

---

---

LAND AT BILLINGLEY VIEW,  
BOLTON UPON DEARNE,  
SOUTH YORKSHIRE.

---

---

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK BASED ASSESSMENT  
OSA REPORT No: OSA19DT11.

June 2019.

**OSA**

---

**ON SITE ARCHÆOLOGY LTD**

25A Milton Street • York • North Yorkshire • YO10 3EP

telephone • 01904 411673 • fax • 01904 414522

e-mail • [mail@onsitearchaeology.co.uk](mailto:mail@onsitearchaeology.co.uk)

© *On-Site Archaeology 2019.*



---

**Report Summary.**

---

**REPORT NO:** OSA19DT11

**SITE NAME:** Billingley View, Bolton upon Dearne

**COUNTY:** South Yorkshire

**NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE:** SE 4463 0298

**ON BEHALF OF:** NPS Barnsley  
Level 5  
Gateway Plaza  
Sackville Street  
Barnsley S70 2SB

**RESEARCH AND TEXT:** Kate Langley  
James Stanley

**GRAPHICS:** Kate Langley

**TIMING:** Research and report preparation  
June 2019

**ENQUIRIES TO:** Nick Pearson  
On-Site Archaeology Ltd  
25A Milton Street  
York  
YO10 3EP

*tel* (01904) 411673

*fax* (01904) 414522

*mobile* (07767) 385766

*e-mail* mail@onsitearchaeology.co.uk

---

## Table of Contents.

---

|  |    |
|--|----|
| 1.0 Abstract .....                                 | 3  |
| 2.0 Introduction.....                              | 4  |
| 3.0 Methodology.....                               | 5  |
| 4.0. Site Location, Land-use and Geology.....      | 5  |
| 5.0 Gazetteer of Sites and Artefacts.....          | 5  |
| 6.0 Cartographic Evidence.....                     | 9  |
| 7.0 Archaeological and Historical Background.....  | 12 |
| 8.0 Discussion and Assessment of Significance..... | 14 |
| 9.0 Bibliography.....                              | 15 |
| 10.0 The Plates.....                               | 16 |

---

## List of Figures.

---

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Figure 1. Site location (SE 4463 0298).....   | 4  |
| Figure 2. Locations of non-designated heritage assets (site in red).....                    | 8  |
| Figure 3. Extract from the 1720 Warburton map (site location (red) - approximate only)..... | 9  |
| Figure 4. Extract from the 1771 Jefferys map (site location (red) - approximate only).....  | 9  |
| Figure 5. 1850 Ordnance Survey map (site in red).....                                       | 10 |
| Figure 6. 1901 Ordnance Survey map (site in red).....                                       | 11 |
| Figure 7. 1948 Ordnance Survey map (site in red).....                                       | 11 |

---

## List of Plates.

---

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Plate 1. Site, looking north.....  | 16 |
| Plate 2. Site, looking south.....  | 16 |
| Plate 3. Northern part of site, looking northeast.....                   | 17 |
| Plate 4. Site with Billingley View in foreground, looking southwest..... | 17 |

---

## 1.0 Abstract.

---

*This desk-based assessment has been prepared for NPS Barnsley to assess the archaeological potential of proposed residential development at land off Billingley View, Bolton upon Dearne, South Yorkshire.*

*This Desk-Based Assessment has identified that the site lies in an area with moderate potential to contain archaeological remains. Potential remains could date from the prehistoric, Romano-British or medieval periods.*

*Any decision regarding archaeological evaluation or mitigation on the site rests with the local planning authority and their archaeological advisors (South Yorkshire Archaeology Service). Although geophysics has been successful on a number of sites in the vicinity the current ground conditions on the site would prevent such a technique from being successfully undertaken here.*

## 2.0 Introduction.

This archaeological desk-based assessment was undertaken in June 2019 by *On Site Archaeology* at the site of a proposed residential development on land off Billingley View, Bolton upon Dearne, South Yorkshire. The study area is centred at approximately SE 4463 0298 (Figure 1).

The study was undertaken on behalf of NPS Barnsley to assess the archaeological potential of the site of the proposed development.



Figure 1. Site location (SE 4463 0298).

Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey 1:25 000 maps with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office  
© Crown copyright. OSA Licence No: AL 52132A0001

---

### 3.0 Methodology.

---

The historical and archaeological significance of the study area was assessed using a variety of sources including cartographic evidence, the South Yorkshire SMR, the online archaeological catalogues held by the Archaeological Data Service, the Historic England Archive, and published archaeological and historical reports.

Archaeological and historical data has been collected over an area extending for a distance of approximately 1000m from the centre of the site. The locations of the collected data points are shown on Figure 2.

A site visit was undertaken to enhance the understanding of the modern landuse of the site, especially with regards to its effect upon the archaeological record, and to assess any impact on nearby heritage assets. A photographic record was made of the study area and the surrounding area during this site visit, a selection of these photographs are used to illustrate this report.

---

### 4.0. Site Location, Land-use and Geology.

---

The study area considered by this report is located on the northwestern side of the village of Bolton upon Dearne. The site comprises a small overgrown paddock. The land slopes from a high point around 44m AOD at the south end of the site to a low point of around 40m at the north end of site. The site is centred at approximately SE 4463 0298 (Figure 1). The site is approximately 0.5ha.

The site is linear in form and is bounded by Billingley View to the east, Carr Head Lane to the south, an agricultural field to the west and Dearne Community Children's Centre to the north. The site is overgrown with some scattered trees (see Plates 1-4).

The geology is sandstone bedrock (Mexborough Rock). No superficial deposits are recorded (<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk>).

---

### 5.0 Gazetteer of Sites and Artefacts.

---

The following sections list the known heritage assets that are recorded in the various sources consulted. Where possible the relevant South Yorkshire SMR number is given or other references where appropriate. The locations of the recorded sites are plotted on Figure 2. The first sections deal with designated heritage assets (scheduled monuments, registered battlefields, registered parks and gardens and listed buildings), the second section includes non-designated assets included within the South Yorkshire SMR.

## 5.1 *Designated heritage assets*

There are no scheduled monuments, registered battlefields, registered parks and gardens or listed buildings within the 1000m search area. The closest designated heritage assets comprise a small number of Listed buildings within the core of Bolton upon Dearne village to the southeast of the search area, and a Scheduled WWII anti-aircraft gun site located to the southeast of the village, approximately 2km from the site.

## 5.2 *Non-designated assets*

The following section includes data on known monuments and events obtained through a 1000m radius search of the South Yorkshire SMR. The locations of these data points included below are shown in yellow (monuments) and green (events) on Figure 2.

### 1 *Iron Age or Romano-British Cropmarks, Goldthorpe (MSY 560 (SMR No. 02687/01)).*

Cropmarks of probable Iron Age - Romano British field boundaries shown on DNR photos: 1551/25 (23-7-79) and 1560/14, 35 (29-7-79). Part of the same landscape is recorded as PIN 0085/01 - possibly associated with the enclosure recorded as PIN 00084/01.

### 2 *Iron Age or Romano-British Sub-rectangular Enclosure, Goldthorpe (MSY3712 (SMR No. 00084/01)).*

Double-ditched sub-rectangular enclosure. Links up with field system to north (at 444 033). References: DR photos 978/33, 21-22,19 (10.07.1976).

### 3 *Extensive Iron Age or Romano-British Field Boundaries, Goldthorpe (MSY371 (SMR No. 00085/01)).*

Extensive field boundaries. References: DNR photos 978/34, 35, 36, 36+, 20 (10.07.1976).

### 4 *Probable Romano-British or Iron Age enclosures and field system, Goldthorpe (MSY12159 (SMR No. 04634)).*

Aerial photographs show faint cropmarks including part of a possible enclosure near Highgate. These cropmarks probably form part of the regionally significant Iron Age to Romano-British field systems that are found throughout this area. These are characterised by rectangular fields with common boundaries along one axis, forming a brickwork pattern in plan. Embedded within these are enclosures - presumably for domestic and animal husbandry uses. Evaluations by geophysical survey and trial trenching established that the field system identified via cropmarks extends across a much wider area to the south and east. It is almost certain that they extend beyond the area surveyed. An article on environmental remains recovered from the field system and two corn driers appeared in *Environmental Archaeology*.

