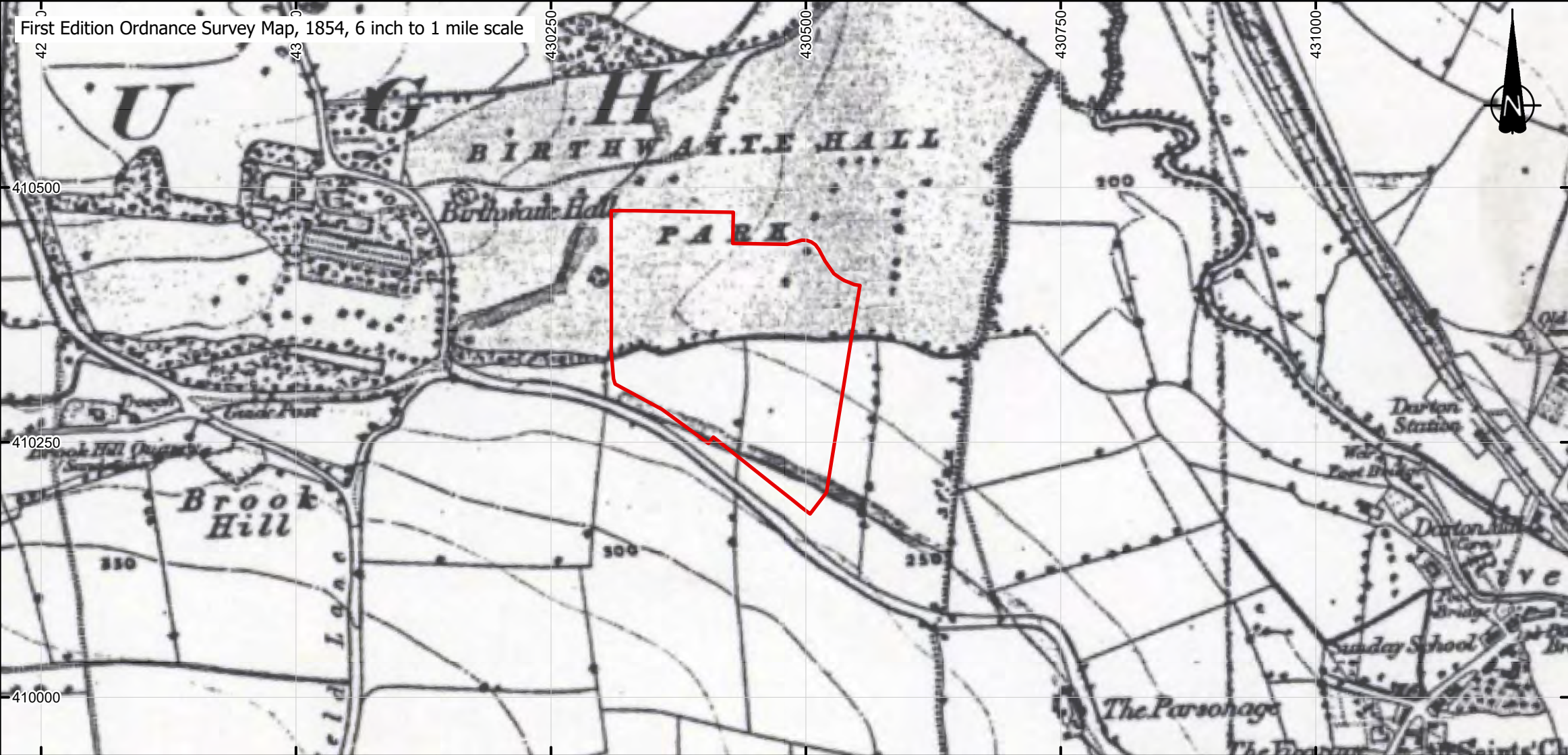
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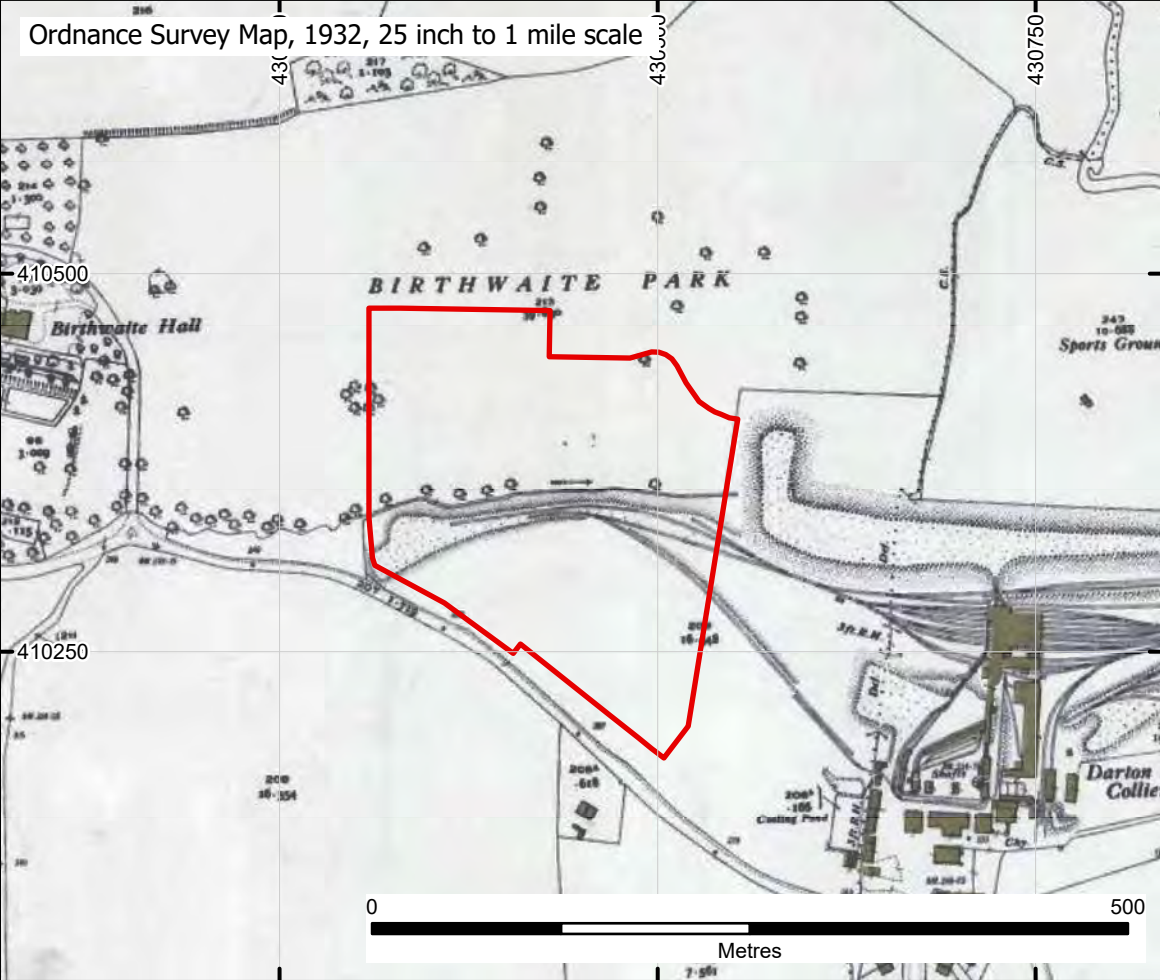
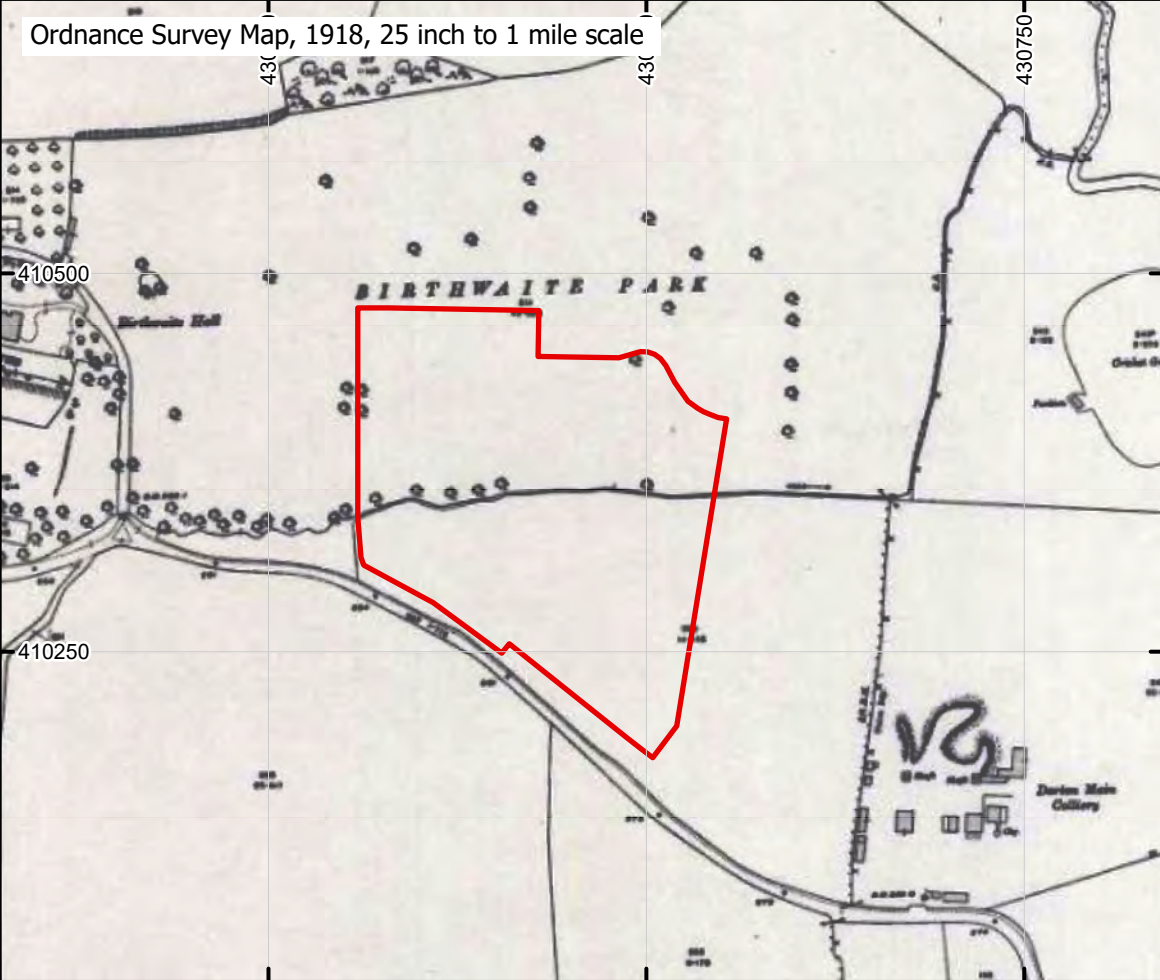
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Site Boundary

Notes:

Boundaries are indicative.

Historic mapping provided by The National Library of Scotland (NLS) CC-BY 4.0



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DRG SIZE	A3	SCALE	1:5,000	DATE	26/07/2023
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