5 *?Iron Age or Romano-British Enclosure and Drove Road, Goldthorpe (MSY589 (SMR No.03038/01)).*

2 small ?Iron Age or Romano-British enclosures shown on aerial photographs from the Derrick Riley collection 1977 flights. These cropmark features continued to the north of Barnsley Road (PIN 04823).

6 *Burial at Bolton Hall, Bolton upon Dearne, Goldthorpe (MSY 533 (SMR No. 02193)).*

Burials - at Bolton Hall, Bolton-on- Dearne. Many human bones dug up in excavating the foundation. References: White's West Riding Directory vol II, p.163 (1837-38).

7 *Post-medieval Corn Mill, Bolton-upon-Deerne, Goldthorpe (MSY12278 (SMR No. 04732)).*

Corn Mill (Post Medieval to Industrial - 1540 AD to 1914 AD). Water Wheel? (Post Medieval to Industrial - 1540 AD? to 1914 AD?).

8 *Medieval Timber Framed Building (demolished), High Street, Bolton upon Dearne (MSY442 (SMR No. 01181/01)).*

Timber framed building, High Street, Bolton upon Dearne - House and barn pulled down c.1976. Incorporated frames structure, one post survives. Photos of demolition held by Miss S. A. Grammar, 52 Sandygate, Wath on Dearne.

9 *Gradiometry survey west of Goldthorpe, Doncaster (ESY1317).*

A gradiometry survey by Stratascan Ltd in 2011 identified a probable Iron Age or Romano British field system. A second and (possibly) a third system were also identified.

10 *Geophysical Survey and Trial Trenching of Land adjacent to Goldthorpe Industrial Estate (ESY210).*

In October/November 2001 a geophysical (fluxgate gradiometer) survey was conducted by ASWYAS on land adjacent to Goldthorpe Industrial Estate. The results identified a number of anomalies indicating infilled ditches forming a small enclosure and larger field system. Discrete anomalies may have located areas of burning or pits. There were also linear anomalies caused by ridge and furrow ploughing. An archaeological evaluation was conducted in February 2003 and the results confirmed the presence of a ditched field system and associated features likely to date to the Romano-British period. They probably form part of a wider landscape of field boundaries and enclosures.

11 *Geophysical Survey at Bolton House Farm, Goldthorpe (ESY206).*

In February 1997 a geophysical (fluxgate gradiometer) survey was conducted by ASWYAS at Bolton House Farm. The results indicated that in the north-west of the study area was a double ditched trackway that led to a square enclosure with internal divisions and possibly at least two pits/hearths.

12 *Watching brief at Bolton Hall Residential and Nursing Home (ESY1309).*

Watching brief undertaken by CS Archaeology in 2010 as human remains believed to have been uncovered during initial construction of the building. No archaeological remains were encountered.

13 *Grange Farm, Bolton upon Dearne Archaeological Building Appraisal (ESY212).*

In December 2007 an archaeological buildings appraisal was conducted by CS Archaeology at Grange Farm. Farm house with five bay windows, with probably late 17<sup>th</sup> century to mid 19<sup>th</sup> century modifications.

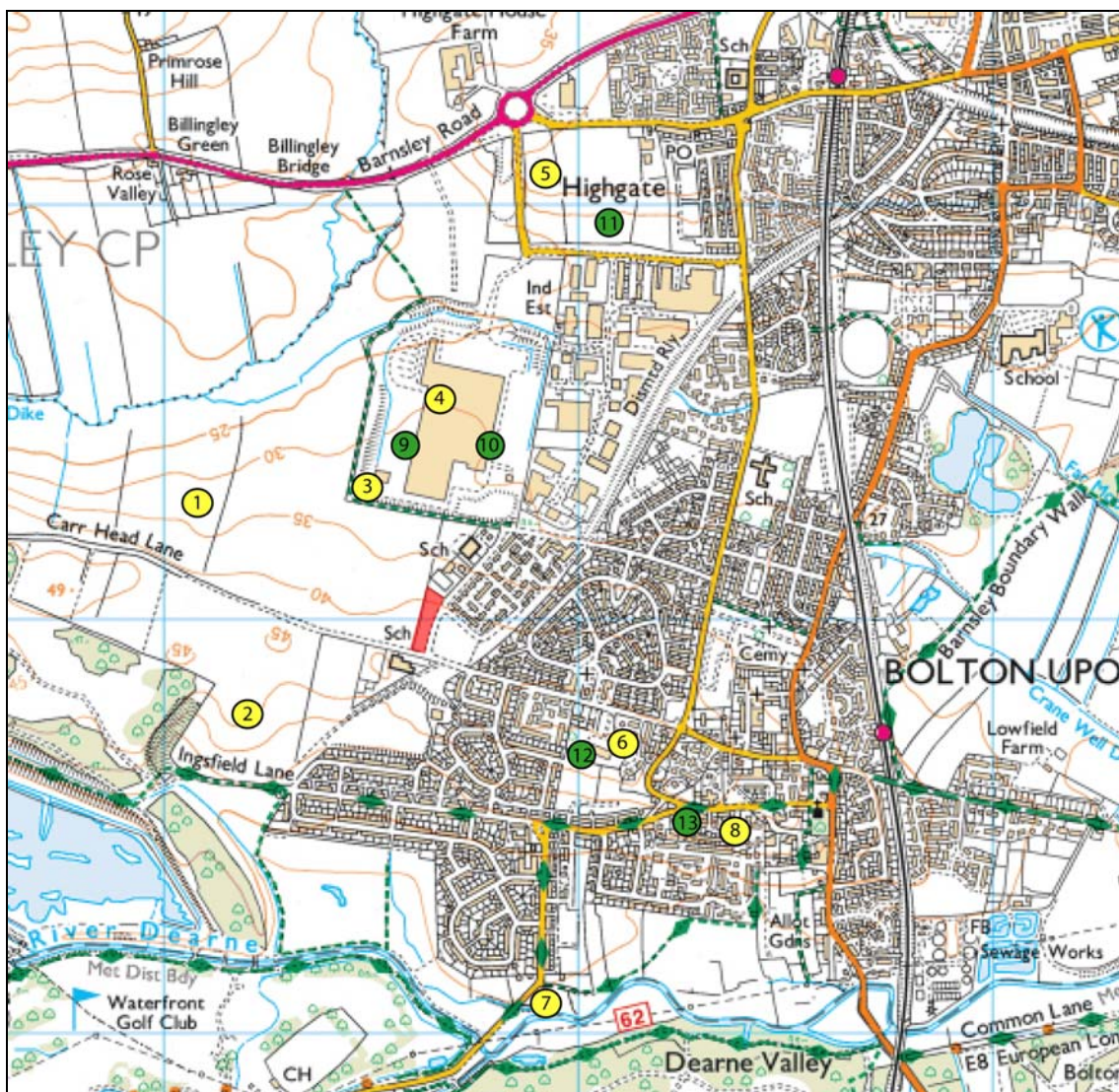


Figure 2. Locations of non-designated heritage assets (site in red).

Base map reproduced from the Ordnance Survey 1:25 000 maps with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office.  
© Crown copyright. OSA Licence No: AL 52132A0001

## 6.0 Cartographic Evidence.

The two earliest maps illustrated in this assessment are John Warburton's 1720 map of Yorkshire and Thomas Jefferys' map of 1771 (Figures 3-4). Neither show any features in the approximate area of the site, although both confirm that it was undeveloped. Jefferys' map shows more detail of the village of Bolton upon Dearne.



Figure 3. Extract from the 1720 Warburton map (site location (red) - approximate only).

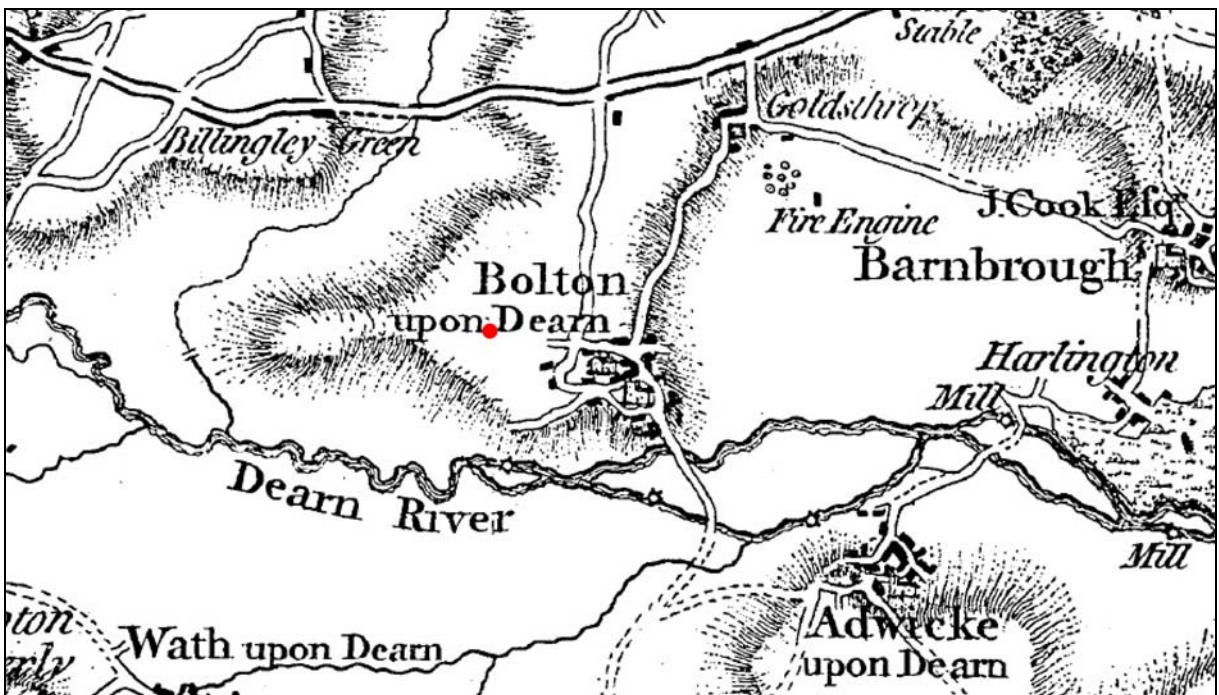


Figure 4. Extract from the 1771 Jefferys map (site location (red) - approximate only).

The Ordnance Survey map of 1850 (Figure 5) shows the site to be part of a field of undeveloped rural land. The site can be seen to sit against Carr Head Lane and one of the field boundaries. The village of Bolton upon Dearne can be seen in more detail than Jeffery's map but does not seem to have grown much larger by this later date.

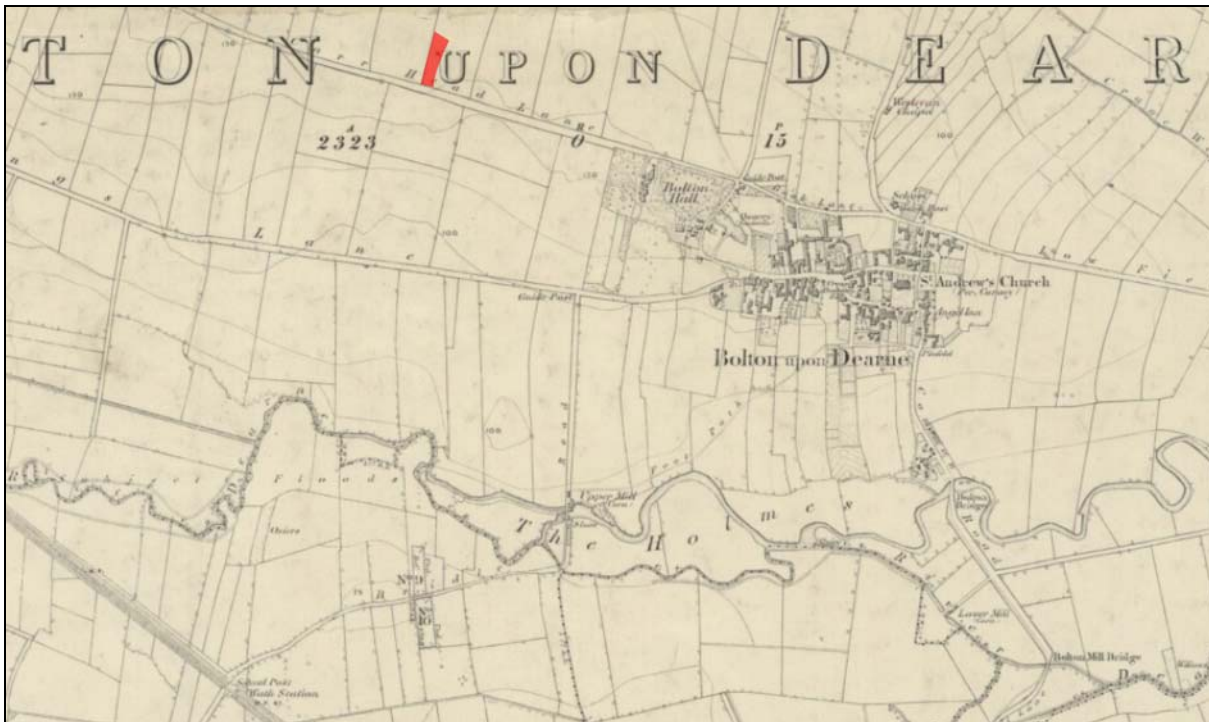


Figure 5. 1850 Ordnance Survey map (site in red).

A very similar picture is shown by the subsequent OS maps in 1901 (Figure 6) and 1948 (Figure 7). The only immediate change is the construction of the Hull Barnsley and West Riding Junction Railway line passing just to the southeast of the current site. The line was constructed at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. It was opened to passengers in 1902 but was discontinued for passengers in 1929. The embankment is still present on the 1948 map; however, the line is only visible on the current OS map (Figure 1) by a footpath to the south of the site and it can no longer be discerned to the east of the site.

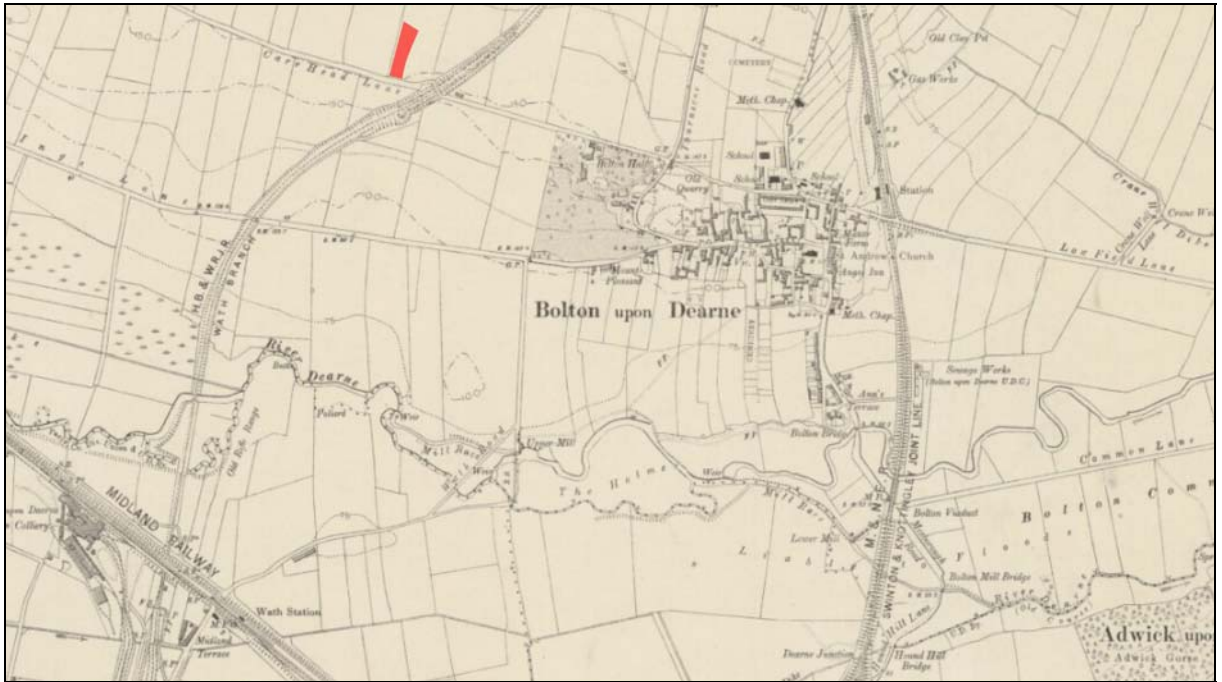


Figure 6. 1901 Ordnance Survey map (site in red).

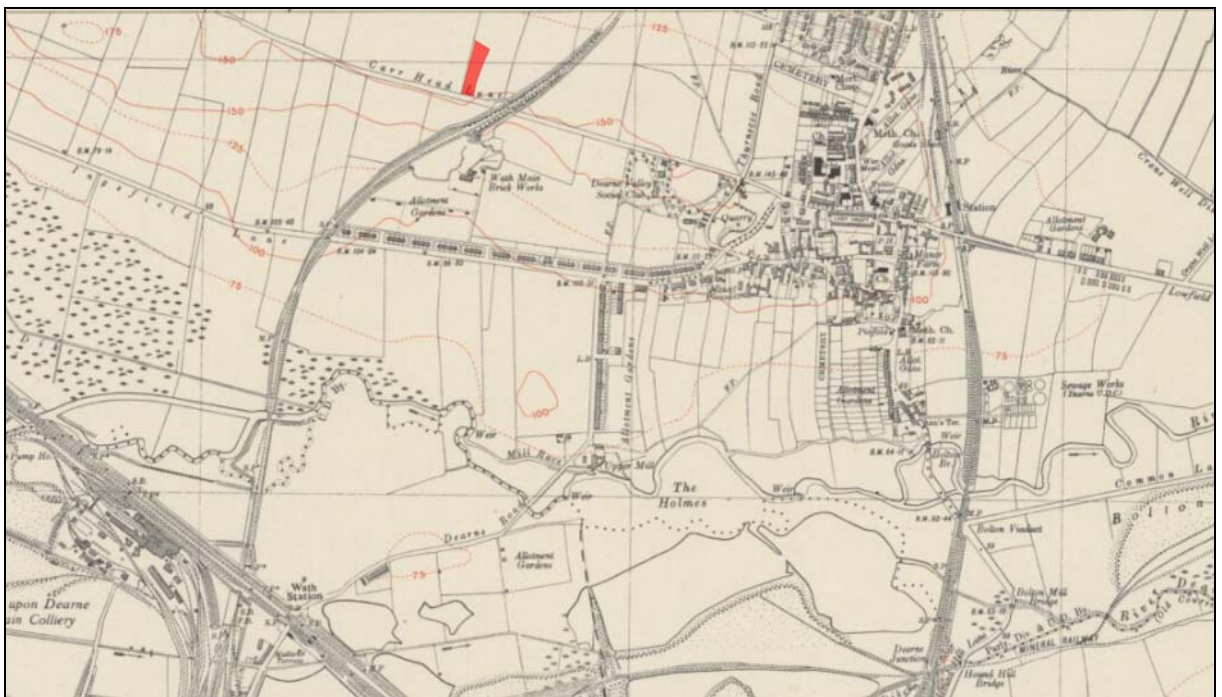


Figure 7. 1948 Ordnance Survey map (site in red).

---

## 7.0 Archaeological and Historical Background.

---

Numbers in brackets refer to the gazetteer section above and Figure 2.

### **7.1 *The earlier prehistoric period (to c.750BC)***

Evidence of Bronze Age activity was found just to the north of the site during investigations undertaken by NAA in 2013 during work prior to the construction of the Aldi Distribution Centre. Three Bronze Age cremation burials were found; two of which were under a stone cairn or barrow. Further pits and a single gully were also found on this site that dated to this period.

### **7.2 *The Iron Age and Romano-British period (c.750BC to the 5<sup>th</sup> century AD)***

The majority of the HER data entries within this search area are believed to be from this period. Five areas of cropmarks (1, 2, 3, 4 and 5) have been identified in the search area and are all probably from the Iron Age or Romano-British periods, represented by trackways, ditches and enclosures. Three of these areas of cropmarks have also been subject to geophysical survey (9, 10 and 11); all showing results of archaeological activity. On the site at land adjacent to Goldthorpe Industrial Estate evaluation trial trenching was conducted after the geophysical survey. A ditched field system and associated features were found during this investigation. Further work on this site undertaken by NAA in 2013 revealed a field system made up of several large fields with smaller ditches subdividing the areas. Dating evidence from this part of the investigation suggested that the field system was created during the later Iron Age period or early Roman period.

Further other archaeological sites in the wider landscape have also revealed activity from this period. Notable is the site at Billingley Drive, Thurnscoe to the north of the current site (Neal and Fraser, 2004). A Romano-British farmstead was discovered containing several rectilinear enclosures, a trackway and crop drying oven. The occupation of site was dated to between the mid 2<sup>nd</sup> century and the mid 4<sup>th</sup> century.

### **7.3 *Early medieval period (5<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> centuries AD)***

Archaeological evidence from the early part of this period is again from the Goldthorpe Industrial site where two corn drying ovens were found. These were radiocarbon dated to the late 5<sup>th</sup> and early 6<sup>th</sup> centuries. These features also suggested the field system was in use in this period as well.

Bolton upon Dearne is mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 as 'Bodetone' meaning 'an enclosure with buildings'. The church of St. Andrew the Apostle was founded during the Anglo-Saxon period. It still contains a Saxon nave, along with a 12<sup>th</sup> century arcade.

### **7.4 *The medieval period (11<sup>th</sup> to the mid 16<sup>th</sup> centuries AD)***

The only entry from the HER search area from this period concerned a medieval timber framed building that was demolished in the 1970's (8). Ridge and furrow farming is known

throughout this area as cropmarks and from previous archaeological investigations. Two mills were known to have existed just to the south of Bolton upon Dearne along the River Dearne recorded to have existed in the 11<sup>th</sup> century. Two mills can be seen to still exist on the Jefferys map in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century (Figure 4).

### ***7.5 The post-medieval to modern periods (mid 16<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> centuries)***

The only two search entries from this period within the area were a post-medieval to industrial period corn mill located next to the River Dearne (7). The other was the building appraisal of a farmhouse with 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century modifications (13).

---

## 8.0 Discussion and Assessment of Significance.

---

This Desk-Based Assessment has identified that the site lies in an area with moderate potential to contain archaeological remains. Potential remains could date from the prehistoric, Romano-British or medieval periods. Prehistoric funerary remains have been found just 300m to the north of the site. Iron Age and Romano-British activity within this area has been found through cropmarks and various archaeological investigations showing extensive land use during this period in the area around the site. Further evidence of early and later medieval activity has also been discovered near to the site.

The research undertaken in the preparation of this assessment suggests that the site is unlikely to contain archaeological remains of sufficient significance to prevent development from being carried out. Any decision regarding the need for archaeological evaluation or mitigation on the site rests with the local planning authority and their archaeological advisors (South Yorkshire Archaeology Service). Although geophysics has been successful on a number of sites in the vicinity the current ground conditions on the site would prevent such a technique from being successfully undertaken here.

---

## 9.0 Bibliography.

---

### 9.1 *Published sources*

ARCUS, 2009, Aldwick Washlands, Bolton upon Dearne, South Yorkshire: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (Report No. 1314.1(1)).

NAA, 2007, Goldthorpe Industrial Estate, Goldthorpe, South Yorkshire: Desk-Based Assessment Report.

NAA, 2014, Land off Barnsley Road, Goldthorpe, South Yorkshire: Cultural Heritage Appraisal (Project No. 1227)

Neal, P. G. E and Fraser, R, 2004, 'A Romano-British Enclosed Farmstead at Billingley Drive, Thurnscoe, South Yorkshire', Yorkshire Archaeological Journal, Vol.76:7-92.

### 9.2 *Digital resources*

Archaeological Data Service (<http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk>)

British Geological Survey (<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk>)

National Heritage List for England (<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/>)

Pastscape (<http://www.pastscape.org.uk/>)

Open Domesday (<http://opendomesday.org/place/SE3105/dodworth/>)

---

## 10.0 The Plates.

---



*Plate 1. Proposed site, looking north.*



*Plate 2. Proposed site, looking south.*



*Plate 3. Northern part of proposed site, looking northeast.*



*Plate 4. Proposed site with Billingley View in foreground, looking southwest.*